

Creative Secondary School

Plan on Use of Capacity Enhancement Grant (CEG) 2023-24

Number of operating classes: 30

Budget available: \$413,108 (based on March 2023 roll of 556 and the current grant amount per student of \$743. Both roll and grant amount per student is subject to EDB's further adjustment for 2023 – 24)

Introduction

The school is in its seventeenth year of operation, enrolling 30 classes of Secondary 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 students.

The workload of teachers continues to be challenging for the following reasons:

1. Students are struggling to fully reengage with face to face schooling and many are having some difficulty with social and affective skills. Lesson planning and preparation takes longer as a consequence and also our pastoral team has to address these additional student needs.
2. During the pandemic, students lost the opportunity to do hands-on activities in the Arts, Science and Technology and need more support in the classroom to assist them in regaining such skills and attributes. Experiential learning has been identified as a particular strategy to help students adjust to the aftereffects of prolonged online learning. Planning experiences such as cultural trips, service learning, field work, STEAM activities and diverse sports is very demanding of staff time and energy.
3. Policies and procedures were allowed to drift during the pandemic as school leadership was required to spend a disproportionate amount of time “firefighting” in order to maintain effective daily operations. Updating these policies and procedures, and the related documentation, is necessary in order to ensure appropriate levels of accountability are maintained.

Proposed Use of CEG 2023-24

Given the background context of the school as outlined above, and the amount of grant available this year, the school will use the CEG grants together to provide funding towards employing two Teaching Assistants to help teachers with their increased lesson planning needs to ensure the class teacher is free to focus on improving student engagement.

(a) Task Area

Teaching Assistants for to assist Faculties with planning of practical work and experiential learning

(b) Implementation Plan

- Support the Experiential Learning team and also faculties in the provision of experiential learning activities for S1 to S6
- Support students in accessing the curriculum through the provision of high-quality teaching resources and hands-on support
- Support students' work for assessment, as well as the submission of assessment for external moderation.

(c) Benefits Anticipated

- Teaching team's workload in preparing teaching materials will be reduced
- Students producing examination coursework will be more effectively supported.
- Opportunities for students' to engage in experiential learning, building both social and affective skills.

(d) Time scale

- Throughout the 2023-24 academic year

(e) Resources allocated (100%)

- \$413,108 (towards the salary for two full-time staff)

(f) Method(s) of evaluation

- Performance Appraisal of the two staff members

(g) Persons-in-charge

- Mr. Hugh Pizzi (Vice Principal) and Mr. Stephen Hinds (Director of School Development).