

It Takes a Village to Raise a Child: SD Guthrie Backs Schools Around its Operations

For students in schools tucked within plantation communities, education is shaped by more than textbooks and timetables. It is shaped by the condition of the classroom, the tools available to teachers, and whether learning spaces feel safe, inspiring, and future-ready.

That is where the MADANI Adopted School Programme comes in. Led by the Government, the programme brings together schools, corporate partners, and agencies to uplift learning environments and close education gaps, especially in communities that need the most support.

For SD Guthrie Berhad, participation in the programme is not about ticking boxes. It is about strengthening the communities that sit alongside its operations. Through the *Sekolah Angkat MADANI* initiative, Guthrie has supported 3,699 students and 385 teachers across 15 primary and secondary schools located within and adjacent to its estates—taking a holistic approach that looks beyond academic results.

In classrooms, the change is tangible. Smartboards, laptops, ICT equipment, as well as literacy and STEM resources have modernised lessons and opened doors to digital learning. At SJKT Pulau Carey Timur, Selangor, the Genius Readers Programme has quietly transformed how students engage with books. Through simple but consistent daily reading which are guided and independent, students are building confidence, fluency, and a genuine interest in reading, laying the foundation for stronger academic performance.

The support, however, does not stop at learning materials. Guthrie has also focused on the basics that often go unnoticed but make all the difference. Electrical rewiring, improved fencing, better drainage, and enhanced ventilation have helped create school environments that are safer, cooler, and more conducive to learning. Outside the classroom, upgraded sports facilities—from cricket grounds to basketball courts—give students space to grow physically, build teamwork, and discover confidence beyond exams.

What sets the initiative apart is the sustained engagement. In 2025, thirteen Guthrie leaders have personally visited the adopted schools across 9 states in Malaysia, spending time with teachers, students, and school administrators to understand real needs on the ground. These visits reinforce a simple message: the partnership is not simply transactional—it is personal.

Shahrizan Aini Shamsul Khalil, Guthrie's Chief Human Resources Officer, believes education remains one of the most powerful drivers of social mobility.

"Education has the power to change lives," she said. "Our approach has always been holistic. We want our contributions to make a meaningful difference—not just today, but for the long term—by strengthening both schools and the communities around them."

At a broader level, the programme highlights the value of public–private collaboration in advancing national education goals. By complementing government efforts with targeted, on-the-ground support, Guthrie helps bridge resource gaps, introduce modern teaching tools, and equip students with skills they will carry into the future.

As the programme continues, Guthrie remains committed to staying closely connected to its adopted schools, responding to evolving needs, and keeping education at the heart of its community investments—because when education is shared, its impact lasts far beyond the classroom.

List of *Sekolah Angkat Madani* Schools visited by SD Guthrie throughout 2025

No	Schools	Date of Visit	Learning & Facility Enhancements
1	Sekolah Kebangsaan Desa Lavang, Sarawak	15-16 July 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smart Boards • Drain Cover • Furniture for preschool classroom, Computer lab, and library (tables, chairs and steel lockers)
2	Sekolah Kebangsaan Sri Simalajau, Sarawak	15-16 July 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open File Cabinet, Steel Locker, Metal Lab Stool, Plastic Lab Chair, Metal Lab Stool, and Blinds. • ICT Equipment: Laptops, portable LCD projectors, tripod screens, printers.
3	Sekolah Kebangsaan Ladang Dublin, Kedah	2-3 Aug 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smart Boards • LEGO Education Materials & World Robot Olympiad Brick
4	Sekolah Kebangsaan Seri Pinang, Kedah	12 Aug 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smart Boards • Repairing School Fences • Constructing Cricket Ground
5	Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Jeram, Selangor	19 Aug 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smart Boards
6	Sekolah Kebangsaan Jubli Intan, Johor	21 Aug 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smart Boards
7	Sekolah Jenis Kebangsaan Tamil Ladang Mentakab, Pahang	3 Sept 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canteen facilities (chairs and tables)
8	Sekolah Kebangsaan Ladang Sapong, Sabah	8-9 Sept 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laptops

9	Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Pulau Carey, Selangor	6 Oct 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smart Boards • Construction of food bank kiosk
10	Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Setia Wangsa, Kuala Lumpur	8 Oct 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smart Boards • Library - Tables, chairs • Air-Conditioner
11	Sekolah Kebangsaan Kemendor, Melaka	28 Oct 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School hall AV equipment (PA system, projector and screen)
12	Sekolah Kebangsaan Abaka, Sabah	30-31 Oct 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electrical rewiring of main school building • Distribution Board (DB) upgrade of meeting room building
13	Sekolah Jenis Kebangsaan Tamil Pulau Carey Timur, Selangor	7 Nov 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smart Boards • Projector, laptop, soundbar, VR headset, magnetic touch panel • Genius Readers Programme (GRP): Multilingual reading kits, literacy tools & books
14	Sekolah Jenis Kebangsaan Cina Ladang Siliau, Negeri Sembilan	20 Nov 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smart Board • Fans, lighting and ventilation equipment
15	Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Seri Bali, Johor	8 Dec 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smart Boards