



A VISION IN TRANSFORMATIVE EDUCATION

# Golden Link School

## Philosophy and Aims

The Golden Link School adopts an educational approach that

Motivates students to study by awakening their interest in the subject matter instead of using rewards and punishments or threats;

Gives importance to the development of life skills, such as self-awareness, effective relationships, conflict resolution, public speaking, etc., side by side with academic competencies;

Integrates the physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual aspects of the children's growth in a well-rounded program.

Creates an atmosphere of

care, fun and challenge that enables students to dare to try new things without the fear of being humiliated;

Does not use grading system to compare one student with another; nor use honors or medals to compare the talents of students;

Involves the parents and

family in the education of the children, by holding parenting seminars and family day programs;

Enables students to be aware of the larger picture such as the environment, meaning of life, comparative religion, world peace and similar themes.



## The Campus

The campus of the Golden Link School is contained in a 1,500 square meter lot, with one main building that is partly 3-storeys high and partly 4-storeys. In July 2006 the school added seven new rooms to accommodate the high school

department. This includes a clinic, a laboratory room and an assembly hall. One of the rooms is being used for table tennis games.

The grounds include a pond, a garden, basketball court and playground.

**An atmosphere of love and care is extremely important in awakening the enthusiasm of students in almost any subject and in learning the art of right living.**



### Motivation and excellence

*When there are school activities such as declamation programs, everybody goes to the stage, from nursery to the highest grades, without exception. Performance is not limited to the talented.*

*During holidays or when classes are called off due to coming typhoons, many students often come to school and request class sessions or at least to allow them to go to the library.*

## Programs and Activities

Every year, the Golden Link School holds the following programs and activities. The parents and the public are invited in almost all of them:

**Open House Day:** Parents are invited to attend the classes of their students and observe how the classes are conducted.

**National Language Day:** This is a program promoting the use of Filipino. A program is also held by the students.

**United Nations Day:** Students wear the national dresses of different countries and have a parade through the streets, after which a UN Day Program is held in the school.

**Year-end Program:** Another occasion

where students prepare dramas, songs, speeches, with their parents in attendance.

**Declamation Program:** All students deliver poems or speeches.

**Family Day:** A fun day of games, activities and performances involving the entire family.

**Commencement Exercises:** Graduation day and another occasion for dramas and speeches for the students.



## A Caring and Encouraging Atmosphere

A loving atmosphere is one of the most important factors that make students feel motivated and enthusiastic about anything. This is a key element in the educational approach in Golden Link School. Teachers therefore are trained in self-awareness and self-mastery so that they are not easily carried away by stress, irritation, anger, or hurt. They are the exemplars of a way of life that can face

the challenges of living without worsening it through conflict, resentment or withdrawal.

Many parents have expressed surprise and joy at the transformation of many of their so-called “problem” children within one year of their enrollment in Golden Link School. There is no secret to this. The teachers of Golden Link are simply loving and caring.



## Community Involvement and Service

The School does not limit itself to serving its student population. It undertakes regular activities that seeks to help the community, such as:

Annual medical mission for the community, including x-rays, dental services (including dentures), ophthalmological services (with free reading glasses), immunization, deworming, and free medicine;

Assisting nearby public high schools in

conducting teachers’ training, donation of library books, holding youth camps, and conducting sessions for students;

In December, caroling to extremely poor families and donating food and cash.

Free Summer Classes (see next page)

These are in addition to the other social welfare services conducted by the Theosophical Order of Service for the community.



## Free Summer Classes and Youth Camps

Every year, the School gives a one-month Summer Class for any children from pre-school to high school. It is completely free. Many parents send their children to these classes even though they live very far away. Some even rent rooms nearby just to enable their children to attend these summer classes.

The focus of these classes is on language skills and personality development. It culminates in a two-day program where all the students deliver their speeches in front of the their parents, family members and guests.

Last 2006, there were 400 students who enrolled in the free classes.

The Golden Link School also conducts a 4-day youth camp to its students as well

as to other interested young people. They are taught self-awareness, effective relationships and other life skills that they have invariably found to be very valuable in their lives.



## Golden Link Institute for Teacher Training

Starting 2007, the Golden Link launched the Golden Link Institute for Teacher Training where teachers as well as college students are trained in communication skills (particularly English). The classes include approaches to education, such as handling classes, dealing with difficult behavior, philosophy and purpose of education, etc.

This year, about 37 teachers and students are enrolled in the sessions of the Insti-

tute. The classes are given completely free of charge.

The Institute will also conduct extensive classes to other schools that request for seminars and training for their teachers and students.



**The training of teachers is a vital part of the Golden Link School. Without the right kind of teacher, schooling can do a lot of harm to young people.**

## Parenting Seminars and Family Day

Every year, the school conducts parenting seminars to the parents of the students. The school considers the participation of parents to be very important since much of the issues in a child's life involve the family.

Every February, a Family Day is held where all the members of the family of the students are invited to participate in games and activities for half a day.

Many parents also join the children in field trips every year.

In Golden Link School, parents feel that they are an active part of the entire school community.

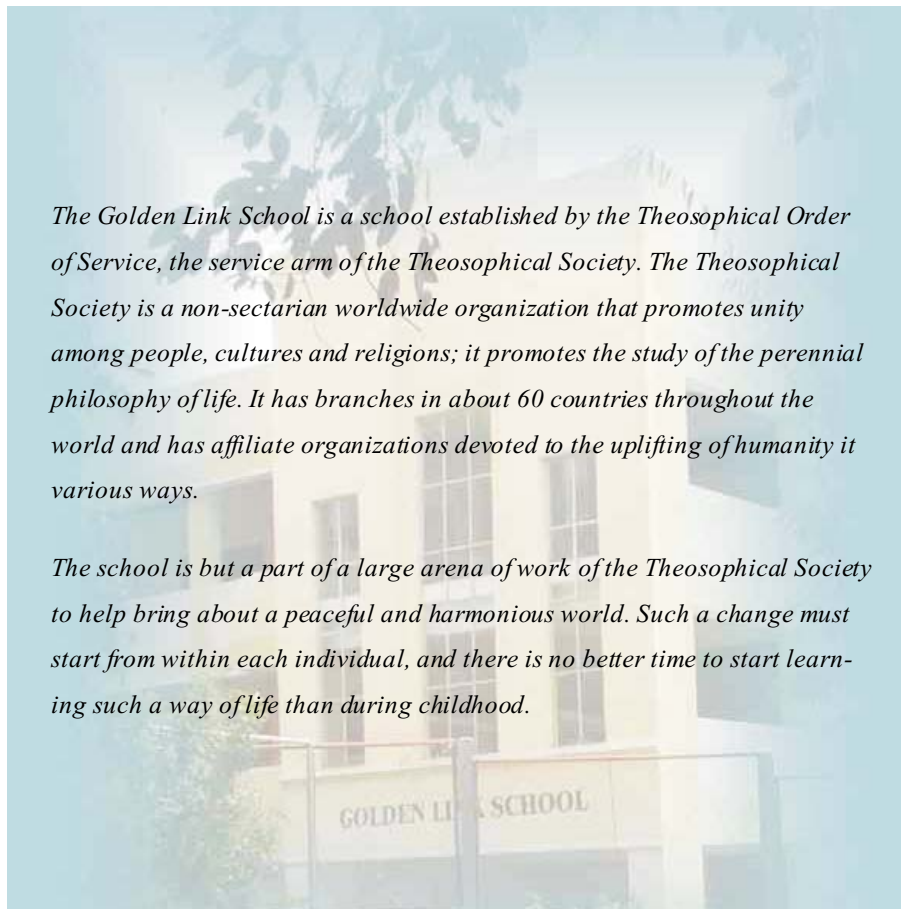




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*The Golden Link School is a school established by the Theosophical Order of Service, the service arm of the Theosophical Society. The Theosophical Society is a non-sectarian worldwide organization that promotes unity among people, cultures and religions; it promotes the study of the perennial philosophy of life. It has branches in about 60 countries throughout the world and has affiliate organizations devoted to the uplifting of humanity in various ways.*

*The school is but a part of a large arena of work of the Theosophical Society to help bring about a peaceful and harmonious world. Such a change must start from within each individual, and there is no better time to start learning such a way of life than during childhood.*

## Be a Friend and Sponsor of the Golden Link School

Because the Golden Link School seeks to assist the less privileged sectors of society, it does not derive its income from the tuition of the students. It is supported by the kindness and generosity of individuals and organizations who sponsor students for their tuitions fees or who donate to the school in various ways.

Here are some ways by which you can assist the Golden Link School:

Sponsor the tuition fees of one or more students. The schedule of tuition fees per students is shown in the table at right. The sponsor will be sent a photo and profile of student and his or her family.

Donate library books: this can be for pre-school, elementary, high school, or for the faculty.

Assist in completing the facilities of the school, such as laboratory equipment, sports facilities, computers, and the construction of additional

classrooms. In 2008, the school will have to add at least eight more classrooms which will cost approximately US\$70,000.00.

Sponsor the outreach program of the Golden Link School in helping other public schools which do not have enough facilities, textbooks or teacher training. More than 90% of primary and secondary students in the Philippines are enrolled in public schools.

Help sponsor free Summer Classes to poor children who cannot afford to go to private schools. The cost is P132,000.00 or US\$2,750.00 per summer.



### How You Can Help

Sponsor scholars Pre-school (P8,000.00 per student per year)	US\$180.00
Elementary (P11,000.00 per student per year)	US\$240.00
High School (P14,000.00 per student per year)	US\$305.00
Library Books	
Summer Classes (per summer)	US\$2,750.00
8 New Classrooms (to be constructed 2008)	US\$8,700 per classroom