



3

THE EDUCATION SERVICES DIVISION

Olive Tree

“When you knock down the fruit of your olive trees, you shall not go over the branches a second time; let what remains be for the resident alien, the orphan, and the widow.” (Dt 24:20)

“Love in the service of hope” has long been the mission of Caritas. Special attention is directed to the needs and aspirations of the underprivileged, the **last**, the **least** and the **lost** within the community.

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 & Education Service, and (4) Community & Higher Education Service, are registered with the Education Bureau (“EDB”). Since the Catholic Diocese of Hong Kong and the Religious Congregations operate more than 100 primary schools, the Division then places its emphasis on 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.



- “Let’s pray for those in need.
Thanks, our Lord!”



- “Uncle Chan, we are going to bake
a cake together!”

Highlights of the Year

Enrichment of Children Daily Life Experience

To enrich the daily life experience of children, Situational Learning Approach was adopted in Caritas kindergartens which a variety of outdoor activities and community visits was organized including the Hong Kong Railway Museum, Brighter Smiles Playland, dental clinic and supermarket. These experiences were significant to the foundation of enquiry-based learning for young children.



- “We’ve bought a lot of food at the supermarket!”



- Children learned the oral health at the Brighter Smiles Playland



- Children visited a dental clinic



- “Let’s explore the history of the local railway transportation.”

Cultivation of Affection and Empathy at Early Age

To nurture the core values of Catholic education and to develop children's qualities of forgiving, respecting, loving, helping and accepting each other, children were taught to demonstrate their affections and empathies through a series of life education programmes, such as “Little School Helpers”, “Good Friends Day”, “Good morning, Sweetie”. Parents and grandparents of children were also eager to participate and they worked collaboratively with schools to develop the noble character for the whole person of children.



- “We enjoy to be the Little School Helpers”



- Parents and children performed a magic show at the “Good morning, Sweetie”

Joint-school Programme for Promoting Physical Health

With a subsidy granted by the Committee on Home-School Co-operation, a joint-school project named “Parent-child Marathon Sport Scheme cum Parent Workshop” was launched in December 2015 with the aim to emphasize the importance of physical health and development to children. The scheme would be continued till May 2016 that both the children and their family members were encouraged to have physical exercise everyday.



- Parent – child workshop on physical health of children



- A booklet with suggestions on physical exercises was published

Staff Development and Training

Workshops and Orientation Day

Three refreshment workshops were organized for new teachers by the Caritas Pre-school Education Material Reference Centre in June 2015 and July 2015 with the aims to strengthen the skills in teaching English for young children and to enrich the English Curriculum. An Orientation Day was organized on 22 August 2015 and a total of 16 new teachers participated. The challenges faced by new teachers were shared in alignment with the vision, mission and value of the Agency and the objectives of the Service.

Joint-school Teacher Professional Development Day

Three Joint-school Teacher Professional Development Days (“Professional Development Day”) were organized by the Service for all pre-school teachers. The 1st Professional Development Day was held on 30 April 2015 with the theme “Religious Education (II) — Planning and Implementation of Religious Curriculum for Young Children”. Teachers shared their practices on Emmaus Pedagogy and feedback was received from the team of Religious and Moral Education Curriculum Development Centre.



- Sharing of teachers



- Group discussion on the implementation of Religious Education



- Sharing of language works among schools

The 2nd and the 3rd Professional Development Day were held on 25 September 2015 and 27 November 2015 respectively. The theme was “Language (Chinese) Learning for Young Children — Implementation and Reflection”. Sharing of teaching practices among the Caritas kindergartens and nursery schools, and group discussion were organized. An Associate Professor of the Hong Kong Institute of Education was invited to conduct a whole-day workshop on the development of writing Chinese character in early age. Teachers also learnt how to assess the writing behaviour of young children and teaching strategies were recommended.

Annual Departmental Evaluation Seminar for Pre-school Teachers and Principals

The Annual Departmental Evaluation Seminar with the theme “A Reflection on the Challenges in Social Services - The Difficulties and the Complexities of Taking up Socio-Pastoral Activities” was held on 23 July 2015. The lesson learnt from the “Geese Theory” was shared by the Chief Executive of Caritas which had inspired the participants on effective teamwork with positive aptitude. A workshop “Spiritual Education and Religious Education” on the reflection for life and whole person development was conducted by the Associate Director of Caritas Education Services. Group discussions on “Children Learning and Family Education” and “Professionalism and Collaboration” were organized.



- Teachers learnt through professional dialogue and teaching practice



- The Annual Departmental Evaluation Seminar for Pre-school Teachers and Principals 2015

3.3 SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICE

Objectives

Special Education 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 of the Year

Visual Art Exhibition & Workshop – “Ordinary · Extraordinary — Figurative · Abstract”

Organized by Caritas Lok Yi School, a Visual Art Exhibition and Workshop named “Ordinary · Extraordinary — Figurative · Abstract” was held from 8 April 2015 to 18 April 2015 in the Centennial Campus of The University of Hong Kong. It aimed at providing equal opportunity for the students to participate in the learning and creation of art. Students endeavored to cherish life and love in virtue of the Catholic education core values.



- Share love with “The Last”, “The Least” and “The Lost” in the community



- Students designed the portraits “Revered Figure” through the method of mosaic collage by colorful and shining papers

Inclusive Arts Fun Fair

Caritas Lok Jun School held an Inclusive Arts Fun Fair at Jockey Club Creative Arts Centre on 8 July 2015. Different kinds of inclusive performance and workshops were organized, including music jam, “Symbiotic Dance”, inclusive theater, interactive installation, visual arts exhibition, and light, water and sand painting. By inviting the participants from the public to join the performance and workshops, the students and the visitors shared an enjoyable day together.



- Interactive installation



- “Symbiotic Dance” performed together by students, staff, parents and volunteers

Dialogic Reading

The project, in collaboration with the City University of Hong Kong, was undertaken in Caritas Resurrection School. Dialogic reading was applied in the instruction of students with intellectual disability. A booklet named “Create a Stimulating Learning Environment for Students with Intellectual Disability” had been published in July 2015.

Short-term Adjustment Programme

The EDB invited Caritas Pelletier School to provide “Short-term Adjustment Programme” for girls with emotional and behavioural difficulties studying in the mainstream schools. The programme was started from the year 2015/2016. The girls maintained their registration with their mainstream schools and would be reintegrated into the schools on completion of the Programme with satisfactory improvement in emotion and behaviour.

Active Participation of Volunteers

Members from different charity groups and communities had been volunteering at Caritas special schools at different occasions. This year, some professionals had accepted invitation to become the school’s voluntary visiting medical officers, physiotherapists and occupational therapists. Moreover, thanks to the volunteers from the Sovereign Military Order of Malta (“S.M.O.M.”), Society of St. Vincent de Paul, St. Alfred’s Church, St. Benedict Church, local church parishioners and parent volunteers for providing a blissful and impressive time for students of Caritas special schools.



• The voluntary work of S.M.O.M.



• Students dancing joyfully with volunteers

Awards Achieved

A student of Caritas Lok Jun School participated in “We Love Kitchen” cooking contest held by Hong Chi Association and got the 1st runner-up. Students of Caritas Pelletier School participated in “The 52nd Schools Dance Festival” held by EDB and the Hong Kong Schools Dance Association Limited. The School won the Highest Commended Award.



• “We Love Kitchen” cooking contest



• The Dunhuang dance and Jasminum dance of Caritas Pelletier School



Staff Development and Training

Joint-school Staff Development Programmes on Cognitive Therapy

A seminar and three-session workshop on “Application of Cognitive Therapy (“CT”) in Handling Parents’ Emotional Problems” were held from August 2015 to November 2015 for social workers and teachers. The trainer from Caritas Rehabilitation Service highlighted the rationale and the methods of CT, and shared some case studies in using CT in eliminating the irrational beliefs of parents.

Joint-school New Staff Orientation 2015/2016

The Joint-school New Staff Orientation was held on 19 September 2015. It aimed at promoting the vision, mission and value of Caritas, and sharing “Principles in Serving Persons with Disabilities”.



• A fruitful sharing by Rev Joseph Yim during the Joint-school New Staff Orientation

Joint-school Professional Development Day cum Service Day 2015/2016

The Joint-school Professional Development Day cum Service Day for all school staff of six special schools was held on 11 December 2015. Dr Paul Lau, Associate Director of Caritas Education Services, was invited to deliver a talk on “Action Learning” to the teaching and professional staff, and Rev Deacon Wong Shing Yee shared the school motto to all school staff.



• A group photo of Rev Joseph Yim, Dr Paul Lau, supervisors, principals and all school staff

3.4 VOCATIONAL TRAINING & EDUCATION SERVICE

Objectives

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

Secondary Schools

VTES oversees 9 secondary schools (8 aided schools and 1 Direct Subsidy Scheme school), offering a balanced and broad curricula through which students acquire their knowledge and skills under the Catholic education ideology.



- Students joining some of the extra-curricular activities



Field Studies Centre

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



- Students attending lessons of field studies programmes

Apprentice Training Centres

VTES oversees a printing training centre and a car repair workshop to provide apprenticeship programmes to students from the Vocational Training Council, aiming at training those who are 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

Establishment of the Incorporated Management Committee

The last batch of schools, namely Caritas Tuen Mun Marden Foundation Secondary School, Caritas Chai Wan Marden Foundation Secondary School, Caritas Fanling Chan Chun Ha Secondary School and Caritas Yuen Long Chan Chun Ha Secondary School, established their Incorporated Management Committee ("IMC") on 1 August 2015. All the eight aided secondary schools and the Field Studies Centre are now managed by their own IMC.

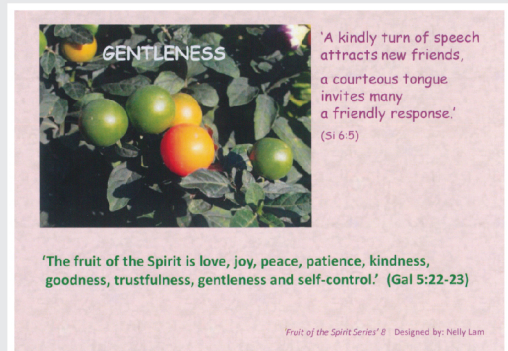
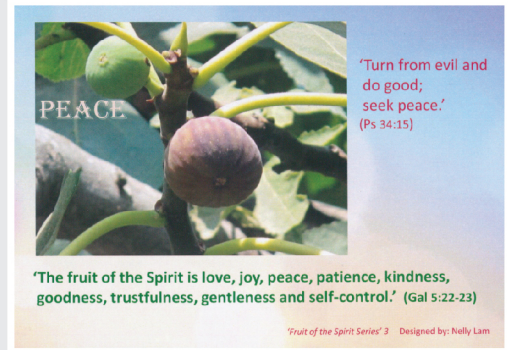
Promotion of Spirituality

Two joint-school visits to the Tung Chung Visitation Chapel and the St. Andrew's Parish were held on 28 December 2015 and 29 December 2015 respectively for teachers and students of Caritas secondary schools. Guided tours were given to convey the messages of Jesus's birth, the Jubilee of Mercy and the worship furnishings inside parish to the visitors. The activities aimed to strengthen their knowledge on Catholic core values. Besides, a talk on "Exploration of Love and Justice in Mercy" given by Dr Francis Chan, Head of Caritas Religious and Spiritual Life Education Unit was held on 12 March 2016 for the principals, religious teachers and pastoral assistants of Caritas secondary schools.



• Joint-school religious activities

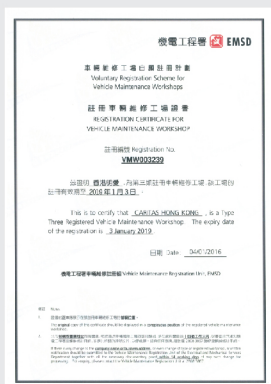
In this year, VTES published the 3rd series of religious cards and posters for Caritas secondary schools and service units. These cards and posters serve as a means to transmit the messages of Catholicism.



• The new series of religious cards

Voluntary Registration Scheme for Vehicle Maintenance Workshops

The Caritas Car Repair Workshop has registered as a “Type Three Registered Vehicle Maintenance Workshop” on 4 January 2016 under the Voluntary Registration Scheme for Vehicle Maintenance Workshops launched by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (“EMSD”). This scheme helps the general public to identify registered vehicle maintenance workshops in the market.



- The registration certificate for vehicle maintenance workshop issued by the EMSD

Training for School Managers and Supervisors

Two talks were given to the School Managers and Supervisors this year. The 1st talk was held on 8 December 2015 for the School Supervisors on the theme of financial management of school and usage of various school grants. The 2nd talk was held on 25 February 2016 for the Parent Managers and Alumni Managers on the role and responsibility of IMC Manager.

Staff Development and Training

New Staff Orientation Day 2015/2016

The New Staff Orientation Day was held on 5 September 2015 at Caritas House for newly-recruited teachers and staff of Caritas secondary schools and the Field Studies Centre. The orientation started with a mass held in the Hong Kong Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. All participants were introduced on the history, vision, mission and value of Caritas. A talk on teaching effectiveness with a teaching demonstration was given by the Head of VTES to the newly recruits.



- A mass on the New Staff Orientation Day



- Teaching demonstration

Joint-school Staff Development Day 2015/2016

The Joint-school Staff Development Day for all teaching and non-teaching staff of Caritas secondary schools and the Field Studies Centre was held on 30 September 2015 at Caritas Ma On Shan Secondary School. Mr. Benjamin Yung, Principal Assistant Secretary (Professional Development and Training) of EDB, gave a speech on professional development of educators. Teachers who were awarded the “Chief Executive’s Award for Teaching Excellence” shared their views on the teaching of Chinese, English, Mathematics and Visual Arts. Talks on school office management, financial management and Chinese medicine were arranged for non-teaching staff.



- Seminars for non-teaching staff



• Speakers giving talks during the Joint-school Staff Development Day

3.5 COMMUNITY & HIGHER EDUCATION SERVICE

Objectives

Community & Higher Education Service (“CHES”) is dedicated to providing quality education to young people and working adults to prepare them for opportunities in career choices and personal development. CHES is also committed to promoting and preserving the highest standards of excellence in teaching, learning, and service activities to give students a holistic education and to strengthen their awareness of their roles and responsibilities in society.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Highlights of the Year / Achievements

Higher Diploma in Early Childhood Education Programme

In October 2015, the Higher Diploma in Early Childhood Education (“HDECE”) Programme was approved by EDB and Social Welfare Department as a teacher training course for early childhood education. Graduates will be eligible to register as qualified Kindergarten Teachers, registered Child Care Workers and Child Care Supervisors. The 1st cohort of HDECE students started classes in January 2016 and an official launching ceremony of the programme was held on 26 February 2016.



• A class activity of HDECE programme

Navigation Scheme for Young Persons in Care Services Project

Partnering with Caritas Social Work Services (“CSWS”), Caritas Institute of Community Education (“CICE”) has joined the “Navigation Scheme for Young Persons in Care Services” being implemented by CSWS. A two-year part-time Diploma programme in Health Care Training for the Elderly and Rehabilitation Sectors will be delivered by CICE for the participants of the Scheme.

Child Care Training for Grandparents Project

CICE has also collaborated with Caritas Family Service (“CFS”) and Caritas Services for the Elderly (“CSE”) in a pilot project “Child Care Training for Grandparents”. The pilot project aims at strengthening family ties and relationship between generations as well as reinstating and reinforcing support for nuclear families by enabling grandparents to become well-trained child carers in the home setting.

Yi Jin Diploma

A funding subsidy of about \$1 million was granted by EDB in the 2015/2016 academic year for the provision of support initiatives to students and teachers of Yi Jin Diploma (“YJD”). More than 40 activities and learning support services were provided, such as adventure camp, school picnic, Caritas Cheung Chau walk, reading scheme, inter-class football and basketball competitions, Caritas Got Talent show, First-aid certificate courses, English & Mathematics remedial classes, dessert-making class, baby massage class and voluntary work, etc.



• Caritas Got Talent show



• Caritas Cheung Chau walk



• Adventure camp



• Basketball competition

Through Train Scheme

To facilitate promotion and enrolment of credit-bearing programmes, CICE continues to offer Through Train Scheme for secondary six students of Caritas and Catholic schools. Seminars and on-site interviews were held in February and March 2016, and nearly 1,700 applications were received.

Applied Learning

Fifty-two CICE students received the Applied Learning (“ApL”) Scholarship from the Law’s Charitable Foundation for the year 2014/2015. Among all these award recipients, 14 students received the “Special Award” which was set up to recognize students who demonstrated positive learning attitude and achieved good progress and outstanding performance in their study of ApL courses.

Whole Person Development Programme

CICE organized the Whole Person Development Programme and extra-curricular activities to foster students' personal growth and career aspiration. These activities were categorized into seven dimensions, namely spiritual, career planning, physical health, mental health, social service, intellectual development and recreation.



• Orientation training camp



• Visit Life Journey Centre

Service Learning

As the saying goes, “practice makes perfect.” CICE incorporated the elements of service learning in its curriculum by working closely with relevant industry sectors to provide practicum opportunities for its students. Other than visits to the health-related organizations such as Hospital Authority, Hong Kong Red Cross, The Hong Kong Institute of Biotechnology Limited, CMA Testing and Certification Laboratories, medical polyclinic, etc., students of diploma and higher diploma programmes in the health care-related discipline visited Caritas Special Schools and had their practicum in Caritas Day Care Centres; Elderly Centres and Rehabilitation Centres. In a similar vein, students in the Hospitality Management discipline participated in a three-month internship at leading hotels, such as Sheraton Hong Kong Hotel, Courtyard by Marriott Hong Kong Sha Tin

Hotel, Marco Polo Hongkong Hotel and Caritas Bianchi Lodge, etc. under the arrangement of the Hong Kong Hotels Association. Students reflected that such experience was valuable for them in grasping day to day operations in the real world.

Employees Retraining Board – Manpower Development Scheme

In 2015/2016, CHES organized talks and activities on employee retraining courses. Employers were invited to conduct recruitment talks in various centres for course information and training guidance.



• Course promotion activities

Awards Achieved

Seven CICE YJD students of 2014/2015 were awarded scholarships by the Sir Robert Black Trust Fund, the award ceremony of which was held on 14 January 2016. Another 10 CICE YJD students of 2014/2015 were awarded scholarships by the Test of English for International Communication (TOEIC).



• 2014/2015 Sir Robert Black Trust Fund Award Ceremony

In 2014/2015, CHES was also awarded the First Group rating, the best rating in the new management audit of Employees Retraining Board (“ERB”). The 8th ERB “Manpower Development Scheme” Award Presentation Ceremony was held on 21 November 2015. CHES and its partners received the following awards:

- “ERB Outstanding Award for Placement Services”
- “ERB Outstanding Award for Trainees”
- “ERB Merit Award for Employers”
- “ERB Outstanding Award for Employers”
- “ERB Excellence Award for Employers”



• ERB Outstanding Award for Placement Services

HIGHER EDUCATION

Highlights of the Year

The construction of the new campus of Caritas Institute of Higher Education (“CIHE”) in Tseung Kwan O is well underway. Occupying a gross floor area of about 30,000 square metres, the new campus will serve about 3,200 students. CIHE targets to complete various construction works in the summer, enabling the campus to operate in September 2016.

The new campus will increase the provision of self-financing degree places in Hong Kong and will provide a more sustainable and vibrant learning environment for its students. In addition, there will be maximized synergies between this new campus and the adjoining campus of Caritas Bianchi College of Careers (“CBCC”).



• CIHE Tseung Kwan O New Campus

Achievements

CIHE and CBCC received support of about \$22.35 million for 1 individual project and 1 collaborative project under the Quality Enhancement Support Scheme of EDB. In addition, 7 projects under the Faculty Development Scheme, 1 project under each of the Inter-institutional Development Scheme and the Institutional Development Scheme of the Competitive Research Funding Schemes for the Local Self-financing Degree Sector of the University Grants Committee were granted with a total amount of \$13.66 million.

The Secretary of Education had endorsed 88 students from CIHE and CBCC to receive the “Outstanding Performance Scholarship”, “Best Progress Award”, “Talent Development Scholarship”, “Reaching Out Award” and “Endeavour Scholarship” under the Self-financing Post-secondary Scholarship Scheme of the EDB.

New Programmes

In 2015, CIHE successfully underwent the validation of its Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Digital Entertainment. This new programme represents a collaboration of the Institute's colleagues in two disciplinary areas, namely information technology and design. Its planned offer in 2016 will also signify the Institute's exploration into these two areas at the degree level. In 2016, the Institute will also undergo accreditation of two part-time conversion degree programmes; one in Social Work and the other in Health Sciences. If successfully launched, they will represent the 1st attempt of CIHE to offer part-time conversion degree for the academic advancement of sub-degree graduates, expanding the Institute's portfolio of Bachelor's Degree programme which now contains full-time degree programmes covering a total of 14 different disciplinary areas for further study by secondary school leavers.

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 140 academic publications in books, peer-reviewed journals, conference proceedings, journal editorships and book editorships.

Staff Development and Training

CIHE and CBCC have always been making effort to build and provide a caring and supportive working environment to staff, making available in all earnest diverse training opportunities, to assist academic and non-academic staff in the acquisition of professional and generic knowledge and skills. A total of seven in-house staff development activities were conducted in 2015.



• CIHE & CBCC staff development seminars