

Maya Universe Academy teaching and building placement

Bhawana SEN, *Engineering*

The trip was organised by ourselves [Bhawana and two University friends]. We did the necessary research online and contacted the school directly.



<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1FTabZoshN7EPypVpGyPrQSMrJsKEXil8/view>

On my first day there, I was instructed to assist a member of the staff with her classes. The class schedule for the day is done every morning after morning circle. Due to one of the staff taking a sick absence, I was given an opportunity to teach her classes throughout the week. I taught the older kids Mathematics and English and did art classes with the younger ones. Teaching the kids was challenging, but a lot of fun. The kids at Maya are kind, bright and so eager to learn. As they were in the process of building new classrooms, I also assisted the construction team. I also got to socialise with the children outside of the school hours, as Maya Universe Academy is a boarding school with over 70 kids staying at the hostel. As the kids have study time from 6 pm - 7 pm daily, a number of my evenings were spent helping them with their homework. I, along with the other volunteers, travelled to different locations to visit other branches of Maya in our spare time. It was such an incredible experience and the time I spent at Maya with the amazing kids will always be one of my fondest memories.