

# Chapter 3

## THE EDUCATION SERVICES DIVISION

### 3.1 GENERAL REMARKS

The Education Services Division (“the Division”) is committed to developing a caring, quality education services grounded in Christian values and the principles of lifelong learning and integral human development. The four services, namely, (1) Pre-school Education Service, (2) Special Education Service, (3) Vocational Training and Education Service, and (4) Community and Higher Education Service, under the Division are registered with the Education Bureau. We ensure equal opportunities of education for all, regardless of their age, gender, socio-economic background, learning ability, aptitude, or physical condition, through the continued development of a truly inclusive education system ranging from pre-schooling to post-secondary level in a diversity of learning modes.

### 3.2 PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION SERVICE

#### Objectives

The objective of the Service is to provide a pleasant learning environment where young children below the age of seven can develop morally, intellectually, physically, socially and aesthetically in their proper perspectives.

#### Highlights of the Year / Achievements / New Services

##### Advocacy of Children’s Creativity and Language Development

With the grant from the Committee on Home-school Co-operation of Education Bureau, a Joint School Parent Talk “Happy Reading, Happy Learning for Parents and Children” with the aims to advocate children’s creativity and language development was held on 11 December 2010. Over 400 parents were invited to join a series of language programmes organized by the Service. A booklet named “The Journey of Creative Learning (Series 2) – Sing the Rhymes with your Child” was published and distributed to all parents.



“We need to save the polar bear. What can we do for them?” – To enhance children’s language competency, they learn to express and share their suggestions in front of the class.



Publication of Booklet “The Journey of Creative Learning”

## Position Paper on Review of Pre-school Education Voucher Scheme

A position paper was submitted by the Service to the Education Panel of Legislative Council with five main concerns in regard to the sustainable development of early childhood education in Hong Kong. The concerns included (i) to provide additional support to children from needy families by enhancing the fee remission scheme in 2011/2012 school year; (ii) to support the learning and development of children by providing school-based support to the full-day school; (iii) to develop a central teacher development fund for continuous support to the professional development of teachers; (iv) to establish a long-term monitoring and planning mechanism for continuous development of early childhood education; and (v) to integrate the early childhood education and care in the fundamental education system of Hong Kong.

## Parent-child playgroup

With the objectives to advocate the Developmentally Appropriate Practice in early childhood education and strengthening parent-child relationship at early years, Caritas Pre-school Education Reference Centre organized a series of parent-child playgroup and multi-talent activities for infants and toddlers and their parents. A parenting programme named “Triple – P” was launched.



To foster parent-child relationship and nurture children's social skill at the early stage

## Staff Development and Training

### Teacher Professional Development Day and Exchange Programmes

Teacher Professional Development Day and Exchange Programmes were organized in April, May and September 2010. With the aims to widen the perspectives of teachers and strengthen their professional competencies, teacher workshops including handling procedures of suspected child abuse and understanding symptoms of common mental disorders, and sharing sessions on religious education and child assessment for learning were conducted by cross-discipline professionalisms of Caritas - Hong Kong and the Service respectively. In addition, the Exchange Programme with the objectives to demonstrate good practices of teaching and nurture teachers' leadership was found most beneficial.



Teachers' workshop on Curriculum Evaluation

### Departmental Evaluation Meeting for Administrators 2011

The Departmental Evaluation Meeting for Administrators 2011 with the theme “Managing the Future – Culture of Change, Build on the Strengths and Create the Change” was held on 10 March 2011 and 11 March 2011. Discussions were focused on “Realities and New Opportunities”, “Managing One-self for Changes” and “Strategic Transformation for Pursuing Quality Service”.

### 3.3 SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICE

#### Objectives

The Service provides vivid and effective learning programmes to the students with special education needs for their integral growth and development. It aims at nurturing their civic responsibilities and character as well as realizing their physical, mental and social capabilities, such that they can integrate themselves into the community and lead a dignified living, and hence contribute to the well-being of society.

#### Highlights of the Year

##### Improvement on the Infrastructure

A new policy on the principles and expectations for promotion and regrading of teaching staff had been set for the special schools to inspire the teachers to plan for their career path. The purpose was to groom a pool of committed mid-level staff with shared visions and common goals for solid and coherent school development.

##### Inter-school Collaboration

Opportunities were provided to five students of Caritas Tuen Mun Marden Foundation Secondary School for running training sessions on “Multi-media Slideshow Production” to the parents of Caritas Lok Jun School in May 2010. It availed the students to apply their learned skills at school to equip the parents with more knowledge on common information and communication technology. This also served to enlarge the social exposure of the students and as a kind of other learning experiences for them.

##### Lok Jun Workshop

In order to offer more ‘other learning experience’ curricula to the senior secondary students of Caritas Lok Jun School, a series of learning projects under the umbrella of “Lok Jun Workshop” were launched, with the parents and parish volunteers as helpers for the teachers. The learning projects included horticulture, bakery, caring for animals and handicrafts.



Students learned to make cookies and shared them with the elderlies



Students highly enjoyed their horticulture lessons

## To Make Joining Caritas Bazaar More Meaningful

Apart from raising funds through running stall games and selling donated items as usual, the Service had encouraged our students to join our Bazaar stalls in recent years. The purposes were to let the students practise their learned social and communication skills and to contribute to the community through selling their cookies, plants, vegetables and handicraft items specially prepared for the Bazaar. This would surely make their school learning and joining the Caritas Bazaar more meaningful.



Rev. Joseph Yim, Deputy Chief Executive, visited our Bazaar stalls and shared the joy of our students

## A Three-year Life Education Project in Tin Shui Wai

With a funding support of \$2.72 million from the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, a three-year life education project on “Sparkling Life” was launched by Caritas Lok Kan School in Tin Shui Wai for the mainstream school students as from September 2010. Chances were also provided for them to have interactions with our disabled students.

## Provision of Seven-day Boarding Service

With support from the Education Bureau and to relieve the caring burden of some needy families, Caritas Lok Kan School had started providing seven-day service to ten boarders as from September 2010. Henceforth, the school would take in students with boarding needs from all local districts and even the cross-border.

## Closure of Magdalene Section

The service of Magdalene Section was formally terminated with effect from 1 September 2010. Caritas - Hong Kong and the Canossian Missions (H.K.) had then concluded a service mission of 37 years for the hearing impaired students.



Primary school students involved actively in the life education programmes

## Staff Development and Training

The principal of Caritas Lok Jun School, Caritas Jockey Club Lok Yan School and Caritas Lok Yi School joined the “2010 International Conference and Study Tour on Invitational Education (“IE”)” held in the U.S.A. in September 2010, with a sharing seminar conducted in January 2011 to the fellow colleagues. More than 230 teaching and professional staff participated. All had a deeper understanding on the promotion and implementation of IE at school.



The smiling faces of our inviting and encouraging schools

## External Appointment

The principals of Caritas Lok Kan School and Caritas Pelletier School were appointed members of the “Assessment Panel on Special Education (Special Schools)” for the Chief Executive Award for Teaching Excellence 2010/2011. The work was rather demanding, yet it was a good chance for us to learn from the great projects of the contesting schools.

## 3.4 VOCATIONAL TRAINING & EDUCATION SERVICE

### Objectives

The threefold objectives of the Service are:

#### (i) Secondary Schools

The operation of Caritas secondary schools aims to offer secondary level Catholic education to pupils who have completed primary schooling. With a curriculum comprising general, academic and Applied Learning (“ApL”) subjects throughout the secondary course, it aims to give youngsters, within the age bracket of 12 to 19, to meet the needs of society and their different aptitudes and inclinations.

#### (ii) Apprentice Training Centres

Through a structured shop-floor-training programme combined with part-time day release study course, youngsters reaching the age of 15 are enabled to receive organized training in either the trade of printing or auto repairs.

#### (iii) Field Studies Centre

The service is to promote environmental understanding and to cultivate the concern and awareness of sustainable development by providing life-wide learning experiences through offering field studies courses in areas such as natural science, biology, geography, environmental studies, and pollution studies for junior and senior secondary students.



Caritas secondary schools provide all-round education to students

## ■ Highlights of the Year / Achievements/ New Services

### Collaboration Work with Caritas Community and Higher Education Service

In response to the strategy for services of Caritas - Hong Kong regarding the Caritas synergic collaborators, the Service has been trying to facilitate inter-service collaboration with Caritas Community and Higher Education Service ("CHES") in connection to the following areas:

#### Through Train Scheme

The Through Train ("TT") Scheme provided chances for the graduates of Caritas secondary schools with recommendations from their respective principals to study the programmes in tertiary level offered by CHES. The number of applications for TT Scheme in 2010/2011 school year was 600, which outnumbered that in 2009/2010 by nearly six times. 152 students of Caritas secondary schools were admitted by CHES to study their tertiary programmes in 2010/2011. The TT Scheme served an advantage of Caritas education over the other tertiary institutions in Hong Kong in connection to the chance of further studies for secondary school leavers.

#### Collaborative Through-train Programme

The Collaborative Through-train Programme ("CTP") provided distinctive features in different aspects to Caritas secondary school students with an aim to encourage further studies and to help build their career paths. The CTP covered four major specialties namely, Business and Management, Design and Creative Services, Healthcare and Social Services, and Travel and Hospitality. CHES offered three tertiary courses including Basic Photographic Technique, Food Production, and Cakes and Bread Production for Caritas secondary school students. CTP did not only provide chances for our students to see a pathway for further studies by experiencing tertiary education when they were still in secondary school, but also offered a fast-track articulation to tertiary programmes. Successful

completion of the courses entitles students subject exemptions in future studies. Three Caritas secondary schools engaged in the provision of CTP along with their respective senior secondary curricula. CTP can be further elaborated and can help the schools evolve a new and creative plan for developing distinctive and special features in the curriculum.

#### Programmes with Special Features

Due to the falling roll in the overall school population, Caritas secondary schools were at a crucial moment in recruiting sufficient secondary one students. Along this trend, the schools had to propose development plans to Education Bureau ("EDB") in order to maintain the operation of schools. One of the plans was to co-organize courses of special features at senior secondary level with post-secondary institutions. Caritas-Hong Kong was the only School Sponsoring Body ("SSB") that could provide education services as a continuum at both secondary and tertiary levels among the other SSBs in Hong Kong. The existence of the Service and CHES under Caritas - Hong Kong allowed the articulation between the two levels of education in favour of the Caritas secondary students. The two Services would join hands and worked diligently for the programmes with special features in order to fulfill Caritas aspiration for promoting quality inter-service collaboration for the overall betterment of social and educational services of Caritas - Hong Kong.

## Applied Learning Programme

Four ApL programmes were offered to Secondary Five students (equivalent to senior Secondary Two under the New Senior Secondary) of Caritas secondary schools in 2010/2011 school year. These four programmes include Fundamental Cosmetology, Health Care Practice, Practical Accounting for Small and Medium Enterprises and Automotive Technology. Upon completion of the programmes, students earned credits and were subsequently eligible for modular exemption in CHES's full-time diploma programmes.



Graduation of students after completion of Applied Learning Programmes

## Optimization of Class Structure on a Voluntary Basis

The EDB announced a further measure to facilitate sustainable development of secondary schools under the New Academic Structure and invited schools to consider optimizing their class structure by means of class reduction on a voluntary basis. One of the schools, Caritas Yuen Long Chan Chun Ha Secondary School, applied for participation in the "Voluntary Optimization of Class Structure Plan" by reducing the number of Secondary One classes from five to four starting from 2010/2011 school year and the application was approved by EDB.

## Staff Training and Development

### Joint-school Staff Development Day

The 2010 Joint School Staff Development Day organized by the Service for all teaching and supporting staff of Caritas secondary schools was successfully held on 25 October 2010 at Caritas Bianchi College of Careers (Tseung Kwan O Campus). The theme of the Staff Development Day was "Professional Development and Effectiveness of Teaching, Learning and Guidance". The programme started with 「靈修與訓勉 – 以誠顯愛」 by the Chief Executive, Rev Michael Yeung. 26 group discussions on various topics focusing on support for students with special educational needs, e-Learning, effective English teaching, school office account, finance and management, and maintenance of health and positive thinking, etc. were held in the afternoon session. Academics, education specialists, senior EDB officials, experienced principals and teachers enlightened our staff on continuing professional development. The Staff Development Day ended with 「總結與勉勵」 from the Deputy Chief Executive cum Director of Education Services, Rev Joseph Yim. A total of 645 participants attended the full-day programme.



Speech by guest in the Joint-school Staff Development Day 2010



Group discussion in the Joint-school Staff Development Day 2010

A collection of the speeches and discussion articles of the Joint-school Staff Development Day was published and distributed to all participants of the activity, secondary and primary schools in Hong Kong, faculties of education and libraries of local universities, public libraries, school sponsoring bodies, EDB officials and Macau professional bodies. It was hoped that this collection of speeches and articles could serve as a way of publicity for promoting Caritas secondary schools to the public and the education arenas.



Collection of speeches and discussion articles of the Joint-school Staff Development Day 2010

### Training Camp for School Management Staff

Two training camps organized by the Central Management Committee for Diocesan Schools were held in November 2010 and March 2011. Four principals of Caritas secondary schools participated. These training camps aimed to enhance the professionalism of management staff of primary and secondary schools, with emphasis on strengthening of Catholicism, team building, interpersonal relationship and leadership.



Discussion at the teaching of liberal studies seminar

### Seminar on Management by School Middle Administrative Staff

A seminar on management by schools' middle administrative staff for principals, assistant principals, subject panel heads and subject teachers was conducted on 18 June 2010 at Caritas Yuen Long Chan Chun Ha Secondary School. About 220 school staff joined this seminar.



Rev Kwan Tsun Tong at the seminar on spiritual education

### Seminar on Caritas Secondary Schools Liberal Studies

A seminar on Caritas Secondary Schools Liberal Studies was held on 10 December 2010 at Caritas Ma On Shan Secondary School for principals, assistant principals, panel heads and subject teachers of liberal studies. A total of 75 participants attended this seminar.

### Seminar on Spiritual Education

A seminar on spiritual education was held on 20 January 2011 at Caritas House. Rev Kwan Tsun Tong, Professional Consultant of the Hong Kong Institute of Education Research of the Chinese University of Hong Kong, gave a presentation on how spiritual education could be delivered to secondary school students. 135 participants, including school supervisors, principals, assistant principals, subject teachers of life education, moral education and liberal studies, and teaching assistants (pastoral care) attended the seminar.



## 3.5 COMMUNITY & HIGHER EDUCATION SERVICE

### Objectives

The Service aims to facilitate the growth of the knowledge society through promoting lifelong learning. It offers a provision with open access to those in need to receive education, which will better equip them in literacy, work skills, further academic attainment, community participation and personal development.

### Highlights of the Year / Achievements / New Services

#### Higher Education

On 28 January 2011, as a feature of the College Open Day, the most Rev John Tong Hon, Bishop of Hong Kong, gave the blessing for the Caritas Bianchi College of Careers' ("CBCC") new campus. During 20 October 2010 to 21 October 2010, Caritas Francis Hsu College ("CFHC") hosted a visit from the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications ("HKCAAVQ") which conducted an Institutional Review. The outcome of that Review was the gaining by CFHC of degree granting status. To signify this enhanced status, CFHC was also granted the privilege to change its name to Caritas Institute of Higher Education ("CIHE").

The search for degree status for CFHC was just one of a number of recent achievements that demonstrate the growing local status and international reputation of the institution. CFHC has nurtured healthy collaboration with many overseas universities. This has included partnership in both top-up degree programmes and post-graduate programmes, as well as partnerships in international conference organization. Partner universities included, but not limited to, the University of Huddersfield, Newman University College, and the University College Birmingham, of the United Kingdom, the Australian Catholic University of Australia, as well as Loyola University New Orleans, and the University of Texas - Pam American, of the United States.



The Most Rev John Tong Hon, Bishop of Hong Kong, and other guests officiating at the Blessing Ceremony of the CBCC Tseung Kwan O Campus

The imminent merger of CFHC and CBCC will pave the way for the emergence of the first Catholic university in Hong Kong. CIHE addresses the restlessness of the new generations through its adoption of ubiquitous technology and through our unique brand of Catholic liberal arts education. The liberal arts paradigm provides a framework through which ethical, moral and spiritual values are not only emphasized but percolated through every course we offer.

CIHE ensures that every graduate will not only be well versed in the needs and demands of the job market but will have also learned about the love of God, the love of neighbour, the forgiveness of sins of others, and self-acceptance. In today's tumultuous and seemingly troubled times, CIHE strives to provide a quality educational experience that acts as a guide for the generations to come as they search for truth. Ultimately we provide the tools and values that will transform their lives and the lives of those around them in a respectable way.

## Community Education

### Project Yi Jin (“PYJ”)

The 10th CHES PYJ Joint School Closing Ceremony was held on 31 July 2010 at Hong Kong International Trade and Exhibition Centre. The theme of the event was “Show Time”. Over 1,000 parents, principals, teachers and students participated in the ceremony.

The 2010/2011 full-time PYJ started from 27 September 2010 with 2,324 students enrolling in 23 certificate programmes operated by 9 Community & Higher Education Service (“CHES”) institutes throughout Hong Kong. The total number of students attending the part-time PYJ operated by 10 CHES institutes was equivalent to 561 full-time PYJ students.

The full-time PYJ student activities were supported by the Education Bureau (“EDB”) with a total grant of \$1.40 million in the year of 2010/2011.

“PYJ Joint School Volunteers Day” was successfully held on 10 March 2011 in various districts of Hong Kong, enabling our PYJ students to fulfill their civic responsibilities and increase the level of social engagement.

Taster Programmes organized by CFHC, CBCC and Caritas Cosmetic Career Centre (“CCCC”) for CHES PYJ students were held on 7 March 2011, 14 March 2011, 21 March 2011 and 28 March 2011. More than 600 students participated in these programmes which were designed for CHES PYJ students who wished to explore their options for further studies and obtained first-hand experience of post-secondary education.



The 10th CHES PYJ Joint School Closing Ceremony 2009/2010



The PYJ Joint School Volunteers Day



Students participated in the CFHC, CBCC and CCCC Taster Programmes 2010/2011

## Youth Pre-employment Training Programme (“YPTP”)

Youth Pre-employment Training Programme & Youth Work Experience and Training Scheme (“YPTP&YWETS”) 2010/2011 started from 1 September 2010. We have provided 8 core courses, 15 elective courses and 261 case management until 31 March 2011.

## Applied Learning (“ApL”)

The New Senior Secondary (“NSS”) Curriculum Framework was implemented in September 2009. The first cohort of NSS ApL (2010/2012 cohort) commenced in September 2010. The student enrolment of the three ApL courses offered by the Service are:

- a. Automotive Technology: 66
- b. Fundamental Cosmetology: 577
- c. Health Care Practice: 205

In addition to the above EDB approved ApL courses, the Service, in collaboration with Hong Kong Institute of Accredited Accounting Technicians (“HKIAAT”), continues to offer Practical Accounting for Small and Medium Enterprises. The student enrolment in the 2010/2012 cohort is 116.

A total of 356 secondary students participated in the ApL Taster Programme for 2011/2013 cohort.



Workshop Practicum for ApL Automotive Technology Course



Graduation Ceremony for 2008/2010 Cohort of ApL Fundamental Cosmetology Course



Simulated Dispensary for ApL Health Care Practice Course

## Accreditation Exercises

Two full-time diploma programmes in “Event and Exhibition Management” and “Purchasing and Supply Chain Management” at Qualifications Framework (“QF”) Level 3 were successfully accredited by the HKCAAVQ in November 2010. A validity period of three years was granted from 15 September 2011 to 14 September 2014.

Four part-time Specification of Competency Standards (“SCS”) based cosmetology programmes, three at QF Level 3 and one at QF Level 2, were successfully accredited by the HKCAAVQ in March 2011. A validity period of three years was granted from 4 July 2011 to 3 July 2014.

Exemption to three papers was granted by the HKIAAT in June 2010 to graduates of the Certificate in Accounting Profession operated at the Fanling campus. The exemption was granted to the 2010/2011 and 2011/2012 intakes.

Exemption to another three papers was also granted by the HKIAAT in June 2010 to graduates of the Diploma in Accounting Profession run at the Wu King campus. The exemption was granted to the 2009/2010 and 2010/2011 intakes.

A Quality Assurance visit was conducted by the HKCAAVQ on 29 November 2010 for the ApL Fundamental Cosmetology Course. Our delivery of the course was considered effective and meeting the ApL standard.

## New Academic Initiative

The Service has undergone a review on the academic structure in response to the NSS Curriculum. It is believed that some students, due to the substantial increase in the breadth and depth of the curriculum, might find it difficult to take on the new academic challenges, especially for those who do not get used to the conventional mode of learning. As such, a new credit-based academic structure (“CAS”) incorporating a wide range of vocational-based and quality-assured learning modules is designed by CHES for implementation in 2011/2012 academic year to cater for the needs of these students with due consideration given to their learning habits and their creative, dynamic characters. The CAS was to be realized through the delivery of the new Advanced Diploma Programme (“ADP”) which is composed of three major components namely, core modules, discipline electives and the Whole Person Development Programme. A total of 13 ADPs have been developed for delivery in 2011/2012.

## ■ Staff Development / Achievements

With a view to building a teaching and management team of high commitment and quality, 29 development activities were organized for different levels of staff of the Service.

CBCC has implemented the Scholarly Activity Scheme as a major promotion of staff development in support of continuous improvement. A total of 19 staff development activities have been completed.

Staff members of CFHC and CBCC have accomplished a wide variety of achievements in their research and other scholarly activities in publication of journal articles, conference papers, books, feature articles, etc.



Team building and communication activities conducted in the Supporting Staff Reflection Day



Discussion session in New Staff Orientation

## Pursuit of Excellence

The Service achieved Grade A (Excellent) in the overall rating of Employees Retraining Board (“ERB”) surprise inspections in 2009/2010.

The Service was awarded the First Group rating, the best rating in ERB new management audit 2009/2010.

The Service was awarded “ERB Outstanding Awards for Placement Service”. A student from the North New Territories Region was awarded “ERB Merit Awards for Trainees”. An employer nominated by us was awarded “ERB Outstanding Awards for Employers”. Awards were presented on 18 December 2010.

Sir Robert Black Trust Fund Award Ceremony was held on 11 January 2011 at Kowloon Tong Education Centre of the EDB. Twenty-seven CHES PYJ graduates received the award.



Sir Robert Black Trust Fund Award Ceremony

A YPTP&YWETS trainee from Tuen Mun Institute won an award as one of the 10 Most Improved Trainees 2010. This award recognized not only his improvements in personal development, leadership, social service and job performance, but also the quality of our case management service provision.



Award Ceremony of the Most Improved Trainees 2010

Students from member institutes/centres received the following awards/scholarships granted by various bodies:

- Scholarships, Hong Kong Institute of Accredited Accounting Technicians (HKIAAT)
- Scholarships, HKIAAT / ERB
- Scholarships, Hong Kong Hotels Association
- Scholarships, Bubies Design
- Scholarships, Lu Lu Cheung Design
- Scholarship, Hong Kong Performing Artistes Guild
- Student Scholarship, Hong Kong Interior Design Association Student Scholarship 2010 (HKIDA)
- Travelling Scholarship, Steve Leung Travelling Scholarship 2010
- Design Student of the Year 2010, Hong Kong Designers Association
- CPA Australia Excellence Award
- HKFDA Creativity Award
- Silver Award (Group), Sham Shui Po Creative Fashion Design Competition
- Awards of Merit, Winner of Student Category, 網上人氣大獎, Earthmover Cat Footwear (Caterpillar): Create Your Own Cat Footwear Styling
- 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Runners-up, Bubies Lingerie Competition
- Silver Prize of Full Fur Category, Fur Design Competition 2011
- Silver Award of Student Category, Asia Pacific Interior Design Awards 2010
- Education & Careers Expo 2011 – Booth Design for Caritas Community & Higher Education Service
- Student representative of DETOUR 2010 – Roadshow: Shanghai