

Ying Wa Girls' School

Annual School Report (2021-2022)

Themes: Enlighten, Empower, Embrace, Engage

Major Concern 1: Enlighten – To explore new learning opportunities for students

Objectives	Strategies / Programmes	Methods of Evaluation
To facilitate students' learning of STEM knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting up of the Mathematics Room for Mathematics related activities • Applying to QEF to renovate a room for STEM Makerspace • Recruiting a STEM project assistant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Mathematics Room was launched for use in October. • The Brainstorm Kick-off and Competition were held very smoothly and successfully in Oct 2022. Students enjoyed the activities very much. • With the help of the new STEM project assistant, we were able to join STEM School. • The application to renovate an activity room in site B to a STEM Maker's Room (Makerspace) has been approved in principle by the QEF in August 2021. Now awaiting for approval from the Regional Education Office to officially change the room's usage. • Will be participating in a Partnership Scheme with VTC, EdUHK and CUHK • Scientific investigation-based curriculum and AI & robotics are new additions into our curriculum. All these new modules were conducted smoothly and students were engaged during these lessons. Feedback from students were also positive. • The STEM Team won various prestigious awards, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Championship of the Interschool Tram+ NFT Hackathon 2022 organized by Tramplus - First runner up in the "Social Innovation · Community 4.0 Competition" organized by The Hong Kong Council of Social Service - Champion and First Runner-up titles in the AI Apps Design Competitions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making good use of the Breezy Path campus to develop and explore students' potential • Auditorium – public speaking / TED talk / performing arts • Fitness center / rock climbing wall – physical fitness • Music practice rooms / canteen / prayer rooms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Despite COVID restrictions, a number of programs were held in the Breezy Path Campus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Paul McKenzie, four-time World Wildlife Photographer of the Year and member of the Royal Geographical Society, came to share with our S5 students his passionate and extraordinary stories of shooting in the remotest parts of the world. - On July 12 and 21, the Music Department invited renowned musicians to conduct two masterclasses for our choir members. - A piano recital was successfully held on July 16. Our talented student pianists performed a programme of varied musical styles and traditions which included compositions by Haydn, Beethoven, Schubert, Clara Schumann, Liszt, Chopin, Brahms, Debussy, Prokofiev, Copland and Granados. This recital marked the first formal concert held in our new campus. On this wondrous occasion, the audience, including parents, alumnae, teachers, students and friends of YW, had a memorable and enjoyable night of music.

<p>To develop cross-curricular mindset and activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refining 4 core subjects of senior forms • Implementing national security education in various subjects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the optimization of the 4 core subjects, more space is created and an additional lesson is allocated to each elective subjects in S4, allowing more in-depth study. The number of Class Teacher periods were also increased to strengthen Student-Teacher relationship. • The Project-based Learning Centre (PBLC) supports learning outside classrooms. Nine projects were conducted this year, such as Wonders of Mathematics and Chinese Culture Quiz. A new scheme was introduced this year to encourage students to make good use of the special collection of autobiography books in the Library. The PBLC continued to organize writing contests and showcase students' outstanding works. • In order to develop Basic Law education, a total of 4 articles were submitted to the Student Association for publication in Clarion (a school-based student magazine). The topics included the Greater Bay Area, the welfare of the elderly in Hong Kong, and the impact of the fifth COVID-19 wave on Hong Kong. • Due to the suspension of face-to-face lessons after the Lunar New Year, the “Basic Law Quiz Competition” was merged with the “Chinese Culture Quiz Competition.” Questions concerning the Basic Law were incorporated into the quiz. All S1 – S3 students completed the activity satisfactorily. • Four S4 students teamed up to deliver a talk with the theme on The Reform and Opening-up of China. Different creative approaches were introduced to facilitate the study of Chinese history and to strengthen the sense of national identity. • A Google Classroom on National Security Education was set up for teachers. Materials and documents were placed in the drive as reference.
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Major concern 2: Empower – To facilitate teachers, students and parents to excel

Objectives	Strategies / Programmes	Methods of Evaluation
To empower students and parents so as to unleash students' potential and creativity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting healthy parent-daughter relationships • Exploring the possibilities to extend the dual class teacher system to other suitable forms • Making effect use of the Life-wide Learning Grant (LWLG) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two talks were organized by the PTA in the Fun-filled Family Activities Series jointly hosted with the HKFWS. Dr. Leung Wing Tai, President of Lumina College, spoke on “Decisions that make kids outstanding”. The Cyber Youth Support Team (HKI) from St. James’ Settlement shared with parents on the youth culture of “Generation Z”. • Parents had the chance to engage in mental training in a SoulCollage workshop, and experienced stress reduction in a Mindfulness meditation workshop. • The dual class teacher scheme was launched in three forms: S1, S3 and S4. The scheme was found to be very important and effective, especially during the COVID period to better support students and parents. • A wide variety of programs organized by teachers with funding support by LWLG. The ECA committee held regular evaluation meetings to ensure the effective use of the LWLG.
To develop a healthy body and mind for students and teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introducing activities to develop a healthy mind, body and spirit • Exploring the use of the Growth Mindset 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the mental wellbeing of students as our priority, we organized programmes on mental health issues. Guest speakers shared their stories of healing and recovery. Messages related to mental wellbeing were delivered periodically to students to help remove the stigma associated with people who are dealing with mental health issues. • Guidance teachers continued to support and follow up on students who were identified in need under the “Student Mental Health Support Scheme” SMHSS 醫教社同心協作計劃. • A Talk by Dr. Wong Oi Yan, the 3-finger pianist was held on Nov. 22, 2021. Both students and teachers were impressed by her beautiful playing and inspiring life story. • ‘Growth Mindset’ materials were introduced to students. • On 18 May, Mr. Vivek A. Mahbubani, a bilingual stand-up comedian, shared with us the importance of seeing the lighter side of life during the morning assembly. He inspired us to be observant of the trivial details in everyday life and to find the humor and positive side of these experiences.

<p>To encourage a sharing culture among teachers related to both teaching and non-teaching duties</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing staff training and staff development programmes • Providing in-house training to middle managers • Continuing lesson observation by the School Management Team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the extensive use of online teaching during school suspension, teachers became more competent in conducting online teaching. Sharings of good practices on the use of different Apps and teaching materials were held within departments. • In August 2021, we invited Mr. Ricky Chan, an expert in Brain-Based Learning and “Brain-Mind” training to conduct a workshop for our teaching staff. We learned how understanding the mechanism of the brain could help teachers enhance the effectiveness of teaching. Mr. Chan’s lively workshop demonstrated practical ways to enhance students’ cognitive and learning capacities. • In June 2022, a workshop on National Security Education was jointly-held with peers from Ying Wa College. • The 3-year cycle of lesson observation and post lesson discussion with SMT was completed. A new cycle will start in the coming school year.
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Major concern 3: Embrace – To understand one self, the school, the surroundings, the society, the nation and the globe

Objectives	Strategies / Programmes	Methods of Evaluation
To develop “authentic self” and facilitate team building among students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementing programmes to facilitate students to aim high while embracing failures • Continuing value education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hong Kong Animal Assisted Therapy Association (香港動物輔助治療協會) was invited to our school to hold animal therapy sessions on October 27 and November 28. Through this experiential learning experience, students got to interact with therapy dogs and understand how animals can help lift people’s mood and improve their well-being. • After a two-year hiatus, students and teachers of Ying Wa brimmed with excitement as they welcomed the return of this beloved tradition of class assembly. The 5 S5 classes held amazing drama performances for their fellow teachers and schoolmates with the theme ‘The Fruit of the Holy Spirit — love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control’.
To promote diversity and inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementing global education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Global Exposure Team collaborated with the English Department to bring the staple Global Week event to S3 students in December. Students formed into different groups to engage in a challenging research project – to explore the rich culture, history, and way of life of a country of their choice. Each group then created a stall and prepared presentations to showcase their chosen countries. More than 40+ countries were featured in the event, enabling students to learn a variety of interesting facts and trivia. • Having cooperated with CEDAR Fund (施達基金會) for several years, the Liberal Studies Department invited three guests of Pakistani and Indian origin to visit each of the S6 class in January 2022. Not only did the guests share their unique cultures and traditions in food, marriage, religions, festivals and women’s status, but they also shared their encounters as ethnic minorities living in Hong Kong. The guests’ personal stories and experiences were authentic and thought-provoking, so it was indeed an eye-opening experience for students. • A new Teaching Assistant was hired to help Non-Chinese students to learn Chinese and promote peer learning.
To treasure YW history and heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforcing cultural and heritage education • Construction and Opening of the 1926 Heritage Block & Archives Repository 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently, we are working on a project to transform the heritage block into a miniature exhibition gallery to tell the story of Ying Wa. Friends of Ying Wa are probably familiar with the one-storey structure situated in the school compound near the Bonham Road entrance, fondly referred to as “the kindergarten block”. First used in 1926, it was home to Hong Kong’s first early childhood education. The structure has been preserved during the School Redevelopment and the revitalized heritage block will be open to visitors by the first quarter of 2023. • A new committee “School Archive and Heritage Education Committee” will be formed in the coming school year
To promote sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing green education • Emphasizing sustainable environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Green Warriors continued to organize programmes to help drive a campus-go-green campaign, with the involvement of students, teachers and parents. • A “Market Leftover Food Recycling Experience Tour” was held by the PTA to raise awareness on the importance of alleviating poverty and environmental protection.

Major concern 4: Engage – To transform to be better facilitators and learners

Objectives	Strategies / Programmes	Methods of Evaluation
To engage students in self-directed learning process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exploring additional strategies for learning and teaching 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school will continue improving the teaching and learning under the hybrid mode of online and face-to-face lessons. Teachers have been using various eLearning tools like Nearpod and Kahoot to make lessons more collaborative and interactive in preparation for the implementation of a BYOD policy. The Student Association and the Inter-house Committee continued to organize programmes planned, executed and evaluated by students. The past year was another challenging year since students had to plan for contingencies and other ad-hoc matter brought on by the pandemic.
To engage students with experiential learning in the community and the world	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing service projects in and outside school (local / outside HK – depends on the COVID-19 situation) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the beginning of the academic year, leadership and volunteer training workshops were organized for student leaders and S2 students respectively. Our regular service programmes, which include our gift distribution to an elderly center and assistance to an animal kennel, were held successfully. In summer, a joint service programme with Ying Wa College was organized to help the homeless in Sham Shui Po.
To engage the support from alumnae	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holding the 2021 Movie Gala “<i>To My 19-year Old Self</i>” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On December 1, 2021, the premiere of fundraising movie gala – “To My 19-year-old Self” was held at the Grand Theatre, Hong Kong Cultural Centre. Helmed by our distinguished alumna and internationally acclaimed director Ms. Mabel Cheung, the film chronicles the growth of a unique group of Ying Wa students through their journey in secondary school – from their time in the old Robinson Road Campus to the decanting school in Sham Shui Po. The film is an up-close and honest account of the coming of age of these youngsters who all have their own fascinating stories to tell. The decade-long filming resulted in a staggering amount of footage. What eventually made it to the big screen is a meticulously crafted narrative that showcases the lives of six of our students. Through the film, we get to see how their family environment, personalities, and dreams evolve through the years. It follows how these young teenagers search for their self-identity and cope with the challenges of adolescence. With the generosity of all members in the YW family, the fundraising drive was a tremendous achievement. The fundraiser managed to raise over 7 million HK dollars in a bid to develop our school’s ability to offer a comprehensive and forward thinking education to our students. The documentary made it to the 46th Hong Kong International Film Festival and the screenings were successfully held on August 21 and 22, 2022. Incorporated Management Committee (IMC) managers, Director Ms. Mabel Cheung, Producer Ms. Eunice Wong and the cast of the documentary proudly attended the screening. The team also had the opportunity to interact with the audience afterwards.