

## YEW CHUNG INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL TEACHING AND LEARNING POLICY

### OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

#### I. Introduction:

Teaching and learning in YCIS schools provide students with the skills, knowledge, concepts, and understandings necessary to make informed choices and contributions as caring global citizens. This guideline is intended to ensure that all YCIS schools:

- Ensure all YCIS schools understand and implement the YCIS Philosophy & Objectives. Teaching and learning should be aligned to YCIS Philosophy & Objectives.
- Provide personalised learning experiences based on individual student needs, interests, abilities, and cultural backgrounds.
- Ensure success and value of the Co-Teaching Model, which is a unique and integral part of both ECE and Primary sections.
- Strive to provide equality and equity of opportunity for all learners.
- Continuously raise the standards of teaching and learning, and inspire and motivate students and staff.
- Identify and share research-based best practice in teaching and learning across all curriculum areas and year levels.
- Establish professional learning communities focused on improving and enhancing student learning and well-being.
- Develop strong partnerships with parents and other stakeholders.

#### II. Purpose:

The purpose of this guideline is to:

- Ensure that students in all YCIS schools are provided with high quality learning experiences that lead to consistently high levels of learning.
- Guide what students and teachers do, and what YCIS as an organisation does, to create an effective, caring, and well-managed learning environment.
- Provide a common language and understanding of quality teaching within a personalised learning framework for all students.

#### III. Objectives

The objectives of this guideline are to establish consistent and high standards across all YCIS schools to ensure high quality teaching and learning in a caring, supportive and stimulating environment that fosters:

- Independent, confident, and internationally-minded learners.
- Conscientious global citizens, respectful of others and the environment.
- Equal and equitable opportunities for all students.
- High achievement in literacy and numeracy.
- Imagination, creative, and artistic expression.
- Confidence in using technology to support learning.

- Effective links between school, home and community that promote learning and high expectations.

#### **IV. Guiding Principles:**

Learning is a lifelong process that is intended to be rewarding, challenging, and enjoyable. We believe students learn best when they:

- Are happy, challenged, and motivated.
- Achieve success and experience acceptance.
- Receive timely and meaningful feedback.
- Are provided with tasks that are congruent with their ability and interest.
- Are confident, secure and care about those around them.

We believe students should have opportunities to:

- Learn in a safe and secure environment.
- Work individually, in groups, and as a class.
- Have some control over their own learning.
- Work co-operatively and collaboratively.
- Solve problems and think critically.
- Be creative, artistic and innovative.
- Share ideas and initiatives.
- Develop relationship skills and independence.
- Receive support and understanding.
- Achieve and excel academically and personally.

We believe optimal learning takes place in an environment that is:

- International and multicultural.
- Challenging, motivating, and stimulating.
- Peaceful, respectful, and caring.
- Organised, structured, and well resourced.
- Conducive to the learning of all students.
- Embraces diversity and equal opportunities for learning.

#### **V. Quality Teaching and Co-Teaching:**

We believe that quality teaching is aligned with the seven areas of intelligence: visual/spatial, kinesthetic, musical, interpersonal/group working, and intrapersonal/reflective. Students learn in various ways, and effective teaching strategies vary from student to student.

Quality teaching and co-teaching in a caring and supportive environment fosters:

- High levels of literacy and numeracy, combined with inquiry-based learning.
- Development of independence, confidence, flexibility and collaboration.
- Imaginative and creative expression through a wide range of media.

- Confidence in using technology to support learning.
- Conscientious global citizenship, respect and appreciation of the values of others.
- Pride in achievement and a desire to succeed.
- Learning for all students.
- Effective links between school, home and community.

To ensure learning for all students, teaching shall be differentiated according to levels of learning and understanding. We strive to ensure that learning tasks are appropriate for each student's ability, including language learners and those with learning differences. We have high expectations for all students, and provide inclusive educational opportunities based on the high learning standards.

We establish positive working relationships with the students we teach by celebrating student achievement, providing meaningful feedback, and praising and rewarding students for their own achievements. We help students build positive attitudes toward school and learning. As teachers, we strive to reflect on our strengths and weaknesses, establish and follow through on professional growth goals that continuously improve instructional practice.

#### **VI. Quality Learning:**

We encourage students to take responsibility for their own learning, understand how they learn best, and reflect on what they have learned. We offer quality learning opportunities for students to learn in different ways, to include:

- Enquiry and problem solving
- Responding to and using multi-media
- Research and investigation
- Questioning and probing
- Debating, role plays and oral presentations
- Collaborative team work
- Use of technology for learning
- Designing and producing things
- Fieldwork and excursions
- Independent work and projects
- Creative, artistic and musical activities
- Reflection in consultation with peers

YCIS schools aim to provide quality teaching and learning experiences that equip our students to become successful learners, confident individuals, responsible and caring citizens, and caring global contributors in today's society.