### Scholastica's Student Support Team



#### Senior Campuses

# Irfana Samia

#### Senior Mental Health Counselor



Ms. Samia joined Scholastica in 2009 as the first Educational Psychologist in Bangladesh. Completed M. Phil Degree in the Professional Course of Educational Psychology from the Department of Educational & Counseling Psychology, University of Dhaka in 2014 as well as completed the Diploma in Counseling (Transactional Analysis and Neuro Linguistic Programming) from Asha Counselling and Training Services, Coimbatore, India in 2014. After completing two years' long basic degree in Psycho-traumatology and Eye Movement Desensitization Reprocessing (EMDR) Psychotherapy Training for treating people with psychological trauma from Trauma-Aid, HAP-Switzerland in 2018, she received the designation of Psychotherapist.

Ms. Samia has completed different professional degrees, trainings and workshops and attended seminars and conferences from home and abroad:

- i) Participated as fellow in the exchange program between DU and Queensland University of Technology (QUT), Australia and attended the practicum program in Educational and Developmental Psychology for a month at College of Educational and Developmental Psychologists (CEDP) of QUT, Australia in 2011;
- ii) Received Cal Catterall Fund (CCF) Award in 2011 from International School Psychology Association (ISPA) and a one year membership;
- iii) Attended the 33rd Annual International School Psychology Association (ISPA) Conference on 'Educational Psychology in the context of Globalization, Diversity and Societal Challenges' held at Vellore, Tamil Nadu, India and presented paper entitled "Exploring Educational Psychology in

School-A New Perspective to Improve the Learning Situation in Bangladesh" in 2011; iv) Completed online full scholarship program on "Disability, Community Based Rehabilitation and International Development" offered by the International Centre for the Advancement of Community Based Rehabilitation (ICACBR), Queen's University, Canada In 2014; v) Received award and recognized by Bangladesh Educational & Counseling Psychology Society (BECPS) as one of the pioneer Educational Psychologists in Bangladesh for achieving her Degrees in the professional course of Educational Psychology and for her contribution in the field in 2018. vi) Completed training and workshop on "Introduction to Systemic Family Therapy: Core Concept" in 2018;

vii) Completed online training on the next level of "Systemic Family and Couple therapy: Multilayer", facilitated and supervised by Systemic Psychotherapists and Family Therapists from United Kingdom in August 2021;

viii) Attended the prestigious EMDR Europe Conference 2021 virtually in September 2021.

Before joining Scholastica, she worked as Trainer for Community Based Psychosocial Support for district and community level Red Crescent Volunteers in the Psychosocial Support Programme (PSP), Cyclone SIDR Recovery Operation in Bangladesh implemented by Bangladesh Red Crescent Society and supported by International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRCS) during 2007-2009. As Intern Educational Psychologist and Counselor, she has worked in University Laboratory School & College (2008), Marie Curie School, Dhanmondi and Dhaka Project School (2009). She also worked as in Apollo Hospitals Dhaka an intern counselor and with CARE Bangladesh in HIV and AIDS Targeted Intervention Program as Counselor in 2009.



Ms. Khondker joined Scholastica in May 2018. She has completed an M.Sc in Psychology from

University of Dhaka. In July 2021 she completed an online certificate course on Depression, Treatment, Therapy and Triggers from ALISON, Ireland and in October 2021 she attended a workshop on suicide prevention organized by Bangladesh Clinical Psychology Association.

#### Senior Campus Mirpur

# Sumaia Azmi Mental Health Counselor



Ms. Azmi joined Scholastica in October 2021. She completed an M.Sc in Counselling Psychology from University of Dhaka. She worked as student counselor in Pledge Harbor International School for a year in 2016 and in Psychological Health and Wellness Clinic as Psychological Counselor for one and half years from 2018 to 2019. She is also the Founder of Nirvana which promotes mental health wellness and a platform for lifestyle guidance where she is currently working as lead counselor.

Ms. Azmi has also completed the following trainings:

- i) Life coaching in 2020;
- ii) Basic Life Support & First Aid training in 2020;
- iii) Reiki part-1, Self-healing technique in 2019;
- iv) Systematic Family Therapy in 2018;
- v) Introduction to Psychodrama, Sociometry & Group Psychotherapy in 2017;
- vi) Cognitive Behavior Therapy (CBT) training in 2015.



Ms. Fatema joined Scholastica in April 2019. She has completed her M.Sc in Psychology from University of Dhaka. She previously worked in Identity Inclusion for 2 years. In 2020 Ms. Fatema completed a foundation course on Therapeutic Play organized by Educational and Counseling Psychology, University of Dhaka and in May 2021 she completed an online course named Certified NLP Practitioner Program from Heal Bangladesh Foundation.

#### Junior Campuses

## Umme Kulsum Lamia Mental Health Counselor



Ms. Lamia joined us in March 2019. She completed her graduation and post-graduation in 2013 in the Department of Psychology from Eden Mohila College under Bangladesh National University, and one year Post Graduation Training in Psychotherapy from Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) in 2017-2018.

Ms. Lamia has also completed the following trainings:

i) Advanced Course on Disability, Autism and Inclusive education from IER, University of Dhaka in 2020;

ii) Cognitive Behavior Therapy (CBT) from Healing Heart Counselling Unit in 2017;

iii) Transitional Analysis (TA) from Asha Counselling & Training Services, India organized by Freedom Within in 2020;

iv) Basic Counselling Training and Positive Parenting Training from Audiology Bangladesh in 2018.

Ms. Lamia will work with teachers and our management team in the junior schools on a rotating basis through the week.

The Mental Health Counselors regularly stay up to date on new techniques to brush up their professional skills.