

Name: Rujul Desai

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Professional Title/Occupation: Founder & Director

Organisation: Parichay by Rujul (A not-for-profit initiative)

Address of Organization/Practice: Ahmedabad, Gujarat

Professional Qualifications:

B.Com

B.Ed.

M.A. in Developmental Psychology

P.G. Diploma in Special Ed.-ASD & Learning Difficulties

Courses undertaken in Play Therapy:

Play Therapy as a Counselling Tool (ongoing)

Play Therapy for Children with Special Needs (completed)

Play Therapy Skills (ongoing)

Play Therapy Interventions for Differently Abled Children (ongoing)

Details of any other relevant qualifications/courses taken in the field:

Advanced Autism Certificate from IBCCES,

Verbal Behaviour for early and intermediate learners online course,

Diploma in Education Management,

Recognising and Supporting Children with Special Needs- CACHE endorsed program

Universal Design for Learning Mindset

Currently undergoing supervision in current practice: No

Ages catered for: 3-12 years

Services offered:

Parichay by Rujul is a not-for-profit initiative that supports and promotes learning and development of children with special learning needs. The goal is to enable, engage, and empower children and families by making learning accessible, equitable, and sustainable.

Currently, we offer programs for developmental disabilities like Autism Spectrum Disorders, ADHD, and Specific Learning Disabilities. The goals of our programs are to make the child “learning ready” and help them achieve the goals of foundational literacy and numeracy

Personal Profile:

Previously, I served as the head of a special division that was within a mainstream pre-school. My work included planning and supervising implementation of individualised educational and behaviour plans for our learners. Before we can begin formal learning, we need to be equipped with certain skills to facilitate the learning process. Therefore, our focus is mainly to impart these skills first before moving onto academic concepts. We use eclectic approaches from

various evidence-based sources to achieve our learning targets. My work also includes training educators in various aspects required to achieve the goals effectively and efficiently. Currently, I run the not-for-profit initiative with similar goals and objectives as my previous work, but this platform provides me with an opportunity to reach more children and families and also to include the community at large in this initiative. The goal is to enable, engage, and empower children and families by making learning accessible, equitable, and sustainable. I feel play is the most natural way in which we can build a rapport with the child, work on their motivations, and impart skills training. It is a developmental approach which caters to young learners that we work with. Therapeutic Play will provide a structured approach in which we capitalise on our individual and small group settings to provide trainings in behaviour skills, socio-emotional, socio-communication skills, as well as functional language development. These will provide the child a strong foundation for building literacy and numeracy skills and be ready to take formal instructions to continue their educational journey. The play way is one crucial part of our many mixed approaches to provide engaging and enriching teaching-learning environment .

