

THE MOTTO OF DAR-UL-KHUSHNUD

The motto of Dar-ul-Khushnud is "Total Development of the Child." The children and adults who attend the school are encouraged to reach their maximum potential in all areas of development which enables them to participate fully in their family and community life.

Dar-ul-Khushnud's Future Plans include:

- Enlargement of Dar-ul-Khushnud's Student Body to include more Special Children and Adults
- Expansion of Boys Hostel - an Independent Pilot Project
- Further Professional Training for Staff and Management
- Restoration of Community Outreach Programme
- Extension of the capacity-building programme of Dar-ul-Khushnud in the community



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DAR-UL-KHUSHNUD

A PLACE WHERE HOPE IS BORN.

The Pakistani society faces a critical challenge in the area of special education and rehabilitation of children and adults with disabilities. Dar-ul-Khushnud, a day-care and training centre for children and adults with mental and physical disabilities, was established by the Diocese of Karachi, Church of Pakistan and has been working towards this challenge since 1980. The centre started in St. Andrews Church House, but now occupies a spacious, purpose-built facility.

At present, Dar-ul-Khushnud has expanded its services to include:

- A Day-Care Centre
- An Adult Centre
- An Autism Unit

Dar-ul-Khushnud is one of the few schools in Karachi that provides academic education as well as life skills, rehabilitation, development, and therapy to mentally and physically handicapped children and adults. Furthermore, the centre also provides transportation and a fresh lunch to students on a daily basis.



DAR-UL-KHUSHNUD MOMENTS



THE DAR-UL-KHUSHNUD ADULT CENTRE

The Adult Centre, located in the same premises, teaches vocational skills to mentally handicapped adults. The centre, which was opened in 1994 with six students, now has 22 registered adults. The skills taught vary from gardening, money management, packing rice, sewing, basic cooking, envelope making, etc.



THE DAR-UL-KHUSHNUD AUTISM UNIT

Autism in Pakistan, which affects one out of 88 children, has unfortunately received a general lack of awareness and acceptance. There are very few institutions specifically targeted to train and develop autistic children, and no systematic method of identifying autistic children. Dar-ul-Khushnud has, on its premises, a dedicated Autism Unit for the identification and development of children with autism. The children at Dar-ul-Khushnud are being trained using the TEACCH programme, a method which provides a holistic approach with the use of visual supports to promote meaning and independence. It is notable for its flexible and individualized support of individuals with autism.



THE DAR-UL-KHUSHNUD DAY-TO-DAY SCHEDULE

- Transportation of Children and Adults to the Dar-ul-Khushnud Centre
- Session on Communication Skills and Training
- Session on Home and Basic Life Skills and Training
- Session on Cognitive and Behavioral Development
- Lunch for Children and Adults
- Adult Sessions on Advanced Skills and Training
- Transportation of Children and Adults to their Respective Homes



THE DAR-UL-KHUSHNUD DAY-CARE CENTRE

Located in the heart of the city, the Dar-ul-Khushnud Centre is a day-care facility for children and adults with mild to severe mental and physical handicap. The objective of the centre is to give an appropriate level of training and academic education to the special children and adults of Karachi, depending on the individual's ability, and to assist them in becoming as independent and self-sufficient as possible. Quarterly field trips are organised to places such as the airport, the post office, local hotels, the Pakistan Air Force museum, and other public places. These trips are designed to encourage the students with mild mental and physical handicap to participate in activities which build their self-confidence and improve their adjustment into society. Children with physical handicap receive physiotherapy on a daily basis within the school premises.

