Collaborative Research & Development ("Seed") Project for 2020/21

Section	Native-speaking English Teacher (NET) Section			
Title of the Project	Let Students Learn through Play – Promoting Active and Pleasurable English Learning through Play in Key Stage (KS) 1			
Class Level	☐ Kindergarten ☑ Primary ☐ Secondary ☐ Primary and Secondary Please specify levels: P1 – 3			
Brief Description	Children learn a lot through play. As stated in the Kindergarten (KG) Education Curriculum Guide (2017), apart from being an ideal mode of activity fostering children's physical and psychological development, play facilitates the development of creativity, problem-solving skills and versatility, and it also helps children express emotions, build confidence and develop social skills.			
	With the introduction of free quality kindergarten education in 2017/18, there is a critical need to direct more attention to the curriculum interface between kindergarten, where learning through play is a focus, and Key Stage 1, where students experience formal learning of a range of subjects.			
	As far as English learning in kindergarten is concerned, the emphasis is on helping children develop awareness and concepts of English at an early stage, and basic oracy and literacy through the use of an integrated approach that provides relevant experiences and exposure. As to English learning and teaching in Key Stage 1, primary schools in the public sector are to make reference to the central English Language Education Key Learning Area Curriculum Framework and develop a suitable, balanced and coherent English Language Education curriculum that caters for the diverse learning needs of students and enriches their English learning experiences. Schools are encouraged to provide more opportunities for students to use English for purposeful communication both inside and outside the classroom, and to promote the development of strategies, values and attitudes that are conducive to effective, self-directed, and lifelong learning.			
	 Apart from exploring ways to enhance the curriculum interface between KG and lower primary education, this "Seed" project aims to promote active and pleasurable learning of English through play in KS1. The objectives of the "Seed" project are to: explore and develop approaches to developing a learning environment conducive to students' learning of English through play; develop classroom routines that facilitate the adoption of playful approaches to literacy development; design, conduct and review English learning activities that promote active and pleasurable English learning through play; engage participating teachers in developing, using and reviewing strategies for preparing students for, and engaging them in, active and pleasurable learning English through play; develop students' creativity, social and collaboration skills, problem-solving skills, self-confidence, self-respect and respect for others; and develop, use and review strategies for using assessment for and as learning in a play-based learning environment to promote self-directed learning. The project, which began in the 2019/20 school year, is open to new applications. Existing project schools* and networking schools will need to submit an application 			

	form to continue participation in the project in the 2020/21 school year. For new project schools, the focus will be on adapting and implementing units developed for P1 in the 2019/20 school year to promote active and pleasurable English learning through play.			
	* In the 2020/21 school year, the project focus for existing project schools will be the refinement of the unit(s) developed for P1 and the development of a new unit/units for P2 to continue to promote active and pleasurable English learning through play.			
Key Emphases	Dimension	☑ Curriculum planning ☑ Learning and Teaching ☑ Assessment		
	Focus	☐ Project Learning ☐ Reading / Language acre ☐ Values Education (included of the control of the	nding MCE & BLE) nese culture nent versity) Learning through play and curriculum	
Deliverables	Exemplars to be used for curriculum documents			
	 ✓ Learning & teaching packages, self-learning packages for teachers ✓ Workshops and seminars ☐ Others (please specify) : 			
Duration and Nature of the Project	From S	mm 2020 ☑ Ongoing (star	yy to Aug mm 2021 yy red from Sept mm 2019 yy)	
Name of Advisor(s) / Consultant(s) to be invited				
Officer i/c	Name: Ms SO Wan-ling, Winnie Tel No.: 3549 8317		Post: Curriculum Development Officer (Native-speaking English Teacher) 5	
			Fax No.: 2334 8707	

^{*} e.g. Gifted Education, L&T of Chinese as a 2nd language, curriculum interface