

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, integral human development and equal opportunities for all. The four services provided, namely, (1) Pre-school Education Service, (2) Special Education Service, (3) Vocational Training and Education Service, and (4) Community and Higher Education Service, are registered with the Education Bureau. Since the Catholic Diocese of Hong Kong and the Religious Congregations operate more than 100 primary schools, the Division then places emphasis in helping those underprivileged and disabled. These three parties make concerted effort to provide 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 Pre-school Education Service (“the Service”) is to provide a pleasant learning environment where young children below the age of seven can truly develop morally, intellectually, physically, socially, aesthetically and spiritually in their proper perspectives



Children learned through their senses



Spontaneous learning of young children



“What’s inside the bee hive?” – Children learning are full of curiosity



The Dragon Dance that best demonstrated the collaborative learning of children

Highlights and Achievements of the Year

Enrichment of Religious Education for Kindergarten Children

With the aims at nurturing moral and spiritual cultivation and to enhance the religious education for kindergarten children, the core values of Catholic Education – Truth, Justice, Love, Life and Family had been integrated into the religious curriculum to enrich children’s understanding on Catholic Faith. The series of kindergarten religious and moral education new publication “星光伴我” was used since the commencement of 2013/2014 school year.



To love and care for others: an elder child helped the younger to play blocks



Children prayed for the people in need

English Learning for Children - Joint School Parent Talk cum Exhibition

With the subsidy granted by the Committee on Home-School Co-operation, a Joint School Parent Talk with the theme “Love and Hope – English Learning is Meaningful and Interesting” was held on 7 December 2013. A Professor of the Hong Kong Institute of Education shared with more than 500 parents on how children

learn English at the pre-school stage. It was also one of the objectives to advocate the appropriate practice of English learning in respect to the interests and abilities of children. An exhibition of children work collected from their English learning activities was held and visitors were greatly impressed by the spontaneous and creative learning of children.



A Joint School Parent Talk on English Learning



An exhibition of children work collected from their English learning activities

“Triple P” Training Course in Fostering Parenting

To foster the positive values of parenting, the Pre-school Education Material Reference Centre organized “Triple P” Training Courses in the Central and Western District. Through various trainings and followed by telephone interviews, parents had a better understanding of children development. Their nurturing skills were therefore enhanced.

Participation in the Focus Group Discussion on Free Kindergarten Education

The Service was invited by the Education Bureau to participate in the Focus Group Discussion on Free Kindergarten Education. The concerns on student diversity, support to parents, provision of kindergarten places, modes of subsidy, staff structure and professional development were raised for discussion at the meeting.

Staff Development and Training

Joint School Teacher Professional Development Day

Three Joint School Teacher Professional Development Day (“Professional Development Day”) were organized by the Service for all pre-school teachers. The theme of the first one was “『融』——從身、心、靈的保育出發”, more than 100 teachers and principals visited Yim Tin Tsai Village Sai Kung on 30 April 2013 followed by discussion on the implementation of religious curriculum.



▼ Visit to Yim Tin Tsai Village Sai Kung



▼ Small group discussion on religious education

The second Professional Development Day was held on 30 September 2013 with the theme “An Integrated Teaching Approach for English Learning”. It aimed at reinforcing teachers’ philosophy and pedagogical strategies of play-based learning and teaching for the second language (English) at pre-school stage. Lesson demonstration was shared among schools.



▼ English lesson demonstration by teachers



▼ Group discussion

The third Professional Development Day was held on 29 November 2013 with focus on the experience sharing on religious education with five Catholic kindergartens through school visits and classroom observation. Participated teachers were asked to apply the good practices that they had learned in the religious education for young children.



▼ Integrated religious education in daily curriculum



▼ Group photo after visits to Catholic kindergartens

Annual Departmental Evaluation Seminar for Teachers and Principals 2013

The Annual Departmental Evaluation Seminar with the theme “建構更美善的家庭與社會 — 傳承關愛與共融” was held on 20 July 2013 with 114 participants. With “Child-centred” and “Family-focused” as the direction of the service and schools development in future, small group discussion with the focus on how to tackle the diversified needs of children and their families in the changing society was organized. Recommendations in different perspectives including the uniqueness of curriculum design and implementation, engagement of parents and families, collaboration of community partnership, advancement of teaching team had been suggested by the teachers and would be integrated in the service and school development plan.



▼ Presentation of long service awards at the Annual Departmental Evaluation Seminar



▼ Sharing on Agency's Vision, Mission & Value

3.3 SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICE

Objectives

Special Education Service (“the Service”) provides vivid and effective learning programmes to the students with special educational 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. The ultimate goal is to enable them to integrate themselves into the community and lead a dignified living, and hence contribute to the well-being of society.

Highlights and Achievements of the Year

New School for Social Development cum Residential Home for Girls

Caritas – Hong Kong was allocated the planned new premises at Jordan Valley, Kwun Tong for the operation of a new school for social development cum residential home for girls. The planned capacity of the school portion subvented by the Education Bureau is 270 students / 18 classes from Secondary One to Secondary Six, while that of the residential home subvented by the Social Welfare Department is 202 places. The whole project is expected to start operation in the year 2017/2018.



▼ The model of the planned new premises

Knowledge Management

Succession plan and strategic planning on Knowledge Management (“KM”) were developed to face the anticipated changes in human resources in the coming decade. Knowledge Management Research Centre of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University was invited to conduct training programmes to equip the staff with actionable knowledge and applicable KM methods to nurture collaborative culture in the special schools.

Inter-school Collaboration

Caritas Lok Jun School and Caritas Resurrection School jointly organized a drama performance namely “The Life Song” at Yuen Long Theatre in June 2013. The students of Caritas Ma On Shan Secondary School and Wah Yan College Kowloon together with the community volunteers were invited to join in the performance. The two schools also hosted a Joint-school Sports Day in February 2014, and community volunteers were invited to take part.



▼ Life is a fantasy brimmed with sparkling colors

Caritas Lok Kan School and Caritas Lok Yi School jointly launched a project named "Aquaponics", which is a food production system that combines raising aquatic animals with cultivating plants in water in a symbiotic environment. Participation in Aquaponics allowed students to appreciate the meaning of life, build up self confidence and explore their own potential.



Students participated in "Aquaponics"

Active Participation of Volunteers

Members from the Society of St. Vincent De Paul, St. Benedict Church, St. Alfred's Church, the Sovereign Military Order of Malta ("S.M.O.M."), local church parishioners, community volunteers and parents continued to provide voluntary services to the special schools of Caritas. They made positive impacts on the students' learning progress, encouraged their interaction with people, and contributed to promoting harmony in the community.



Having birthday party with S.M.O.M.



Rev Michael Yeung visited the Service's bazaar stalls and shared a good time with the community volunteers

Awards Achieved

Caritas Lok Jun School received the "Award for Arts Education" in the Hong Kong Arts Development Awards 2013 organized by the Hong Kong Arts Development Council. The award had given a formal recognition to the school for its contributions in promoting arts education.

Students of Caritas Resurrection School and Caritas Pelletier School participated in "The 50th Schools Dance Festival" held by the Education Bureau and the Hong Kong Schools Dance Association. Both schools won the Highest Commended Award.



The modern dance of Caritas Resurrection School



▼ The Hmong dance and Dai dance of Caritas Pelletier School

Staff Development and Training

Joint-school Professional Development Day 2013/2014

The Joint-school Professional Development Day for all teaching staff and professionals of six special schools was held on 19 December 2013. An experienced Educational Consultant and a Clinical Psychologist delivered talks on “Risk Management” and “Handling Behavioural and Learning Difficulties of Students with Special Educational Needs” respectively.



▼ Rev Joseph Yim and the guest speakers

Joint-school Reflection Day 2013/2014

The Joint-school Reflection Day held on 22 February 2014 was attended by 200 staff of the six special schools. Rev Joseph Yim, Director of Education Services, shared the topic on “The Core Values of Catholic Education” with the participants. In response to his sharing, staff of the schools adopted different approaches like video, drama etc, to demonstrate how they have upheld and passed the core values of Truth, Justice, Love, Life and Family to the students and their families to prepare them properly for their life and future responsibilities.



▼ A group photo of Rev Joseph Yim, supervisors and principals



▼ Using drama performance to convey the messages of core values of Catholic Education

3.4 VOCATIONAL TRAINING & EDUCATION SERVICE

Objectives

The Vocational Training & Education Service (“VTES”) oversees the services of secondary schools, field studies centre and apprentice training centres. It also provides operation guidelines and professional supports to ensure the services are in line with the vision and mission of Caritas - Hong Kong.

Secondary Schools

VTES operates nine secondary schools (eight aided schools and one Direct Subsidy Scheme school) offering a balanced and broad curricula through which students acquire their knowledge and skills under Catholic ideology.



▼ Caritas secondary schools provide various extra curricula activities for students

Field Studies Centre

The Caritas Chan Chun Ha Field Studies Centre at Cheung Chau provides educational courses on natural science to students and teachers in Hong Kong. It also runs programmes for the general public to promote their awareness on environmental protection and sustainability.

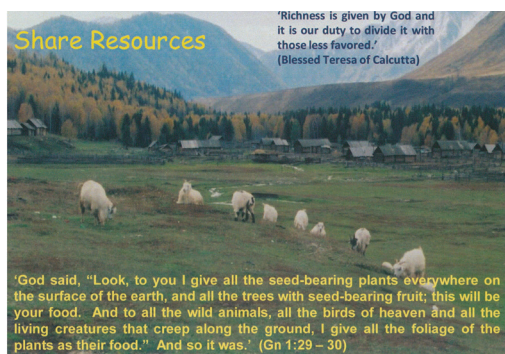
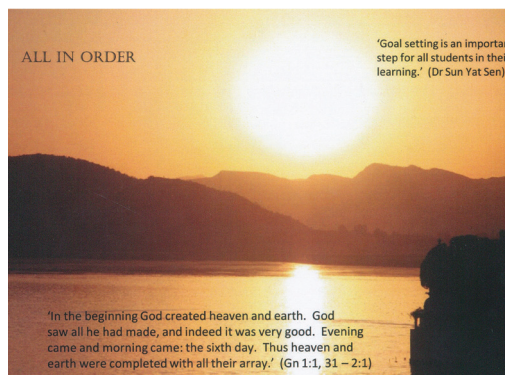
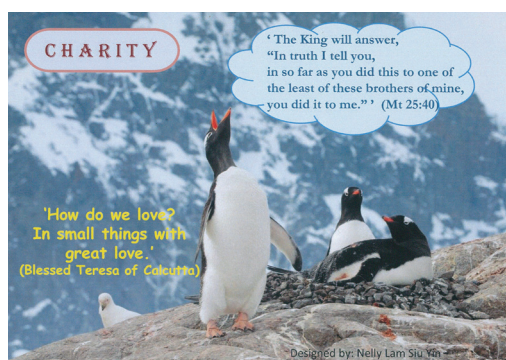
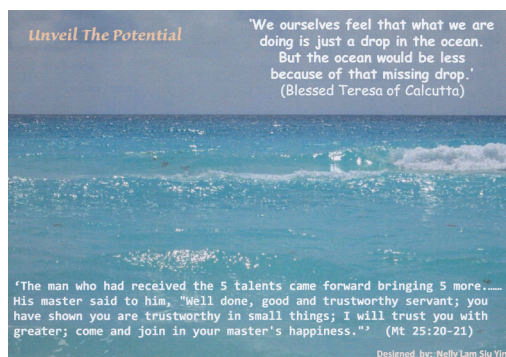
Apprentice Training Centres

VTES operates a printing training centre and a car repair workshop to provide apprenticeship programmes to students from the Vocational Training Council, aiming at training youngsters interested in printing and auto repair to become qualified technicians in these two fields. The Centre and the Workshop also provide services to the general public.

Highlights of the Year

Promotion of Spirituality

Pope Francis encouraged the fellow Catholics to undertake planning and development with four principles: Crises, Caress, Advancement and Spirituality. With regard to Spirituality, VTES worked on raising the Catholic atmosphere in the schools. Prayer rooms had been refurbished to provide a more comfortable place for students and staff to observe the Catholic rituals and say their prayers. Besides, religious cards and posters were designed and distributed to the schools and centres of the Agency on a monthly basis. Each card and poster bore a particular theme and served to convey the messages of Catholicism.



Religious cards with different themes

Improved Services at Printing Training Centre and Car Repair Workshop

The Printing Training Centre had installed a new and more advanced digital printing machine, with a view to providing high-profile quality service and ultimately increase revenue. At the same time, two printing professionals were invited to serve as consultants to give advice on the management of the Centre. For Car Repair Workshop, new devices and equipment, like dent puller and electric welder, were purchased in order to enhance the quality and diversity of the auto repair services.

Staff Development and Training

New Staff Orientation Day 2013/2014

The New Staff Orientation Day was held on 7 September 2013 at the Caritas House for newly-recruited teachers and staff of the secondary schools and the field studies centre. The orientation started with the celebration of mass followed by a simple breakfast. All participants were briefed on the vision, mission, value, structure and history of Caritas - Hong Kong. They would be guided by mentors in the workplace throughout the school year.



Teachers attended the mass on the New Staff Orientation Day



Vision, mission and value were introduced to new staff



Talks were given to new teachers about mentoring

Joint-school Staff Development Day 2013/2014

The Joint-school Staff Development Day for all teaching and non-teaching staff of the secondary schools and the Field Studies Centre was held on 18 October 2013 at Caritas Ma On Shan Secondary School. Speeches on "Managing Changes", "Catholic Core Values" and "Teacher Appraisal System" were given by the officiating guests and Head of the Service. Twenty-two group discussions and workshops were arranged in the afternoon sessions with topics on academic subjects and other areas including spiritual education, handling of underachieving students, health, stress relief and handicraft making, etc.



▼ The officiating guest giving speech to the participants



▼ Presentation of souvenir to the keynote speaker



▼ Group discussions and workshops with various foci

3.5 COMMUNITY & HIGHER EDUCATION SERVICE

Objectives

Community & Higher Education Service (“CHES”) 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 themselves in literacy, work skills, further academic attainment, community participation and personal development.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Highlights of the Year

Renaming of Community Education Institutes / Centres

Following the successful accreditation by the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (“HKCAAVQ”) to offer programmes pitched at Qualifications Framework (“QF”) Level 4 which is equivalent to Higher Diploma and Associate Degree programmes, all institutes / centres offering award-bearing programmes had been renamed as Caritas Institute of Community Education (“CICE”) with effect from 1 January 2014 in order to better reflect the actual programme provision.

Yi Jin Diploma

Yi Jin Diploma (“YJD”) was accredited by the HKCAAVQ as a QF Level 3 programme from 1 September 2013 to 31 August 2016.

Funding subsidy for the provision of support initiatives to students and teachers of the YJD was granted by the Education Bureau (“EDB”) for the year 2013/2014. More than 30 activities and learning support services were provided to students, such as military training camp, adventure training, basketball training and competition, table tennis training and competition, talent show - “Caritas Got Talents”, drama English enhancement courses in storytelling and presentation, musical production and backstage training programmes, etc.



▼ CICE Joint School Yi Jin Basketball Training Scheme & Competition



▼ CICE YJD students played their roles in the English drama performance



- ▼ "Caritas Got Talents" showcased CICE YJD students' undiscovered talent and potentials

Taster for post-secondary programmes was held on 3 March 2014. About 600 students participated in these programmes which were designed for students who wish to explore their options for further studies and obtain first-hand experience of post-secondary study.



- ▼ Hotel Management and Catering Operation Taster Programme



- ▼ Health Care Training Workshop intrigued most students

Through Train Scheme Seminars

Three Through Train Scheme seminars were held on 7 July 2013, 9 July 2013 and 12 July 2013 before the Hong Kong Diploma in Secondary Education result was released to introduce award-bearing programmes offered by CICE.



- ▼ Through Train Scheme Seminars

CICE Work-study Programme

CICE offered “Work-study Programme” in the academic year 2013/2014. The programme sought to make the concept of career education an integral part of the school curriculum, which aims at providing full-time students with opportunities to explore their career aspiration and the world of work. With extensive support received from corporations such as Hong Kong Disneyland, Aberdeen Marina Club, Broadway Photo Supply Ltd. and Maxim’s Group, etc., different working positions across a variety of market sectors were offered to the participants. To better prepare students for this Programme, workshops on job interview and personal grooming skills were held on 19 October 2013.



- Work-study Programme enabled students to explore the world of work



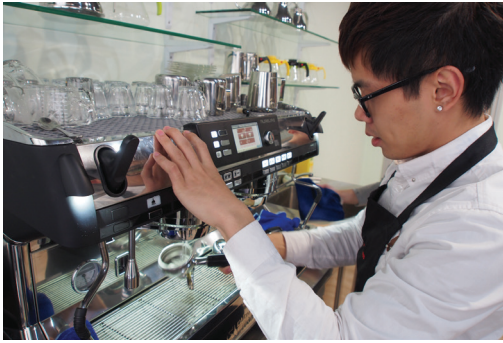
- Workshops on job interview and personal grooming skills

Applied Learning

Applied Learning (“ApL”) Information Day was held on 29 November 2013 to provide career masters of secondary schools with latest news and authentic learning experience of CICE’s ApL courses.



- Career masters experienced the authentic learning process in ApL courses



▼ A student demonstrated the coffee making



▼ CHES achieved encouraging results in the 6th ERB "Manpower Development Scheme"

Accreditation Exercises

With effect from 1 August 2013, CICE was accredited by the HKCAAVQ for operating programmes pitched at QF Levels 1 to 4. In the same accreditation exercise, three programmes pitched at Level 4 and a programme at Level 3 were also accredited. The YJD run by CICE and the Certificate in Fundamental Cosmetology (Senior Secondary Applied Learning) were accredited effective 1 September 2013 and 22 January 2014 respectively.

Achievements

CHES was awarded the First Group rating which is the best rating in the new management audit 2012/2013 by the Employees Retraining Board ("ERB").

The 6th ERB "Manpower Development Scheme" Award Presentation Ceremony was held on 4 January 2014. CHES and its partners received the following awards:

1. "ERB Outstanding Award for Placement Services" to CHES
2. "ERB Outstanding Award for Instructors" to one instructor
3. "ERB Outstanding Award for Employers" to two employer nominees
4. "ERB Merit Award for Employers" to two employer nominees

Sir Robert Black Trust Fund Award Ceremony was held on 9 January 2014. Among the nine CHES YJD graduates who received the awards, one of them was invited to deliver a vote of thanks in the Ceremony.



▼ Sir Robert Black Trust Fund Award Ceremony

A total of 48 CICE students were awarded the ApL Scholarships (2012/2013 School Year) co-organized by the Law's Charitable Foundation and the EDB. ApL Scholarship Prizing Ceremony cum Sharing Session was held on 18 November 2013.

CHES Staff Development

As part of CHES's commitment to employees' professional and personal growth, a wide variety of Continuing Professional Development ("CPD") activities were organized for different levels of staff for the year 2013/2014 with over 350 people attended. A key CPD event was the service-wide Staff Development Day held on 13 December 2013.



▼ CHES Staff Development Day

HIGHER EDUCATION Highlights of the Year

On 27 December 2013, the site for the future campus of Caritas Institute of Higher Education ("CIHE") in Tseung Kwan O was handed over by the Lands Department to Caritas. The Ground Breaking Ceremony was held on 6 March 2014 and officiated by His Eminence Cardinal John Tong.



▼ Ground Breaking Ceremony of the CIHE Tseung Kwan O Campus



▼ The future CIHE Tseung Kwan O Campus

The EDB has recently invited the University Grant Committee and Research Grant Council to set up the Competitive Research Funding Scheme, a research endowment fund which supported research development of local self-financing degree-awarding sector on a competitive basis. CIHE is one of the eligible institutions to apply for the Scheme.

Achievements

The Secretary for Education had endorsed 61 students from CIHE and Caritas Bianchi College of Careers ("CBCC") to receive the Outstanding Performance Scholarship, the Best Progress Award, the Talent Development Scholarship, the Reaching Out Award and the Endeavour Scholarship under the Self-financing Post-secondary Scholarship Scheme of the EDB.



- ▼ Awardees of the Self-financing Post-secondary Scholarship Scheme 2013 from CIHE and CBCC attended the presentation ceremony

CIHE and CBCC received support of over \$3 million for two individual projects and over \$50 million on one joint project with four other degree-granting institutes under the Quality Enhancement Support Scheme of the EDB.

One of the projects won the first runner-up in the Best Practices of Flexible Learning and one of the papers won the Excellent Paper Award in The International Conference on Open and Flexible Education 2014 organized by local higher education institutes.

New Programmes

The following new accredited programmes have been offered from the 2013/2014 academic year by the Higher Education:

- Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Language and Liberal Studies
 - Chinese and Philosophy
 - English and Communication
 - Bilingual Studies

- Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours)
 - Community Studies
 - Psychology
 - Social Work
- BTEC National Certificate in Art and Design
- BTEC National Certificate in Hospitality

In the 2013/2014 academic year, CIHE and CBCC supported the delivery of the Higher Diploma in Nursing programme offered by four hospitals, namely Caritas Medical Centre, Tuen Mun Hospital, Queen Elizabeth Hospital and St. Teresa's Hospital. The relevant courses of this collaborative Programme were mainly delivered by the Department of Health Sciences, the Department of Social Sciences and the Department of General Education and Language Studies.

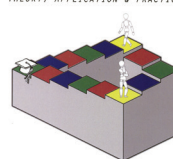
Staff Development and Training

CIHE and CBCC had taken a proactive approach to achieve their staff development goals and organized 19 in-house staff development activities in the year 2013/2014.

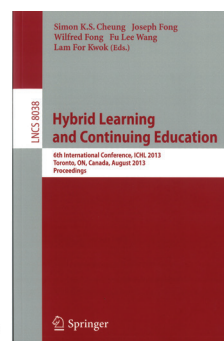
New Publications

During the year, staff members of CIHE and CBCC attained a variety of accomplishments in their research and other scholarly activities. They had more than 100 academic publications in books, referred journals, conference proceedings, journal editorships and book editorships.

HYBRID LEARNING THEORY, APPLICATION & PRACTICE



WEE WAI MA
Rogier PINKS
Gordon LI
Javier LAM
(Chair of the)



- ▼ Publications of the staff of CIHE and CBCC