



# YIO CHU KANG SECONDARY SCHOOL

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31 December 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

## Welcome & Greetings for 2022

Welcome and greetings to the new school year! And to the parents/guardians of our new Secondary One students, a warm welcome to our Yio Chu Kang Secondary School (YCKSS) family. We hope your child/ward is looking forward to another exciting year of learning and growth.

### 1. PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

#### **School Theme (2022): Innovating Because We Care**

2022 is a very exciting year in YCKSS. We look forward to many changes in how students learn, and how all will enjoy the upgrading of facilities and new learning spaces created. After two years of managing COVID-19 in school and our collective efforts to ensure learning continued, it is time to direct our strengths to create new possibilities. The school theme for the year is "Innovating Because We Care", inspiring us to nurture a growth mindset and make a difference, no matter how small we think we are.

This has led us to invest relentless effort to update and create an intellectually engaging learning environment, and introduce appropriate opportunities for experiential learning and innovation. Therefore, in 2022, our students will enjoy **new facilities** such as the **Media Studio** and the **one-stop Technology Support Centre** to give strong support for goals of the YCKSS Digital Learning Programme to nurture five competencies: Collaboration, Creation, Communication, Curation and Computational Thinking. To encourage students to grow and thrive regardless of challenges they face now or in the future, students have the secondary school years to master how to learn and how to be self-directed and independent learners for life. We are introducing changes in the way we teach so that students can become more digitally fluent, and acquire effective self-management skills to raise their productivity. To create sustained opportunity for this to be practised, in 2022, we are introducing regular Home-Based Learning (HBL) every fortnight, on even week Fridays. We will be giving you more details in this area.

We also recognise the increasing concern about global and local environmental issues and climate change. Through our belief in equipping students with knowledge and skills beyond the classroom that will help them be more future-ready, we have created a new learning space called **the Eco Space** to support the school's environment education efforts through the multi-disciplinary **Eco ACE Programme**. In our customised curriculum, we have turned our rainwater harvesting system and our solar panels into teaching resources. In keeping with our commitment to adopt environmentally friendlier practices where we can, the 2022 **Student Handbook has gone digital**. It will be available on the students' iPad, their Personal Learning Device.

School life continues to be rewarding for our students even though school experiences are different with safe management measures. We have found that students who are actively engaged in a CCA have positive experiences and memories of their secondary school years. Indeed CCA is a main platform to build character and people skills, forge friendships and make fond school memories. Therefore, we hope that every student involves fully in school life so that 2022 is a personally rich year of learning and growing.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish every family a safe and fulfilling 2022 and look forward to new partnerships and friendships in the months to come.

## 2. SEMESTER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

We would like to keep you updated on the key events, programmes and school holidays that will take place this semester. Please refer to the calendar of events from our school website: <https://yiochukangsec.moe.edu.sg/others/calendar>



## 3. SAFE MANAGEMENT MEASURES

As we enter 2022, we would like to assure you that the following MOE safe management measures continue to be in place to keep all our students and staff safe.

- While temperature screening is no longer required in public premises, screening for fever and flu-like symptoms remains an important measure to keep schools safe. Temperature-taking will be conducted once-daily for students and staff when they report to school at the first instance.
- Students and staff who are unwell, or have flu-like symptoms such as fever, sore throat and cough, will be required to stay away from school.
- Students and staff are required to wear their masks at all times unless engaged in physical activities such as PE or sports CCA. In such cases, there are also strict guidelines restricting interaction.
- Students will practise frequent hand-washing throughout the school day. They will also wipe down of tables and shared equipment after use.
- As contact tracing is TraceTogether (TT)-based, students are to carry their TT tokens with them in school. Parents may collect TT tokens for their children from any Community Centre/Club. Students can also replace faulty or out-of-battery TT tokens at vending machines located in Community Centres/Clubs and selected malls. More details can be found at [token.gowhere.gov.sg](https://token.gowhere.gov.sg).
- Seating in classrooms is fixed exam-style and spaced seating in canteen or alternative venues.
- Intermingling across classes and levels will be minimised.
- High-touch surfaces will be cleaned more frequently and the premises disinfected daily.

## 4. COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS

As part of the school's overall digitalisation efforts, all letters and consent forms will be sent to you via the Parents Gateway (PG) app in 2022 and no hardcopy will be issued unless requested. The PG app will also be used for other purposes, including the booking of timeslot for Parent-Teacher e-Conference and getting parents' consent for activities and programmes.

We would like to encourage you to download and install the app on your mobile phone, and sign in with your SingPass, if you have not already done so. Please also turn on notifications for the PG app and read/acknowledge the latest announcements/consent forms when notified.

For parents/guardians who are not eligible to apply for SingPass, hardcopy of the correspondences will continue to be sent to you via your child/ward. For clarifications and assistance, please contact Mr Desmond Pang (HOD ICT) at 6456 0669 (ext. 115)

## 5. PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOGRAPHY AT SCHOOL EVENTS

As part of YCKSS outreach and engagement with parents, photographs and videos are taken at school events and may be published on our school's official media platforms. Please notify your child's/ward's Form Teacher in writing if you do not wish to grant such permission.

## 6. PARENTS' ENGAGEMENT SESSION (SECONDARY ONE)

An online Parents' Engagement Session through a Zoom Webinar will give you a chance to find out more about the Secondary One school programmes and information about Secondary School education. The session is an opportunity to interact with the school leaders and the key personnel.

When: 15 January 2022 (Saturday) 9:00 am to 11:30 am	
Time	Agenda
9:00 am to 9:10 am	Opening Address by Principal, Mrs Carol Lim
9:10 am to 10:00 am	Secondary School Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assessment Policy &amp; Subject Based Banding by Vice-Principal, Mr Kevin Lim</li><li>• Student Development &amp; Support by HOD Student Management, Mr David Goh</li><li>• Applied Learning Programme, Learning for Life Programme &amp; Parents' Engagement by Year Head (Lower Sec), Ms Kelly Cho</li><li>• Q&amp;A</li></ul>
10:00 am to 10:30 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CCA Briefing by HOD/ PE &amp; CCA, Ms Irene Heng</li><li>• Q&amp;A</li></ul>
10:30 am to 11:30 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• YCKSS Digital Education Programme Briefing by HOD/ICT Mr Desmond Pang &amp; SH/Digital Learning Mr Brandon Chin</li><li>• Q&amp;A</li></ul>
The invitation to register will be made available to parents on <b>4<sup>th</sup> January 2022</b> , via Parents Gateway.  Kindly respond via Parents Gateway by 7 <sup>th</sup> January 2022. The Zoom Link will be emailed to registered parents/guardians thereafter.	

## 7. SNACK BREAK

To ensure the well-being of our students, students may take a snack break within curriculum time on Mondays to Thursdays. The snack break is at 12 noon. Students are encouraged to bring healthy snacks that are nutritious and easily consumed in class e.g. sandwiches, muesli bars.

## 8. LEVEL PROGRAMME

All students will be participating in a Level Programme based on the Level Themes:

Sec 1: Discovery

Sec 2: Synergy

Sec 3: Resilience

Sec 4 & 5: Future-ready

During the Level programme activities, students will wear their respective Level T-shirts. Our School Advisory Committee has generously sponsored one for every student. When our students graduate, they would have collected all four Level T-shirts. If there is a need to purchase one as replacement, please understand that the student will have to pay for the additional Level-T-shirt.

The respective level programme will be held in Week 9 of Term 1 on 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022 during curriculum time. The level programmes aim to foster closer bonding among students as a class, strengthen attitudes and skills such as teamwork, resilience and empathy through team-based activities. More information will be provided in February.

## 9. HOME-BASED LEARNING (HBL) DAYS IN SEMESTER 1

The school integrates HBL as a regular feature of the schooling experience which aims to nurture your child/ward as a self-directed and independent learner. All levels of students will participate in the HBL Days in Semester 1.

On HBL Day, which is scheduled fortnightly on **Even Week Fridays**, your child/ward will not report to school. Instead, your child/ward will report virtually to the Form Teachers in the morning at 7.30 am, and subsequently participate in the HBL lessons from home. HBL lessons will be supported by the use of educational technology such as the Student Learning Space (SLS). The HBL timetable has been integrated in the class timetable, and details of the HBL lessons will be shared with your child/ward via an online Assignment Plan prior to the HBL Days. More implementation details and guidance will be shared with your child/ward.

The dates for HBL Days in Semester 1 are shown below:

Term 1	Term 2
Week 2, <b>14 January</b> (Friday)	Week 2, <b>1 April</b> (Friday)
Week 4, <b>28 January</b> (Friday)	Week 6, <b>29 April</b> (Friday)
Week 6, <b>11 February</b> (Friday)	Week 8, <b>13 May</b> (Friday) – only Sec 1 to 3s
Week 8, <b>25 February</b> (Friday)	
Week 10, <b>11 March</b> (Friday)	

We would also like to seek the support of parents/guardians to provide a conducive home environment for your child/ward to learn. The school will make arrangements to loan a digital learning device and/or mobile broadband device to students who require these. This mainly applies to Sec 1s and 5s who currently do not have a Personal Learning Device (PLD). For technical support, your child/ward may call the school's Technical Support Centre helpdesk @ 6456-0669 (ext.287) from 8.00 am to 4.00 pm.

For further clarifications, you may contact Mr Brandon Chin (Subject Head, Digital Learning) at 6456-0669 (ext 136) or email [chin\\_pin\\_chuen\\_brandon@moe.edu.sg](mailto:chin_pin_chuen_brandon@moe.edu.sg).

## 10. TERM 1 WEIGHTED ASSESSMENT

The school conducts Weighted Assessment (WA) between Weeks 6 to 8 during Term 1. This allows students to better pace their learning and enhance students' learning experiences. Weighted assessments can take different forms for different subjects: Class Tests, Projects, Coursework or Assignments. Information regarding the schedule for Weighted Assessments will be available on our school website by 28<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at:

<https://yiochukangsec.moe.edu.sg/our-family/students/assessment-information-n-schedules>

## 11. Digital Student Handbook 2022

The school has fully adopted a digital version of the Student Handbook. This makes it more readily accessible to students and parents concurrently via the school website. You may view it using this link here:

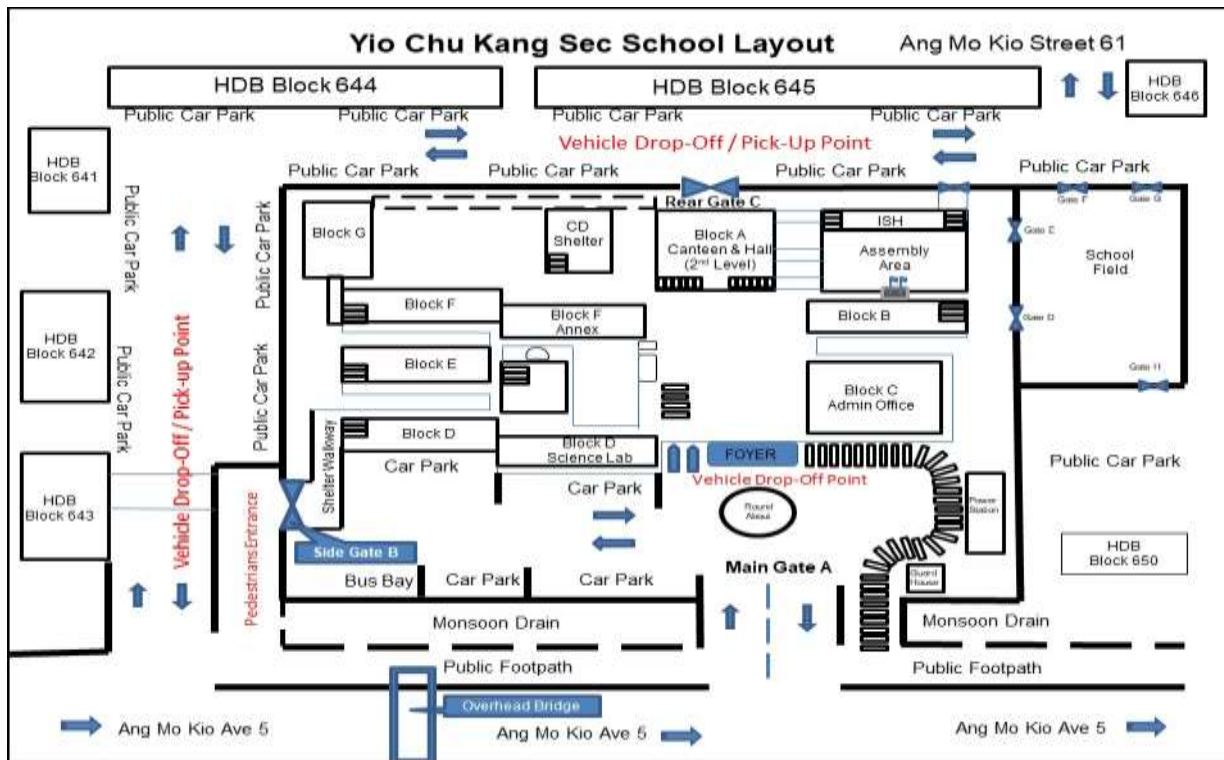
<https://yiochukangsec.moe.edu.sg/our-family/students/student-handbook-2022>



## 12. TRAFFIC PLAN

To ensure our students' safety and ease the flow of traffic along Ang Mo Kio Avenue 5, we seek your cooperation and support in adhering to the following traffic plan during reporting and dismissal times.

The school layout below shows the different routes parents/guardians can take when dropping-off and picking-up their child/ward.



### Procedures

1. The main drop-off point for parents/guardians driving their child/ward to school will be at the School Foyer. This can be done only between 6:30 am to 7:25 am.
2. The School Foyer is also the main pick-up point for parents/guardians fetching their child/ward from school. This can be done only from 2.15 pm onwards (Monday-Thursday) and from 12.40 pm onwards on Friday.
3. Alternatively, parents/guardians may drop-off or pick up their child/ward at the rear gate at Block 645, Ang Mo Kio Street 61, or at the side gate at Block 643, Ang Mo Kio Avenue 5. The drop-off and pick up timings are the same as those mentioned above.

We look forward to your partnership in support of your child's/ward's education.

For any clarifications, please do not hesitate to contact our Year Heads if you have any queries.

Year Head Upper Sec: Mr Mok Boon Foong 64560669 ext. 118  
Year Head Lower Sec: Ms Kelly Cho 64560669 ext. 205

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Carol Lim  
Principal