

Speech by Aahana & Avika Goel Gupta – 2026 GATE Winners

Good evening, friends, families, mentors and teachers

We are Aahana and Avika, and today we want to talk about something important — success. (AV and AA), I am Avika in Perth Modern Gates program (AV), and I am Aahana in the Shenton Gates program (AA)

Many people think success comes from being naturally smart or talented. But through our journey in the GATE program with North Shore from years 3-6 and continuing to date, we have learned that success is really built on two things: discipline and consistency (AV).

Discipline means doing what you need to do even when you don't feel like it, like finishing your North Shore homework (AA). Consistency means putting in effort every single day, even in small ways like coming to Northshore classes every weekend (AV). You do not have to be perfect every day. You just have to keep going (AA, AV)

Our mum always tells us two powerful things.

The first is "If someone says you can't do it, hear it as — I'll show you what I've got."

She taught us that a certain amount of stubbornness is actually a good thing. Not the kind where you stop listening to others, but the kind where you refuse to give up on yourself. The kind that helps you keep trying when things are difficult. We both love challenges, especially if it's maths, hence coming to North Shore on the weekend was fun. (AA)

Northshore provides an environment for curiosity and challenge. To be honest, we are both extremely curious and courageous (AV). Even our teachers at Northshore are sometimes challenged by our endless questions and curiosity. We are always asking, "why does this happen?" "What if we did it another way?", or "But how do we really know that?" Only later to learn in high school that curiosity is actually one of the greatest strengths a student can have (AA).

The second lesson is "Be yourself and be the best in whatever you are."

We love that because it reminds us that success is not about comparing yourself to someone else. We are identical twins, and people often think identical means the same. But one of the biggest things we have learned is that everyone is unique. Your unique personality, ideas, strengths, and even your mistakes are what make you special (AA).

At the same time, don't forget to enjoy the journey. We enjoy coming to Northshore. It is about curiosity, creativity, friendships, and discovering what we love (AV). So, to all aspiring students here today:

Believe in yourself. Work hard consistently. Stay disciplined. Keep learning. Have fun along the way. And never be afraid to shine in your own way (AA). Because success is not about being perfect. It is about growing into the best version of yourself (AV).

Thank you, and all the best (AV and AA)