Diocesan Boys' School – School Policy

Introduction

The mission of Diocesan Boys' School stands as providing a liberal education based on Christian principles for the development of a whole person of good character, the acquisition of creative and critical thinking skills and the cultivation of multiple intelligence maximizing students' diverse talents. Our school policy reassures our prime concern of equipping students with sound knowledge, worthy personal qualities, dynamic social and technical skills to achieve success in this rapidly advancing pluralistic society.

I. Quality Assurance

The Diocesan Boys' School Committee Incorporation Ordinance (Cap.1123 of the Laws of Hong Kong) enacted in 1969 gives the School Committee the full power 'to manage, administer and operate the Diocesan Boys' School'. The School Committee focuses on setting school policies, the mission and vision, the raising, management and allocation of funds and managing a relationship with the Diocese, relevant Government departments and other educational institutes. The working group of the School Committee closely monitors the use of fundings as well as the implementation of the school policies. Members of the School Committee also sit on the School Management Committee and the Consultative Committee to ensure the smooth running of the school and a continuous exchange of views between teachers, parents and students.

II. Curriculum and Assessment

The recommended syllabuses specified by the Curriculum Development Institute form the backbone of the DBS curriculum. Starting from the school year 2009-2010, the new senior secondary curriculum is being adopted in all of the subsidized secondary schools as well as those under the Direct Subsidy scheme. Upon completing the final year of Secondary Six, students will take part in the first Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examinations in 2012.

In addition, having received final authorization from the International Baccalaureate Organisation, our school will offer the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme starting from the school year 2010-2011. This comprehensive and challenging two-year course widely recognized for its high academic standards is for Grade 11 and Grade 12 students with an aim of preparing them for university studies. Assessment is varied and takes place over two years with final examinations in each subject. Student's work is assessed by an international board of examiners who are rigorously trained and monitored by the International Baccalaureate Organisation. Prior to the Diploma Programme, our school is offering a Bridging Programme for Grade 10 students starting from the school year 2009-2010. Its main focus is on the development of skills in preparing students to meet the requirement of the rigorous Diploma Programme.

III. Teaching and Learning

The school is to provide a well-balanced education for the development of the whole person through effective means and agreeable strategies. Teaching and learning under both the reformed local curriculum and the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme aims to enable our students to excel at using their language and numerical abilities, to broaden their knowledge base and to possess capabilities of critical thinking, independent learning and interpersonal skills.

It is of equal importance to meet the needs of individual students while facilitating a whole-person development. Emphasis is placed on academic abilities, language skills, information technology, physical education and music. Through participation in the clubs, societies, interest groups, student organizations and school teams, students experience growth in areas in addition to their academic studies. Local and overseas exchange and service programmes are encouraged to enrich common knowledge and deepen the understanding of our world outside the classroom setting. The Boarding School, a unique DBS feature, aims at further fostering a strong sense of responsibility and self-discipline among students.

IV. The Medium of Instruction

From the beginning, the school has had an extensive history of internationalism. Students other than those of a Chinese descent attended our school alongside their Chinese schoolmates. The English language has traditionally been and will continue to be the medium of instruction in our classrooms. The Chinese language will remain as the medium of instruction in the Chinese Language and the Chinese History classes.

To further equip our students for the multi-linguistic trend in the ever-advancing societies, our school has all along provided students the opportunity of learning French as a second language in place of Chinese. French will therefore be used in the teaching of the French Language. All the relevant teaching materials and resources will be in English, Chinese and French with respect to the circumstances specified above.