



**Pehli
Kiran
Schools**

A JAQ Education Trust Initiative



Building an Inclusive Future, One Child at a Time...

www.pkschools.org



The Pehli Kiran Program, an initiative of the JAQ Education Trust, provides **primary education & livelihood support** to children and youth, especially girls, from excluded, marginalized communities in Pakistan, to help them enter the mainstream and become productive, responsible citizens.

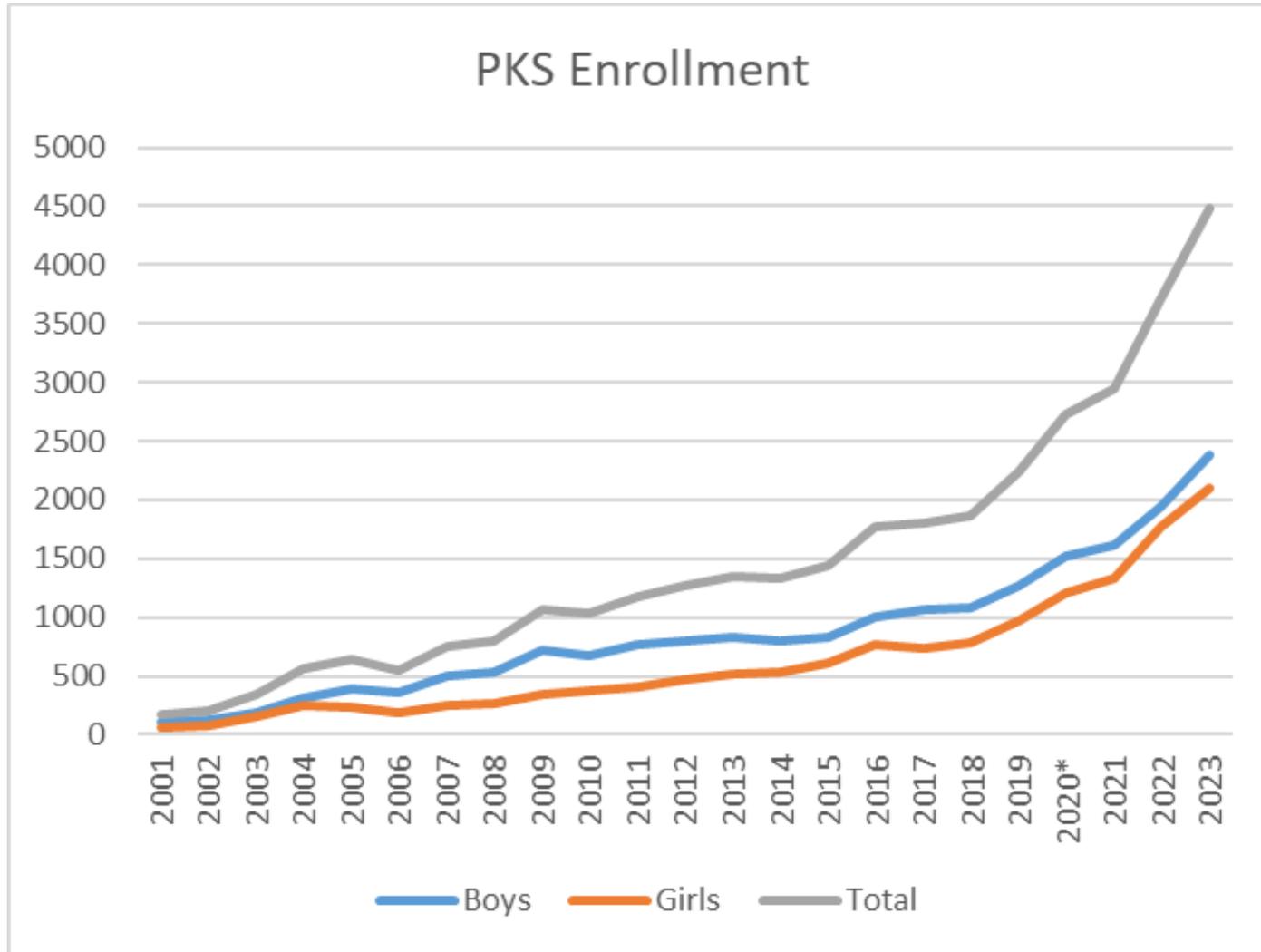
Our two core programs include:

- Pehli Kiran Schools (PKS) – our flagship program – started in 1995
- Pehli Kiran Livelihoods (PKL) – launched in 2020

- 10 PK schools
- ~4,400 students enrolled
 - ◇ 48 % girls
- 85% Average attendance
- 90% Exam pass rate
- 138+ Paid Staff:
 - ◇ 75% female

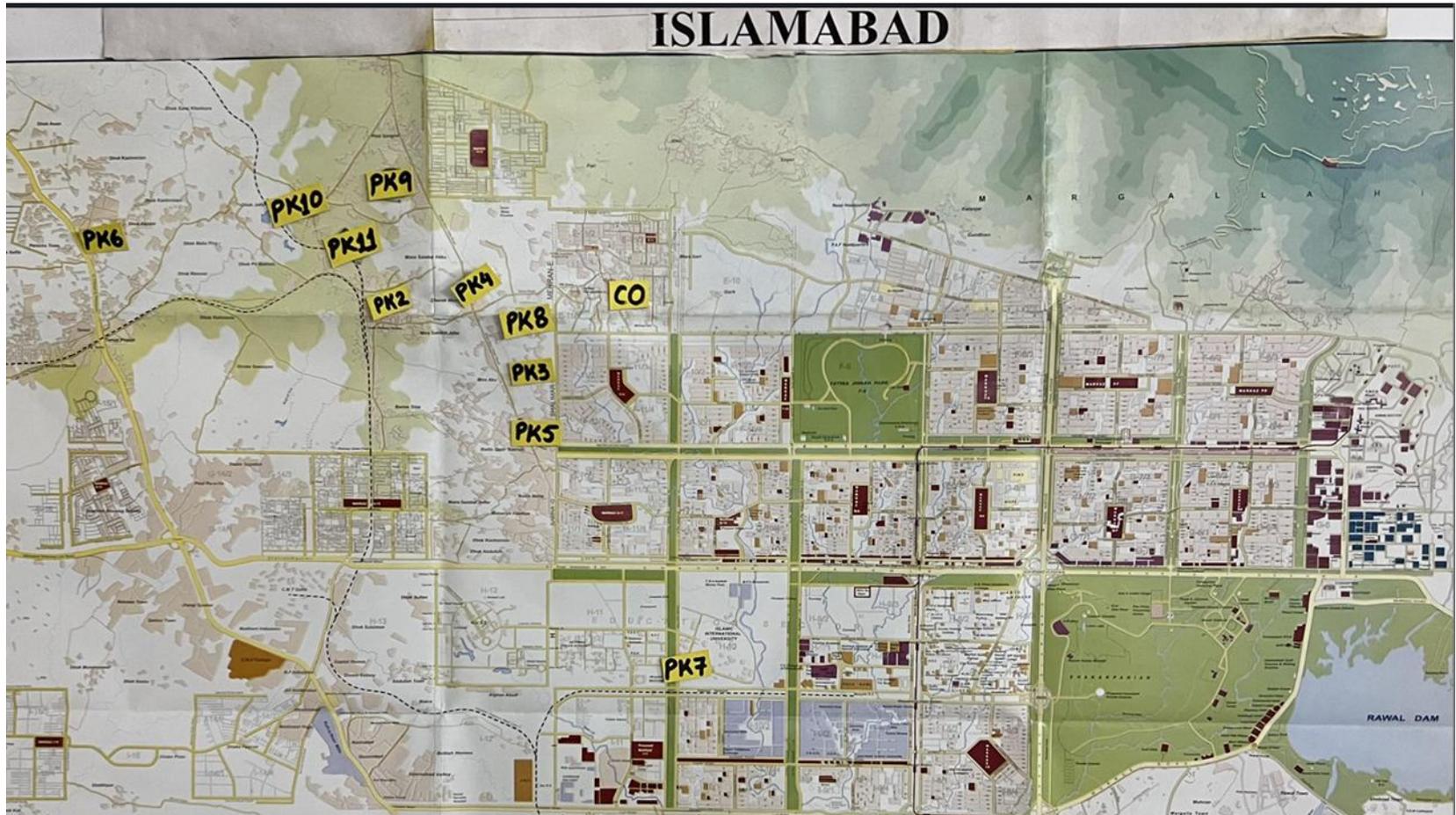


Pehli Kiran Schools: Enrollment Growth 2001-23



School Name	Location (Sector)	Dominant Community	Year started	Principal
PK-2	E-13	Pathan	1998	Ms. Shazia Naseem
PK-3	F-12	Punjabi	1999	Ms. Farzana Andalib
PK-4	E-12	Afghan Refugees	2006	Mr. Jannat Gul
PK-5	F-12	Punjabi	2006	Ms. Ume Rubab
PK-6	C-13	Pathan	2016	Mr. Noor Zahid
PK-7	H-11	Pathan	2004	Ms. Sakeena Jamshed
PK-8	F-12	Punjabi & Pathan	2006	Ms. Ansa Bibi
PK-9	E-13	Afghan Refugees & Pathan	2019	Mr. Shahdan Afzal
PK-10	E-13	Afghan Refugees & Pathan	2020	Ms. Riffat Jabeen
PK-11	E-13	Afghan Refugees & Pathan	2021	Ms. Haseena Gul

Pehli Kiran Schools: Location Map



Researched supply and demand factors, and launched pilots for three intervention tracks in 2020:

1. Scholarship Program – supports higher education for students wishing to continue their studies:
 - *59 scholarships disbursed.*
2. Vocational Training – provides skill development:
 - *830+ youth (including 70% girls/women) provided skills training.*
3. Enterprise Development Training – instills entrepreneurial skills and business acumen.
 - *290+ youth provided enterprise training to setup/enhance their micro businesses.*

PKS Model – what sets us apart?



Low Cost High Quality Montessori Education

Reaching un-served, transient, urban slum communities

Locating schools in the heart of the community

Mobile Infrastructure that moves with communities

Mainstreaming students into formal schools

Flexible Operations: minimize absenteeism/dropouts

Continuing support - from preschool to enhancing livelihoods

- We serve the most difficult to reach segment – the poorest of the poor, unserved, marginalized street children living in urban slums.
- Locating schools in the community facilitates access - overcoming barriers that out-of-school children face in entering formal schooling, both physical and psychological: (e.g. ‘rounding up’ kids daily, motivating and convincing parents to send their children, especially daughters, to school, bringing back absentees, dropouts etc.)
- Strong, ongoing parent/community engagement helps retention and prevents high dropout rates. With 27+ years of engagement, we have built strong trust capital in these communities.
- An innovative Livelihoods Program for urban youth helps provide a holistic support continuum, which takes children from pre-school, through early childhood and primary education, to financial independence.
- With minimal overheads, we have an efficient low-cost education delivery model: one child’s education for a full year, costs less than US\$100.

1. High Quality, Holistic Education:

- cutting edge, internationally comparable, Montessori curriculum
- learning areas that are relevant to our students

2. Life-Skills:

- problem-solving, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship

3. Character-Building:

- Values, ethics, civics - actively promoted through a range of productive exposure experiences

4. Living in Harmony:

- Interfaith activities to help children overcome the intolerance and bigotry that surrounds them.

5 KEY LEARNING AREAS

Language
Arts



Mathematics



Culture &
Science



Sensorial
Development



Practical
Life



- Health, Hygiene and Nutrition Support
- Strong emphasis on Co-curricular Activities: Sports, Arts & Crafts, Music, Theatre, Literature Festivals, Story-Telling, and more...
- Outreach and Volunteer Program: links PK students with volunteers from across Islamabad
- Provision of uniforms, sweaters, shoes/socks



PKS Community Engagement Strategy has also been responding to other priority needs of the communities. Our recent services include:

1. Working in direct collaboration with NADRA to provide basic identification documents (B-form, ID cards, etc.) to our community households. This is the first-ever such initiative in these communities.
2. With this documentation, these households are now being linked with social services and safety net programs like BISP, Sehat Card, etc., which these families were not able to access previously.
3. Links with the District Health authorities to provide:
 - Vaccination services (including Covid vaccines)
 - Awareness-raising on public health issues.
 - Anti-drug awareness drives – a growing menace in these communities.

- A **feeder school system which successfully brings hard-to-reach, out-of-school children** in urban slums, **into community schools, retains them in school, and eventually mainstreams them into formal schools.**
15,000+ children impacted
- A Montessori-based, **sound academic model to provide quality education**, and help build a strong early childhood foundation.
- A **robust co-curricular program that helps support character-building**, especially in communities where children are exposed to high levels of violence, intolerance, bigotry.
- **Strong community engagement that has facilitated transformative social change** in highly conservative, excluded communities, over two decades.
- A **livelihoods program that helps youth navigate their future career paths** and enhance their earning capacity – building on the education base provided earlier.

- **A Lab to test and incubate new ideas.**

PKS serves as an Education Lab and Incubator, where new innovations can be tested and incubated before scale-up:

- Our size and agility allows us to experiment.
- Our continuous engagement with parents and community members enables us to be more responsive to the practical needs of children, and to help them chart their future paths.
- We are open to building partnerships to share our model and learning.

We have successfully tested a post-Covid, remedial learning, Targeted Instruction Program (TIP) that is now being scaled to over 1500 government schools (200,000+ children).

Goal:

Help many more children and youth in urban slums break out of the cycle of intergenerational poverty, through an integrated program of education and livelihood support.

Scaling the Pehli Kiran Program nation-wide by ourselves is unsustainable. Instead, we propose to deepen impact and reach our goal by:

- **Developing:** Design, Test, Cultivate and Nurture Innovation
- **Digitizing:** our adapted Montessori Model for wider use in community schools.
- **Documenting:** Assess, evaluate and package findings and lessons learned (manuals, videos, and trainings)
- **Disseminating:** Showcasing what we've learned to others by sharing products and learning openly: create public goods. Undertaking policy advocacy to influence a much larger circle of decision-makers and practitioners to scale at the national level.

Cheques: Made out to Jamshed Akhtar Qureshi Education Trust and mailed to:
House 182, Street 12, e-11/4, Islamabad

Direct Deposit: as per bank details below

Muslim Commercial Bank, F10 Markaz Branch, Islamabad, Pakistan

Swift Code: MUCBPKKA

Account Name: Jamshed Akhtar Qureshi Education Trust

Pak Rupee Account No: 01406-02-01-002051-6

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**JAQ Education Trust is registered under the Trust Act of Pakistan (II) of 1882 since 2000. It is approved by the FBR as a nonprofit organization – under clause (36) of section 2 of the Income Tax Ordinance, 2001. It is also certified by the Pakistan Centre for Philanthropy.*











Teacher Orientation on use of tablets



Computer Centre



Vocational Skills Training



Enterprise Development Training



A bird's eye view of one of our Pehli Kiran Schools: PK-8

Some PKS Partners

