

NAN HUA PRIMARY SCHOOL

INTRODUCTION

Vision: A school of distinction with the passion to learn and lead.

Mission: Nurturing leaders and citizens rooted in values and Chinese culture.

Motto: 8 Chinese Values: 忠Loyalty, 孝Filial Piety, 仁Humanity, 爱Love, 礼Courtesy,

义Righteousness, 廉Integrity. 耻Sense of Shame

Values: Excellence, Confidence, Innovation, Teamwork, Enthusiasm (ExCITE)

To achieve the vision and mission, 6 strategic thrusts (STs) were identified to focus on students' all-round development as well as the development of staff and resource capability and capacity for organizational effectiveness and sustainability. To achieve the planned outcomes, the school develops her pupils in 3 focus areas: Thinking Minds, Engaged Hearts, Happy and Healthy Learners.

Using information gathered on pupils' current and future needs and expectations, the school drew up school-wide as well as level specific Total Development Plans for pupils. These plans are based on the school's Holistic Development Framework which adopts the principles of the PETALS Framework with the underlying tenets of Pedagogy, Experience of Learning, Tone of Environment, Assessment and Learning Content.

DISTINCTIVE/SIGNIFICANT FEATURES

Teaching and Learning

Thinking Minds

The school aims to develop critical thinking skills in all its pupils. A spiral approach was adopted with the progressive introduction and infusion of 2 specific thinking skills at each level across all IP subjects from primary 1 to 6.

The school also strives to differentiate aspects of pupils' learning to meet pupils' different cognitive development needs in different subjects and across the levels through a variety of programmes and structures. At P1 and P2, the school's Learning Support Programme supports pupils who need more help in English. In the teaching of Chinese Language, P1-P4 low achievers are pulled out to form the 'Rainbow' classes to help them progress at their own pace. At P5 and P6, pupils who require more support in English, Math and Science are pulled-out to form a smaller group so as to provide them with more support. Another of the differentiated programmes which caters to high-ability learners is the Talented and Gifted (TAG) programme where pupils learn higher Chinese Language at a GE-enriched level. Pupils are exposed to a myriad of programmes such as Excellence 2000(E2K), a Science programme and research studies. In addition, the Bilingual Elective Programme (BEP)

started in 2008 caters to P4 to P6 Gifted and high-ability (HA) pupils who are strong in CL & EL.

Engaged Hearts

The school capitalises on its identity as a Special Assistance Plan (SAP) school to customise the school's Chinese Language and Culture (CLC) curriculum to develop deep appreciation and understanding of the Chinese Language and culture in all pupils. The school's key CLC programmes include Project Synchronised Synergy (Project SS) which integrates the learning of HCL, CME and SS at P1 & 2 and Bilingual Elective Programme (BEP) which is tailored for high ability pupils who excel in both the EL and CL. In 2012, the School History Curriculum is launched to strengthen pupils' understanding and appreciation of the school's history, values and tradition. The school aims to reinforce pupils' understanding of the school motto through this curriculum. The character development programme delivered through Nano lessons for pupils at all levels also supports the inculcation of school motto and values and development of socio-emotional competencies.

Happy and Healthy Learners

The design of the co-curriculum emphasizes pupils' affective development, holistic health and total well-being delivered through structured physical, aesthetics, character and citizenship and CCA programmes. Through the 2-pronged approach of Experience and Excellence, pupils are able to experience a broad-based co-curriculum as well as excel through the school's talent development programmes.

Sharing & Collaboration

The school has leveraged on different platforms and opportunities to share its programmes at the school, cluster and national levels. From 2009 to 2011, as part of a prototype school efforts for 21st century skills, the school programmes on "Thinking Minds and Engaged Hearts" were shared with 4 other schools on the prototype school journey. In addition, the school also presented its programmes, Thinking Pedagogy and Nano Programme at ExcelFest 2011 (segment opened to public), ExcelFest 2012 at the segment catered to educators and Nano Programme at 2012 CCE Conference. The school's efforts were also published in 2 separate publications, Schoolbag.sg and Journey to 21st Century Competencies (Confidence, Cooperation and Curiosity), which were distributed to all schools in Singapore.

As a SAP school and West Zone cluster Centre of Excellence, the school collaborates with cluster schools to organize activities and competitions. It also embarks on collaborations with twinning schools and partnerships to facilitate exchange programmes to strengthen pupils' love for Chinese Language, values and culture as well as to build up teacher competencies in the teaching of Chinese Language.

Staff Management

Structures and processes have been put in place to sustain these programmes and practices.

Key Focused Area Committees

Besides having the School Steering Committee planning and charting key directions, specific working committees are formed to spearhead and champion the respective key focus areas. These committees design, plan, implement and review the schemes of work as well as programmes and activities.

Professional Learning Communities (PLC)

Formal and informal learning communities among teachers are organised and structured time is planned to facilitate the discussion and refinement of their craft using an adaptation of the Lesson Study method. In 2012, the school formalised PLC groups among the staff and PLC focus covers a variety of areas with each focusing on one of the 3 focus areas.

FUTURE CHALLENGES

For the next lap of its growth and development, the school has embarked on benchmarking processes in the areas of staff engagement and student all-round development. More specifically, as part of continual improvement, the school endeavours to improve and develop a stronger pupil leadership programme to develop confident and caring leaders for our nation.