Key to educating is to be experimental and also have a plan if it goes wrong

MATTHEW RAGGETT, HEADMASTER DOON SCHOOL

Dehradun: Matthew Raggett, who recently joined as the 10th headmaster of The Doon School, wants the students to be the "best versions of themselves." Raggett, who comes with a vast experience in international education spanning over two decades, spoke to Hindustan Times about his enthusiasm to work in India, on inspiring young students and why community service is important for them. Excerpts:

What are you excited about the most working in India?

There are several places in the world that are exciting, interesting, rich in history and culture but not all of them are as warm, safe and beautiful as India, the people here are just amazing. The quality of education for my children (two of his sons have joined) The Doon School and the opportunity to work with some of the best staff has made me very excited.

How do you plan to inspire them?

Inspiration comes from everyone you are surrounded by - what we need to do is provide an opportunity to boys to take on new challenges and develop new ideas. Our job as teachers is to identify the inherent qualities in a student that can really develop and flourish in this environment. The key to educating is to be experimental and be prepared to go wrong. You can't go by creativity and originality alone can't be taught, it can only be learnt.

The Doon School pays a lot of attention to the need to participate in service. How do you think it is for students to participate in such projects?

When I think of my own schooling, the key moments probably weren't in the classroom. The things you really remember happen when you're out changing the lives of other people. Theoretical service is not enough, one needs to step out and get one's own hands dirty to help others. We've got some terrific community service projects already, like our rebuilt one of the schools that was washed away (in the Kedar Valley) in 2013.

Do you believe in the culture of equality at The Doon School?

There's little opportunity to systematically display your wealth at The Doon School as there's a very deliberate equal treatment (given to all the students). We are an environment, a community where we prize equality where there are no opportunities at all to differentiate ourselves on what we have.

The Times of India, 16-7-16 - Page 1

I want students to unlearn things if necessary and not be afraid of mistakes

Shivani Saxena
thestimesgroup.com

Dehradun: Matthew Raggett, the 10th headmaster of The Doon School who took charge recently is affability personified as he recollects in a conversation with select media personnel at his office on Friday why he did not bat an eyelid before taking the headmaster's job of what is arguably India's best known boys' residential school, when it was offered to him.

"I have known about this school from the past 15 years. Some of my mentors have been connected with Doon and with the schools here. In fact, one of my close friends started his career from The Doon School. I personally felt that very few are so blessed with across the world as are inter- national schools. So when all got a call in October last year, I had no qualms in taking up the offer," he says.

An admiral of Mahatma Gandhi (he is reading Gandhi's 'My Experiments With Truth' currently and says it is quite influenced by it), Raggett, who is in his 70s, says that he is no unaware of the monumental legacy of the school that is now in task to take forward. "Each time I see the Portraits of Gandhians, I am reminded of the school mission of attracting and developing exceptional boys and teachers from all backgrounds to serve a meritocratic India.

For his vision for the school, Raggett, who grew up in England and has over 20 years of teaching experience across the globe, says that he wants the students to be 'authentic', 'engaged' and 'always ready to learn new things.' "In fact, I would encourage them to unlearn things if necessary and not be afraid of making mistakes. The new headmaster of The Doon School Matthew Raggett emphasized on the fact that those preparing for admissions to the school should focus on their own preparations rather than taking up coaching.

The school is in fact gearing up to change its curriculum in the next three years for students of classes VII to X. The change would be from ICSE to Cambridge International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) regarded by many as the world's most

Modern teaching tools to be used at Doon School: Raggett

Shivani Saxena
thestimesgroup.com

Dehradun, May 15: Matthew Raggett, newly appointed headmaster of The Doon School, has said special focus will be laid on the overall development of students. He said modern teaching aids would be used to teach students. He stated this while addressing mediapersons here today.

Raggett said special emphasis would be laid on including more values in students, besides curriculums and extra-curricular activities. "Students will be encouraged to become a team player instead of a solo player during their stay in the school," he said. Creativity, originality, intellectual work should be reflected in the personality of a student, he added.

Raggett said more community social responsibility work would be done in the coming days. School faculty members would be instructed to impart quality education to students instead of focusing on completing syllabus before the academic year ends. Students should actively participate in sports and adventure activities as these help in the overall development of personality.

He lamented that parents spend huge amount of money on tuition for The Doon School entrance examination. The parents should inculcate the habit of hard work, honesty, quick learning and zeal among their children as it helps to excel in one's life.

Raggett said students are treated equally irrespective of their family backgrounds. A large number of students were getting scholarship from world-renowned foreign universities. Raggett advised students to read the biographies and autobiographies of renowned personalities and motivational novels to improve their personality.
Raggett is Principal of Doon School

THE HINDU NEWS SERVICE

DEHRADUN, JUL 12: Matthew Raggett has become the tenth headmaster of The Doon School. He has an experience of over 50 years in various countries.

Matthew Raggett
did not want to be called the 10th headmaster, he said, "I am over twenty years of experience in the field of teaching and students will certainly benefit under his guidance."

Raggett has over twenty years of experience in the field of teaching and has been involved in various academic and administrative roles in different countries. He has held positions in prestigious schools in the UK, India, and other countries.

Before joining The Doon School, Raggett was principal of secondary school at Leibnitz International School, Germany, for the past seven years.

He began his career in 1980 as a Physics teacher at Yarm School in the UK. He moved to Vienna International School as head of physics department and later to Pearson United World College, Canada. He is a keen mountain biker.

Garhwali post, 13-7-16, Page-8

In the years that followed, besides teaching, he handled pastoral and boarding life of students in United World College, Singapore, where he was a House Parent and later in King's College, Madrid, where he was a Boarding Head.

Before coming to Doon, Raggett was Principal of Secondary School of Leibnitz International School, Germany, for the last seven years.

In the years that followed, besides teaching, he handled pastoral and boarding life of students in United World College, Singapore, where he was a House Parent and later in King's College, Madrid, where he was a Boarding Head.

Before coming to Doon, Raggett was Principal of Secondary School of Leibnitz International School, Germany, for the last seven years.

Raggett is a keen mountain biker and is fond of gardening.

He is joined by his wife, Lindsay, who also happens to be a German teacher by profession. The Raggets have two sons, Hugh and William, and a daughter, Eve.

Hindustan (Hindi)

13-7-16, Page-6

Dainik Jagran (Hindi)

13-7-16, Page-6

The Hindu

13-7-16, Page-6

The Hindu

13-7-16, Page-6

The Hindu

13-7-16, Page-6

The Hindu

13-7-16, Page-6

The Hindu

13-7-16, Page-6

The Hindu
दून स्कूल को कैंब्रिज की मान्यता जल्द

दून स्कूल ने अपने कैंब्रिज टेस्ट का अंतिम प्रयास किया जा रहा है। इसके साथ अपनी धार्मिक विवादों का भी प्रतिक्रिया देने का प्रयास नहीं किया जा रहा है।

दून स्कूल के इस प्रयास के लिए दून स्कूल के अधिकारियों ने जारी की यह घोषणा है- "दून स्कूल के इस प्रयास के लिए अपनी समर्थन और सहयोग का समर्पण किया जा रहा है।" इसके साथ दून स्कूल के अधिकारियों ने भी कहा है- "दून स्कूल के इस प्रयास के लिए अपनी समर्थन और सहयोग का समर्पण किया जा रहा है।"

दून स्कूल के इस प्रयास के लिए अपनी समर्थन और सहयोग का समर्पण किया जा रहा है।