

Sanjah Vehrah (SV) - Bringing out the Best

Sheraz Sikandar is a brilliant and active student of Sanja Vehra Model Village 48 NP in District Rahim Yar Khan. Before enrolling in the center, he was not as active or confident. On his first day, he was so frightened that he did not leave his mother's lap and did not interact with the teachers or with the other children. Because of an incident that occurred a year ago, Sheraz had negative perceptions about teachers and schools.



Sheraz's father, Sikandar Ali, is from a middle class family and works as a clerk in a local government school. He said, *“One year ago, when Sheraz was three years old, I decided to enroll him in the school where I work. The first day that Sheraz went to school, he witnessed a teacher beating a student black and blue with a stick. He was so scared that he began crying hard and never wanted to go to school again. I tried to take him to school many times but he strongly refused. I was upset and worried about his education.”*

Sheraz's parents were very worried about him. They even took him to some private schools but he was unable to cope anywhere. Four months ago, Mrs. Sikander became aware of the day care facility in Model Village 48 NP. The facility was 7 kilometers away from her village, but for the sake of Shiraz's education, she visited the center and met the teachers there. The next day, she brought Sheraz to Sanjah Vehra to enroll him. He was scared as usual. When he arrived, he heard children singing and saw them playing together in the compound. His fears began to recede. The teachers also interacted with him in a friendly and gentle manner which made him more comfortable. However, for a whole month, he would not be separated from his mother. After discussions, the teachers identified Sheraz as an especially sensitive child. They nurtured his abilities with love and attention in order to bring out the best in him.

Due to such an encouraging and healthy environment, Shiraz proved to be an active learner who participated actively in all programs. Gradually, his fears began to vanish and he began to adjust to the new situation. He now enjoys the company of his classmates. He is eager to come to the Sanjah Vehra on time every day. Sheraz proudly says *“I love my teachers and I love my friends”*.



“This change in Sheraz was only possible because of the teachers who treat our child with love and affection” his parents said thankfully.