

2023 Primary 1
Students'
First Day of School

Principal's Welcome
Address
3 Jan 2023



Our School Vision, Mission and Values



- **Vision:** Leaders of Character, Critical and Creative Thinkers, Lifelong Learners.
- **Mission:** Nurture the whole child in a caring, innovative, collaborative and vibrant learning environment.
- **Values:** (RI²C²E) Resilience, Innovation, Integrity, Care, Collaboration & Excellence
- **Motto:** The Best that We Can Be

Our Beliefs

- We love, value and accept our students for who they are.



Our Beliefs

- We believe that every child is special and talented in his/her own way and seek to bring out the best in each of our students.



Our Beliefs

- We believe that, with effort, our students can learn and are capable of achieving their personal best.



Our Focus:
Empowering Our Students To
Learn For Life &
Thrive In The 21st Century

Preparing Our Students For Life And
Lifelong Learning

Preparing Our Students For Life And Lifelong Learning

Character & Citizenship Education (CCE)

- Leaders of character and active citizens who contribute positively to the school, community and nation

Self-directed, Lifelong Learning

- Empowered, self-directed lifelong learners who take ownership of their learning and are able and willing to learn for life

Learning Dispositions (LDs)

- LDs are positive behaviours and attitudes that help children to become lifelong learners
- LDs support children's learning and development in the various learning areas

“Children with positive learning dispositions will be motivated to keep learning and exploring, applying what they have learnt to different situations, and learning from others, despite the challenges or difficulties they might face. Such children will have a strong start in becoming lifelong learners and they will thrive in a rapidly changing world.”

<https://www.nel.moe.edu.sg/general/vsld>

Zhenghua Learning Dispositions	PRAISE Learning Dispositions (MK & Pre-Schools)
Resilience	Perseverance
Reflectiveness	Reflectiveness
Collaboration	Appreciation
Creativity	Inventiveness
Sense of Curiosity	Sense of wonder and curiosity
Sense of Responsibility	Engagement

Zhenghua Learning Dispositions		PRAISE Learning Dispositions (MK & Pre-Schools)	
Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am not afraid to make mistakes. Mistakes help me to learn. • When I am learning something unfamiliar or hard, I will try my best and not give up. 	Perseverance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will keep working at a task to complete it. • They do not give up even though it is challenging.
Reflectiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I think about how I am learning. • I take steps to improve my learning. • I apply what I have learnt to new learning experiences / challenges. 	Reflectiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will think back about what they have done, seen, heard or felt in their experiences. • They will generate alternative ideas, gain new knowledge to improve their learning

Zhenghua Learning Dispositions		PRAISE Learning Dispositions (MK & Pre-Schools)	
Collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I will listen to and learn from others. • I will share what I know with others and help them learn. 	Appreciation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will be able to recognise individual qualities. • They will listen to and respect the views of others.
Creativity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am flexible in my way of thinking and way of doing things. • I explore various ideas and possibilities. • I generate different solutions to challenges. 	Inventiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will be flexible in their thinking. • They are willing to try out something new or different and will explore doing things in different ways

Zhenghua Learning Dispositions		PRAISE Learning Dispositions (MK & Pre-Schools)	
Sense of Curiosity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am interested to find out more about the world around me. • I ask questions to understand why things happen and how things work. • I am interested to explore new experiences and learn new things. 	Sense of Wonder & Curiosity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will show interest in the world they live in. • They are not afraid to ask questions and like to explore and discover new things.
Sense of Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I ask questions, find solutions and seek help when I don't know something. • I complete my learning tasks to the best of my ability. 	Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will immerse in what they are doing and enjoy what they do. • They will take ownership of their learning and do the best they can.

Active, Self-Directed Learners: Learning Dispositions and Students' Role (the part they play) in the Learning & Assessment Process

Interactions with Teachers

- Listen attentively and take notes
- Ask questions to clarify understanding and extend learning
- Assess work against success criteria
- Be receptive to feedback and act on it for improvement
- Reflect on learning and take steps to improve learning

Interactions with Peers

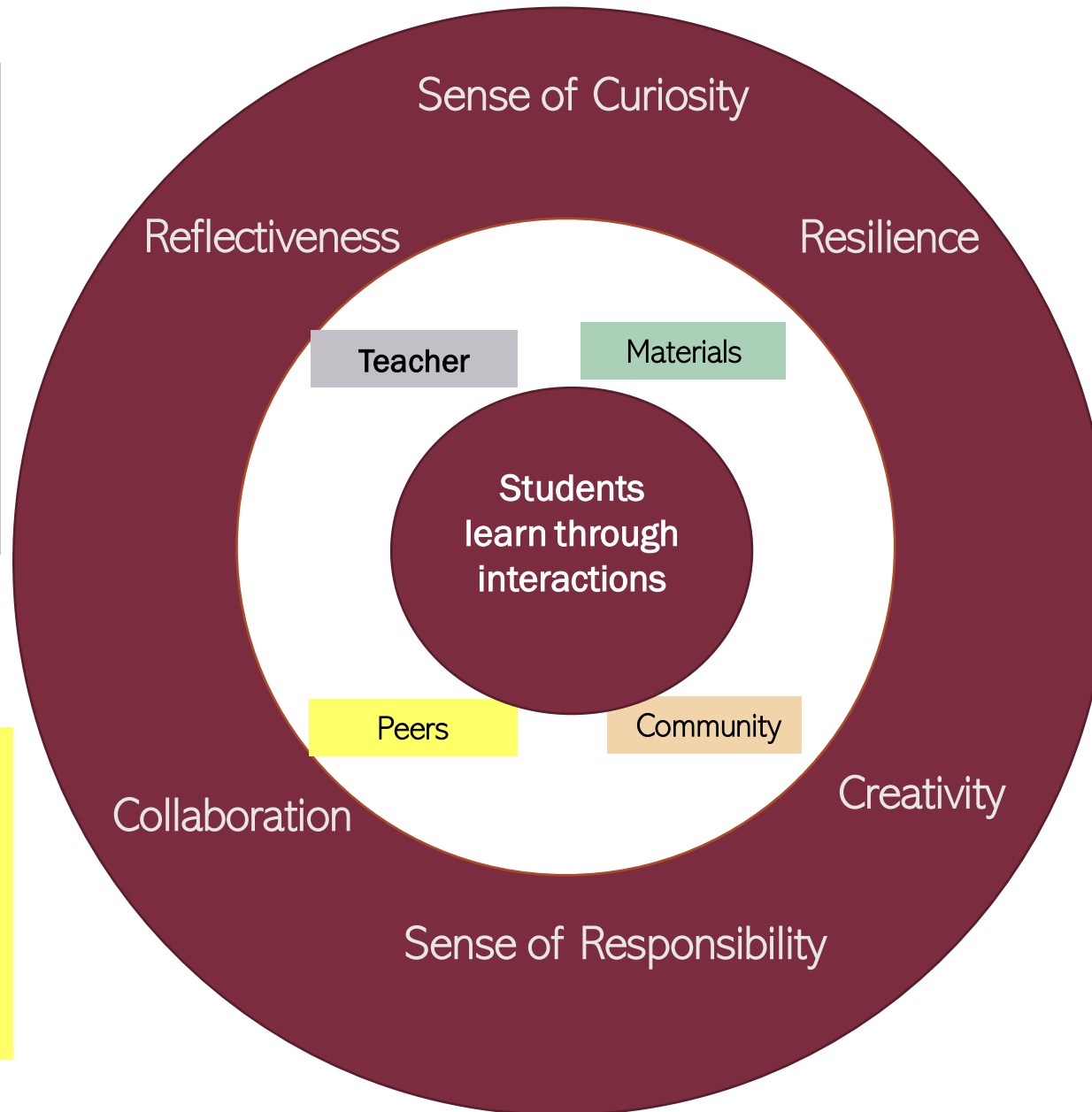
- Listen to peers and give constructive peer feedback respectfully
- Share with peers confidently
- Improve and build on one another's ideas

Interactions with Materials

- Prepare materials needed before class
- Revise content [and do extra practice after class]
- Complete homework thoughtfully
- Apply strategies effectively
- Reflect on and connect learning

Interactions with the Community

- Approach expert others to extend and support learning (e.g. parents, internet, books)
- Create new knowledge/products of value to society





SCHOOL-PARENT PARTNERSHIP

It takes a village to raise a child.





Our Zhenghua
Philosophy

Students our
Focus

Staff the Key

Parents & the
Community our
Partners

Our School-Parent Partnership Philosophy

Parents are our
partners in education

A meaningful
collaboration with
parents supports our
students' holistic
development.

Principles of Partnership

student-
centred focus

mutual trust
and respect

shared goals,
values and
responsibility

School-Parent Partnership

- We value your partnership.
- We welcome your constructive feedback and seek to address your concerns.
- Please do not hesitate to contact
 - your child's teacher if you have concerns or queries regarding his/her well-being and progress
 - the school office or school leaders regarding school matters.
- Please support us as parent volunteers.

Home-School Partnership: School-Parent Engagement

Various modes of engagement to provide information to parents and enlist your partnership to work with the school and teachers to support your child's holistic development, e.g.

- P1 Orientation and P1 Curriculum Briefings
- P2-P6 Curriculum Briefings for Parents
- Parenting talks / workshops
- Parent-Child-Teacher Conference (PCTC)
 - Students share their progress and reflections with parents and seek support from their teachers and parents during PCTC.
 - The PCTC gives students a voice in communicating their learning and progress to parents.

Home-School Partnership: School-Parent Engagement

Various modes of engagement to provide information to parents and enlist your partnership to work with the school and teachers to support your child's holistic development, e.g.

- Introductory letters from form teachers
- Letters to parents from school leaders and key personnel regarding school directions, programmes and how parents can partner the school in the areas of CCE and nurturing self-directed learners
- Letters to level parents from Year Heads and key personnel regarding P3-6 assessment information and how parents can provide emotional support to their children and help them manage their use of device

[Letters sent via Parents Gateway]

Home-School Partnership: Parent Support Group (PSG)

- PSG volunteers contribute to the vibrancy of the school:
 - contribute to celebrations of festivals, National Education Core Events (e.g. International Friendship Day, Racial Harmony Day) and key school events (e.g. Teachers' Day);
 - support learning programmes as volunteers;
 - support school events as volunteers;
 - support learning journeys and school activities as chaperones.



How Parents Can Partner Our School



What we would appreciate from parents: 3Cs and 1B

When your child tells you something that alarms you

- keep **Calm**
- remain **Courteous**
- **Communicate** your concerns to the teacher directly and constructively
- Give the teacher or classmate the **Benefit of the doubt**
 - Could it be a misunderstanding or misinterpretation of words said? Is there more than one side to the story?
 - We don't have perfect teachers but we have teachers who care for the students and have the students' interests at heart.

2 Key Areas Parents can Partner our School

Character & Citizenship Education (CCE)

- Leaders of character and active citizens who contribute positively to the school, community and nation

Self-directed, Lifelong Learning

- Empowered, self-directed lifelong learners who take ownership of their learning and are able and willing to learn for life

Character & Citizenship Education (CCE): School-Parent Partnership

- ask your child to share with you what he/she learnt and applied from the Assembly Talks, Form Teacher Guidance Periods (FTGP) and Values-in-Action (VIA) projects
- remind your child to be respectful and helpful to teachers and schoolmates
- reinforce school values when teachable moments arise
- Give your child opportunities to live out our school values, e.g.
 - Helping with household chores, taking care of siblings

Character & Citizenship Education (CCE): School-Parent Partnership

Values are both taught and caught

- Let us be good role models for our children and lead by example – our children are watching us
 - Let us speak to all staff with respect and courtesy
 - If we are upset about something, let us be mindful of our language and express our concerns tactfully via the appropriate channels
 - do acts of kindness and practise care for the environment with your children so that they have opportunities to live out our school values: e.g.
 - spending time with grandparents, showing kindness to neighbours, giving care packs to migrant workers
 - practising the 3Rs (Reduce-Reuse-Recycle), returning trays and wiping down the table at the hawker centre

CCE: School-Parent Partnership

- encourage your children to be responsible learners and show care for their teachers by doing their homework without being reminded and putting in their best effort
- this will definitely make a difference to the teachers' workload and well-being
- lead by example and show care towards our teachers
 - teachers will respond to parents' emails or calls on weekdays between 7.00 am to 5.00 pm, unless there is an emergency or a serious matter
 - please respect teachers' personal time and do not send text messages or call them at night or on weekends unless it is an emergency or a serious matter

Workload for teachers 'more than doubled' during COVID-19 pandemic: Chan Chun Sing



Education Minister Chan Chun Sing says the ministry has adjusted various programmes in the short term to lighten the workload of teachers.



Ang Hwee Min

02 Nov 2021 12:14PM | (Updated: 02 Nov 2021 01:47PM)

Our teachers work very hard to keep our students safe, take care of them and help them to learn well

Nurturing self-directed lifelong learners : School-Parent Partnership

- Affirm your children when you see them
 - learning something new and not giving up even when it's difficult
 - being self-directed in their learning, e.g.
 - Doing their homework and revision without reminders
 - Accessing the Student Learning Space (SLS) and other learning platforms to reinforce and extend their learning or explore their interests
- Help your children see connections between what they learn and everyday life
 - E.g. shopping, baking and cooking; visits to the park, cycling

Nurturing self-directed lifelong learners: School-Parent Partnership

- Encourage your children to be curious and observant, to ask questions
 - If you don't know the answers, tell them: “let's learn and find out together”
- Be a role model to your children as a lifelong learner: share with them your stories as a lifelong learner, e.g.
 - Learning new skills
 - Taking SkillsFuture or other courses
 - Re-training for new jobs

Let's work together so that our students are ready for
life and lifelong learning

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Allow your child to enjoy his/her childhood

Don't be 'kiasu'

- allow your child to enjoy his/her childhood
 - Time for play and hobbies
- take a long-term view:
 - How will he/she best be prepared for life? What is best for his/her growth & development?
 - Stimulate your child's curiosity and love for reading & learning
 - Values education, developing social-emotional skills

Re-defining Success

- Re-defining Success: what we tell our students
 - 1. a successful personal life: healthy, meaningful relationships with family and friends
 - 2. a successful school life: improvement and growth, being the best that you can be;
 - 3. the good that you leave behind: how do you want your friends and teachers to remember you? Have you done something positive and meaningful for others?

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- Believe in your child
 - Encourage and Affirm your child
 - catch him/her doing right
 - Make time for your child, Manage your own expectations
 - BEAM more, compare less



THE BEST THAT WE CAN BE

