

# Learning Inspirations

LEARNING LINK JUL-SEP 25

## STEPPING INTO A DIFFERENT KIND OF NORMAL



Recently, our Lion Parkson Foundation Scholars were given the opportunity to visit a **The Handicapped and Mentally Disabled Children Association Selangor** – a home for individuals with mental disabilities.

Located in the heart of Banting, the home presents a calm exterior. But within its walls lies a world shaped by routine, warmth, unpredictability, and honesty. It is a place where communication takes many forms — not always spoken, but through presence, expression, and energy.

The visit was part of a larger learning experience around **Innovating with Design Thinking** which was the theme of this year's Scholars Programme. CeDR brought the Scholars to the home not simply to observe, but to engage — to listen, to connect, and to learn from those whose lives may seem unfamiliar, but are no less meaningful. This knowledge helped them to create TikTok videos to spread more awareness of the Home.



The scholars conducted a colouring activity as a gentle way to interact with the residents. It was a small but meaningful exercise in creativity, shared in quiet companionship. Later, the residents broke out in a spontaneous dance, a moment that brought laughter, movement, and a shared sense of joy to the room.

Beyond the activities, CeDR also organised a donation drive to support the home's daily needs. Donations included medication, hygiene products, clothing, diapers, food, water bottles, and cleaning supplies. Though modest, the gesture was driven by genuine care and the understanding that even small acts, when done collectively, can ease the burdens of care.

Experiences like these serve as quiet but powerful reminders: that learning extends beyond academic achievement, and that meaningful impact often begins with presence, humility, and a willingness to engage with the unfamiliar. For the Scholars, it was a lesson in empathy, creativity, and the simple, human value of showing up.

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