



# **Ebenezer School**

## **School Development Plan**

2012/2013

to

2014/2015

## **Our School Mission**

The Gospel of Christ lays the foundation of our school. Based on our educational ideals of “Education without discrimination” and “Teaching according to Learners’ Abilities”, we are committed to providing an all-round quality education to children and youths with visual impairment. We strive to provide our students with an environment of positiveness, cheerfulness, trust, solidarity as well as mutual help and care for them to learn and grow. We help students to overcome the limitations of visual impairment, and to develop their own potentials and talents. Growing up as confident and independent persons, our students will contribute to the school, families, society and nation.

## **Our School Objectives**

1. To nurture students’ interest in acquisition of knowledge, their appreciation of music, arts and culture, keenness on physical well being, diligence and sociability, and getting to know the gospel of Christ.
2. To comprehensively apply today’s information technology to overcome limitations of visual impairment.
3. To strengthen students’ abilities in receptive, expressive and social communication, and their development in multiple intelligences.
4. To strive to create a cheerful learning environment for the students. At the same time, students’ understanding of the importance of discipline in social living is also stressed.

## **Our School Motto**

**“Ever Strive to be Strong”**

## **OUR PRESENT STANCE**

### **1. STRENGTHS of our school (including the Boarding Section):**

- 1.1 Our School is the only school for visually impaired students in Hong Kong. All teachers and supportive staff members have received special training and are able to provide comprehensive, professional educational services to the visually impaired students.
- 1.2 With 115 years of experience in education, the institution has a clear organizational structure and is well run.
- 1.3 Teachers' professional development is much valued in our school. Our teaching staff shows professionalism and dedication to their work and continues to receive further training to enhance their knowledge.
- 1.4 We adopt a Whole School Approach to school development where all members collaborate to serve the best interest of our students.
- 1.5 Our students have a strong sense of belonging to the school. It is evident that students enjoy school life in this stimulating learning environment where the student-teacher relationship is harmonious.
- 1.6 Our school provides numerous opportunities for students to participate in Other Learning Experiences (OLE), which cover a wide range of learning activities.

### **2 WEAKNESSES of our school (including the Boarding Section):**

- 2.1 The school has recruited a number of new teaching staff and we must allow time for them to adapt to the new environment.
- 2.2 Enhancement of teachers' knowledge in teaching and learning and in the mainstream education curriculum is to be expected.
- 2.3 Much support from teaching assistants and other teaching professionals are needed to meet the individual learning needs of our students as many of them have other disabilities in addition to visual impairment.
- 2.4 The middle management personnel have yet to show their potential in leadership and management.
- 2.5 Our school's online platform has not been used efficiently. Enhancement of the IT system is needed for a more organized information database and for the development of students' electronic learning kits.

### 3 OPPORTUNITIES of our school (including boarding section):

- 3.1 We are working on the opportunities for relocation of our campus. If it is possible, we will have more room for improvement in our campus environment, education services, rehabilitation services and manpower management, etc.
- 3.2 We provide “one-stop” education service from child-care to inclusive education support so that students’ needs are attended to at different stages of learning throughout preschool and beyond.
- 3.3 With small class sizes, we can develop a school-based curriculum to take care of the individual needs of our students.
- 3.4 Besides resource support from EDB, we have managed to secure funding from other sources to provide therapeutic services and IT facilities for our students.

### 4 CHALLENGES of our school (including boarding section):

- 4.1 Our school will still not be granted one class provision in some year forms due to a decline in birth rates and the implementation of inclusive education.
- 4.2 The reduction in public financial contributions has affected manpower planning and therefore staff members work under pressure with a heavy workload.
- 4.3 Students admitted are generally weaker in ability than students in earlier years. There are more students who have other disabilities in addition to visual impairment, such as mild intellectual disability, mild physical disability, emotional/behavioural difficulties, attention deficit, learning difficulties and the lack of learning motivation. Staff members find it increasingly difficult to attend to students’ individual needs.

## Summary of the last 3-year Development Plan :

One of last year's major concerns is our students' moral and emotional development. The Discipline Committee and the teaching staff have organised a series of activities including competitions, seminars and sharing sessions. Students were educated the importance of courtesy, tidiness and obedience in class and outside the classroom. They were also expected to display these qualities in their daily life. As for students' emotional development, we could see some progress from which we have gained valuable experience and developed practical strategies to be applied in future.

Another major concern is to enhance students' learning ability and teachers' efficacy of teaching. Different measures have been implemented in accordance with the year plan. In order to further improve teaching and learning, the next 3-year plan will put emphasis on the Information Technology development and assessment for learning with the aim to improve students' academic performance. In view of this, promotion of reading will be one of the focuses in the next 3-year plan.

The last major concern is the collaboration among parents, teachers and boarding staff, which has been evident in many aspects of school operation. On top of that, students have developed a sense of belonging through a series of "Build our new campus" learning activities.

# **Ebenezer School**

## **School Development Plan: 2012/2013 to 2014/2015 School Years**

### **Major Areas of Concern**

- Major Concern 1: To enhance learning & teaching as well as school management through effective use of information technology.
- Major Concern 2: To promote a reading culture.
- Major Concern3: To enhance learning & teaching through effective use of assessment data.
- Major Concern4: To strengthen the Leadership and Management skills of middle managers.

**Ebenezer School**  
**School Development Plan – 2012/2013 to 2014/2015 School Years**

Area of Concern	Goal & Expected Outcome		Strategies	Year of Implementation		
				12/13	13/14	14/15
1. To enhance learning & teaching as well as school management through effective use of information technology.	1.1	Establishment of an Information Technology Committee.	1.1.1 The previous Information Technology Team is restructured into an Information Technology Committee to reorganize job functions.	✓		
			1.1.2 A two-year "Working Group on Technology and Education for Students with Visual Impairment" is formed in collaboration with EDB with a view to enhancing the use of information/assistive technology in teaching and learning.	✓	✓	
	1.2	Utilisation of the e-class platform.	1.2.1 Explore the features and the advantages of e-class.	✓		
			1.2.2 Gradually make full use of the system utilities of e-class.		✓	✓
			1.2.3 Develop e-class online learning platform and self-learning kits.			✓
	1.3	Development of e-Portfolio.	1.3.1 Set a framework for the e-Portfolio and its user guidelines.			✓
1.3.2 A pilot scheme of the e-Portfolio is to be introduced to the IEP students and then be extended to include all students (to be followed up in the next 3-year plan).					✓	

2. To promote a reading culture.	2.1	Reading as one of the learning goals which students will learn to read widely, deeply & critically.	2.1.1	Reading will become a key source of learning in all subjects.	✓	✓	✓
	2.2	Students will have good online reading skills and develop a habit of regular reading.	2.2.1	Students complete a set target number of online reading reports each year.		✓	✓
3. To enhance learning & teaching through effective use of assessment data	3.1	At least three assessments are conducted each year and the data will then be used to identify students' strengths & weaknesses for feedback on teaching strategies.	3.1.1	Set collaborative lesson planning meetings and use assessment data to inform learning and teaching (Chinese, English, Math & Liberal Studies subjects)	✓	✓	✓
4. To strengthen the leadership and management skills of middle managers	4.1	Strengthen the role of middle managers and enhance their leadership skills.	4.1.1	Subject panels will organise lesson observation and teacher evaluation.	✓	✓	
			4.1.2	Invite professionals to organize workshop on Leadership and Management for staff members.	✓		
			4.1.3	Arrangements for staff members to attend relevant Leadership Training courses.	✓	✓	