After 8 decades, Doon School looks to South, East for students

Doon School is looking for exceptional boys from all backgrounds to live and learn together and to serve a meritocratic India. We are particularly interested in receiving applications from boys in the South and East of the country.

MATTHEW RAGGETT, Doon School principal

The school will hold group interviews rather than individual ones-on-ones. The headmaster says prospect of 16 individual interviews does not provide evidence of how a boy would interact with his peers.

Raggett, who headed Leibzig International School in Germany before joining the Doon School, feels the concept of tuition and coaching running young brains turn them into "parrots".

Keeping this in consideration, the school from this year will ask admission seekers to upload previous results and certificates of extra-curricular activities — in a bid to get the right idea about the student.

Additionally, the verbal and non verbal reasoning tests will be combined into one and the questions will be altered so they are less like the papers one can find in the market place. "We are not interested in seeing whom can be trained to take a test, rather we want to see who can think, they are good at recognising patterns, make predictions and apply what they know to new situations," he said.

Doon is consistently ranked the best residential school of the country. It remains a boys-only school despite calls to do away with the tradition. Old boys of the school are popularly known as Docos.