

Focus Inspection Report (Translated Version)

Agnes Wise Kindergarten

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Yuen Long, New Territories**

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**Kindergarten Inspection Section
Education Bureau**

Notes to the Focus Inspection Report

This report gives an overview of the school's learning and teaching.

Education Bureau
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

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1. School Performance

- 1.1 The school makes reference to the curriculum information provided by the organisation to design an integrated curriculum using themes. The curriculum content is comprehensive, taking into account the cultivation of values and attitudes as well as the acquisition of skills and knowledge of children. The school puts a lot of effort into promoting reading. In addition to selecting books that are closely related to the learning themes, the school organises an array of reading activities to arouse children's interest in reading. Regarding the daily schedule, the school arranges art and free choice activities every day. However, it must increase the time for children of whole-day classes to participate in music and physical activities so that they can develop in a more balanced way. Some of the learning content in K3 is relatively difficult. The school is advised to remove the inappropriate content to meet children's developmental needs.
- 1.2 In recent years, the school has strived to promote Chinese culture. It holds diversified learning activities, including Lunar New Year activity week and Chinese culture week, to deepen children's understanding of Chinese festivals, culture and art. The school creates a learning atmosphere that is full of elements of Chinese culture, such as setting up a mini theatre of shadow play, displaying opera masks and blue and white porcelain that are designed by children, and exhibiting the information of national security education. A team of children flag-guards is formed to help children build a sense of national identity through taking part in the national flag raising ceremony. Besides, the school also utilises external resources wisely to incorporate the experiential activities about traditional Chinese art into the curriculum progressively. As observed, during free choice activity sessions, children create ink wash paintings on paper fans or make dough figurines with paper clay. In the afternoon play sessions, children perform lion dance with agility

alongside the ensemble of drums, cymbals and triangles played by their peers or manipulate puppets with peers to perform shadow play together. Children thoroughly enjoy and are engaged in creating and performing.

- 1.3 In respect of the assessment of child learning experiences, teachers assess children's performance by continuous observation. In tandem, they create learning portfolios for children to maintain observation records, thematic assessment forms, children's work, etc., as evidence of children's growth. Teachers share with parents the progress of children in a timely manner to let parents understand their children's learning. In each school term, the school also summarises children's development at different stages to reflect their growth.
- 1.4 The school makes good use of the campus to set up constructive zones and "Wise Chinese Restaurant", an imaginative play corner, to create a joyful and interesting learning environment for children. Teachers decorate the classrooms thoughtfully and design corner activities that are in line with the themes, including reading corners, family corners and exploratory corners. Children love to play and learn with peers. For instance, they simulate dining in the restaurant or explore the aroma of tea leaves like Pu'er tea and jasmine tea, hence having fun together.
- 1.5 Teachers are kind and amiable, and guide children with unfailing support. They instruct and explain clearly, but they mostly employ electronic PowerPoint presentations to aid thematic teaching. The school is required to improve such arrangements by using teaching aids like real objects, photos or dolls to stimulate children's interest in learning and reduce their screen time. When children are carrying out free choice activities, teachers observe children as well as asking them questions to comprehend their learning progress. Teachers may arrange review sessions for children after the activities and ask children to revisit what they have learnt to consolidate their learning experience. During music activities, teachers

guide children to learn about musical instruments and encourage children to play the instruments along with the melodies and rhythms. Teachers are recommended to increase the number of rhythmic movement games and lead children to express their creativity in activities. Moreover, teachers must plan in detail the design of physical activities to strengthen the physical elements therein and foster children's development in gross motor skills.

- 1.6 A curriculum management mechanism is in place in the school. The management gets a grasp of the curriculum implementation through attending curriculum meetings, scrutinising lesson plans and conducting classroom walkthroughs. Teachers draw up teaching plans before the start of a theme and make teaching reflection regularly. They review teaching based on children's performance, yet they are required to offer suggestions for improvement in learning and teaching in order to inform teaching and curriculum planning.

2. Recommendations for Fostering Sustainable Development of School

- 2.1 It is necessary for the school to refine the daily schedule of the whole-day classes to increase the time for music and physical activities so as to further foster children's balanced development. Besides, the school must also remove the inappropriate learning content in K3 to meet children's developmental needs.
- 2.2 The management is required to lead teachers to improve the activity design, including using more real objects, photos, dolls or other teaching aids to facilitate teaching, arranging for children to review their learning after activities, incorporating more rhythmic movement games into music activities as well as planning the physical activities in detail for children to relax their body and mind entirely. In addition, while reviewing teaching, the school must make suggestions for improvement in learning and teaching to inform teaching and curriculum planning.