



**ST. BRITTO'S COLLEGE  
CHENNAI**



**FACULTY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

**SESSION - 1**

The Faculty Development Programme for the academic year 2016-2017 for members of teaching staff was held on 29 July 2016.

Dr. Sharan Kumar, Head of the Department of French, gave the introductory lecture titled *Ways to improve Functional Area Expertise and Quality of Lectures in the Classroom*. The need to shift the focus of the education process from “attainment” to “accomplishment” of knowledge was recognized. To this end, a Competency-Based Method of Education (CBME) that underlines the importance of not just “teaching” the prescribed syllabus but also “reaching” out to the students as well as to the stakeholders in the industry was proposed. Dr. Sharan Kumar wrapped up the presentation by stressing the role of pertinent examples, simple explanations of concepts infused with the right degree of wit, clear enunciation and the right body language in fostering a holistic understanding.

The presentation was followed with a Q&A session during which queries pertaining to the feasibility of the CBME approach were brought up—the general theme revolved around the question do educators really have the time to strike a balance between the prescribed syllabus and hands-on expertise. After a lively discussion, the Principal remarked that there could be no straightforward answer to such a question, as a lot depends on the ground realities and on the domain in question, and that planning was central to the success of teaching and reaching. The teacher, he said, should find the time to integrate the hands-on knowledge, however insignificant it may be from the point of view of examinations, with the syllabus. The programme drew to a close with the vote of thanks proposed by the Principal Dr. Thamas Ponraj.



