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UMS intervention programme unlocks potential of special needs pupils

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KENINGAU: A total of 13 pupils with special educational needs at Sekolah Kebangsaan Pasir Putih here benefitted from an early intervention programme organised by Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS).

The Tunas Insan Istimewa Programme, implemented by the Early Childhood Education Programme (PAKK) under the Faculty of Education and Sports Studies (FPPS), UMS, focused on screening and early intervention efforts to support pupils in achieving their fullest potential.

Senior lecturer Dr Juppri Bacotang said early intervention plays a crucial role in ensuring that children with special educational needs receive educational opportunities tailored to their developmental stages and individual capabilities.

“This programme helps schools gain a clearer understanding of pupils’

readiness to participate in the Inclusive Education Programme introduced by the Ministry of Education Malaysia,” he said.

Through a series of assessments and interactive activities, pupils were given opportunities to develop their social, communication and learning skills in a supportive and engaging environment.

“At the same time, teachers can utilise the findings from the screening and assessments to design more effective teaching approaches that meet the needs of each pupil,” he said during the programme held from June 10 to 11.

Juppri noted that the initiative aligns with the aspirations of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 4, which promotes access to quality and inclusive education for all.

He said the programme reflects UMS’s commitment to

supporting communities through the sharing of academic expertise and the implementation of initiatives that create a direct and meaningful impact on society.

“Through the Service Learning Malaysia–University for Society (Sulam) approach, which integrates academic learning with community service, students are able to apply classroom knowledge and skills in real-life situations while enhancing their professional competencies as future educators,” he said.

Meanwhile, programme director Syahirah Nur Ain Rasmet expressed appreciation to the UMS Flexible Education Centre (UMSFLEC), Yayasan Sabah Group and Gunung Asli Enterprise for their support in ensuring the programme’s successful implementation.



Juppri (right) presents a token of appreciation to a representative from Sekolah Kebangsaan Pasir Putih.