

# The Cultural Zone

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The Cultural Zone in the City Centre is planned for 10 ha area, situated to the east of the peace area and bounded north and south by Mahakali and Mahalakshmi parks. While every activity in Auroville is considered educative, this zone will explore education through diverse expressions of music, dance, painting, sculpture, theatre and sports. In Auroville education is aimed at the perfection of physical, vital, mental, spiritual and psychic as one essential integrated task.

The absence of an exemplary education today in the conventional world, recognized by the Mother constitutes a major difficulty in conceiving a Master Plan that offers an organization conforming to the experimental role of the education system in Auroville. Therefore some proposed solutions forestall the actual reality, but these have appeared indispensable to project Auroville into its future as a generator of 'knowledge' and to

## 'School age' Aurovillians

The number of students is calculated from actual statistics in relation to the projected stages of the Town's development until its final phase.

Year	1995	2000	2010	2020	2030	2040
Population	1200	2000	5000	10000	20000	50000
Children+ Students (from 0 to 25 years)	350	560	1350	2600	5000	12000
Percentage	30%	28%	27%	26%	26%	24%

This analysis takes into account a possible progression of numbers of Aurovillians in 5-stage upto AD 2040 to reach the 50,000 inhabitants foreseen. If this growth were not realized in this time it would not, in any case, put in question the number of students to be globally taken into account once the Town is achieved.

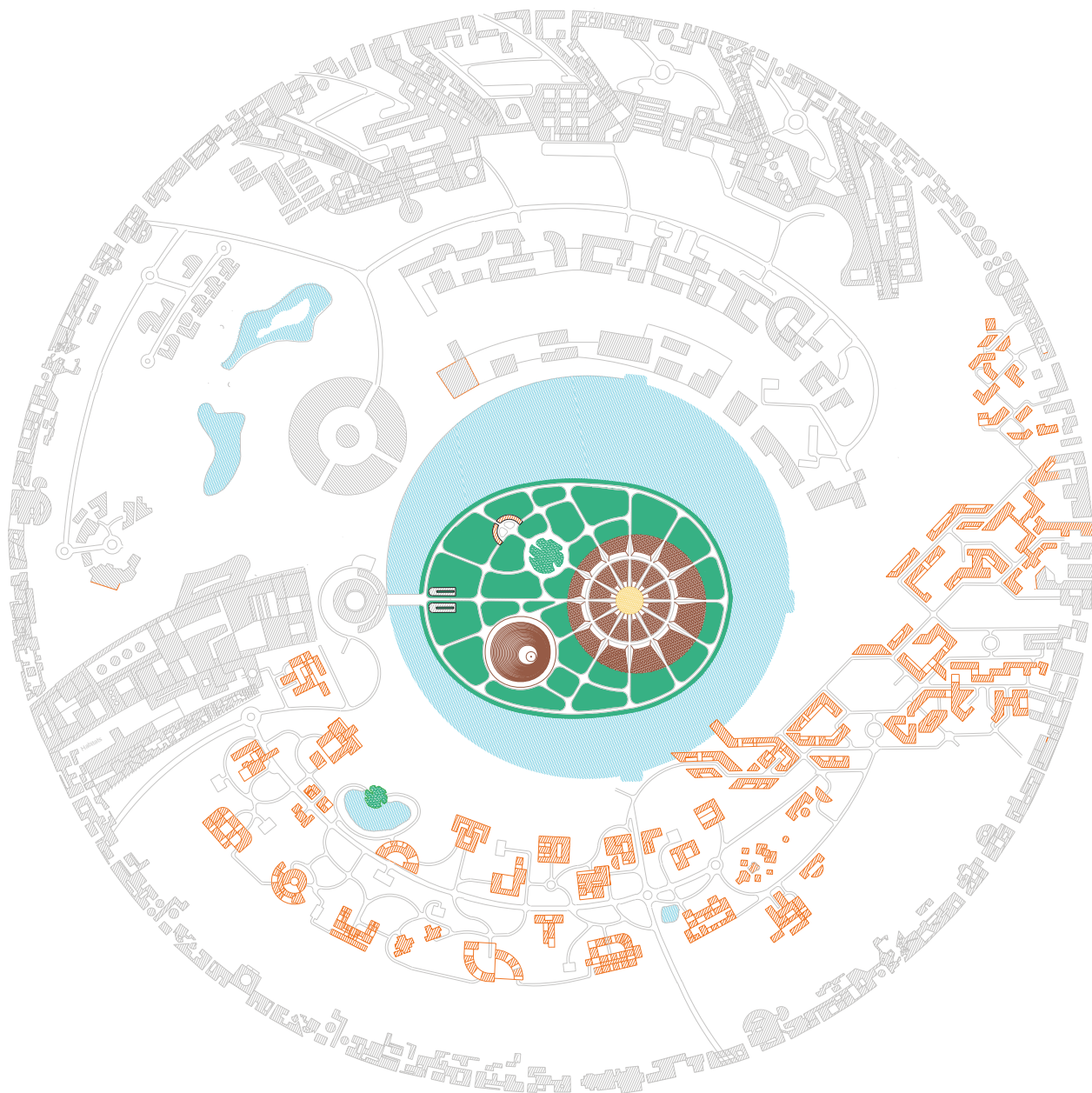
To this final number of 12,000 children and students which served as a base in the elaboration of the master plan, approximately thousand persons should be added, to correspond to adult Aurovillians interested at a given moment in following a course of study.

The decreasing percentage of numbers of children that appear on this table was calculated considering the very probable progression of the average age of Aurovillians in the future.

Grouping of students according to their age

These 12000 children and students have been regrouped, as presently organized according to their age and their capacity to receive a progressive education.

This classification stays theoretical and calls for modification according to the result of present and future experiences. It is nevertheless necessary to take it into account today



Year		1995		2000		2010		2020		2030		2040	
Number of Children		350		560		1350		2600		5000		12000	
Age	Category		%		%		%		%		%		%
0 to 2		27	7,5	34	6	80	6	156	6	300	6	720	6
2 to 4	Orèche	28	7	39	7	95	7	182	7	350	7	840	7
4 to 7	Kindergarten	45	12,5	84	15	203	15	390	15	750	15	1800	15
7 to 13	Transition	90	25	112	20	270	20	520	20	1000	20	2400	20
13 to 17	Last School	70	19,5	140	25	337	25	650	25	1250	25	3000	25
17 to 25	F. – T.S. – A.C.	100	27	151	27	365	27	702	27	1350	27	3240	27
17 to 25	Faculties			68	45	164		317		607		1458	45
	Training Sch.			45	30	110		210		405		972	30
	Appr. Centers			38	25	91		175		338		810	25

### THE CRECHES: 2 to 4 year old children - Residential Zone

In principle, the Crèches are situated almost in their totality in the Residential Zone to respond better to their function.

Each quarter of the Zone of habitation will average 1000 persons and will be given a crèche for 20 children.

Thus 40 creches will be judiciously distributed in the total zone according to the density of housing..

### KINDERGARTEN: 4 to 7 year old children

-Residential Zone and adjacent area

Approximately 70% of the Kindergartens are equally foreseen in the Residential Zone and 30% are in the part situated between section A of the Cultural Zone and the crown of the Residential Zone.

Each Kindergarten will receive approximately 35 children. Thus we have 50 Kindergartens, 35 in the Residential Zone and 15 in the adjacent zone.

### THE "SCHOOLS": Transition and Last School - 7 to 15 years

(sector A+B of the cultural zone)

These "schools" are localized according to the present organization, that is to say 2 sectors geographically separated. All the children receive a general Education upto the age of 15 or 17 years.

Then they can orient themselves towards 3 possibilities.

1. Faculties
2. Training Schools
3. Centers of Apprenticeship

The choice of one of these 3 directions is not binding and a change of course is always possible for all the students.

### THE FACULTIES: 15 or 17 to 25 year old students

-Sector F of the Cultural Zone

They are 4 in number (Physical, Vital, Mental & Psychic). Each of them has its own program of study and research but they work together to create a oneness of higher education. At the end of the cycle the students would be able to participate in the work and research of CIRHU.

### CONCLUSION:

The conceptual study of the cultural zone makes apparent 3 essential points:

1. The principle of independent and isolated small schools can not anymore be envisaged. The educative buildings must be regrouped to allow enough green spaces, play grounds, sports ground and service buildings. This reality must impose itself if we want to make possible a harmonious education for the 12000 future children of Auroville.
2. The architectural expression of these buildings must translate the experimental aspect of Auroville Education and correspond to the evolutionary exigencies of experiences to be attempted.
3. All the educators, parents and Aurovillians in general must collaborate today to reflect on the true dimension of education in Auroville.

