



PRESS RELEASE

Ministry of Education
SINGAPORE

27 April 2007

PROGRAMME FOR SCHOOL-BASED EXCELLENCE FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND NICHE PROGRAMME FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS 2007

1. Thirteen primary schools have been awarded the Programme for School-Based Excellence for 2007. In addition, the 24 schools which received the award in 2005 and 2006 had their awards renewed this year.
2. Nine secondary schools have been recognised as Niche Programme Schools for 2007, in addition to the 12 schools that were recognised in 2005 and 2006.
3. On 30 April 2007, at a visit to Yuhua Secondary School, a 2007 Niche Programme School recipient, RAdm (NS) Lui Tuck Yew, Minister of State for Education announced the recipients of both awards for 2007.

PROGRAMME FOR SCHOOL-BASED EXCELLENCE FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS 2007

4. The following are the 13 primary schools that are awarded the Programme for School-Based Excellence in 2007. Their niches are indicated as follows:

S/N	SCHOOL	NICHE
1.	Ai Tong School	Sports
2.	Anglo Chinese School (Primary)	Swimming
3.	Bukit View Primary School	Aesthetics
4.	CHIJ Primary School (Toa Payoh)	Arts
5.	Evergreen Primary School	Performing Arts
6.	Haig Girls' School	Arts
7.	Kranji Primary School	Basketball
8.	Maris Stella High School (Primary)	Badminton
9.	Nan Chiau Primary School	ICT
10.	Paya Lebar Methodists' Girls School (Primary)	Sports
11.	Punggol Primary School	Hockey
12.	St Hilda's Primary School	Aesthetics
13.	St Margaret's Primary School	Netball

NICHE PROGRAMME SCHOOLS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS 2007

5. The following 9 secondary schools are recognised as Niche Programme Schools for 2007. Their niches are indicated as follows:

S/N	SCHOOL	NICHE
1.	CHIJ St Theresa's Convent	Hockey
2.	Fuhua Secondary School	Robotics
3.	Jurong West Secondary School	Uniformed Groups
4.	Montfort Secondary School	Badminton
5.	Outram Secondary School	Rock-Climbing
6.	Presbyterian High School	Volleyball
7.	St Patrick's School	Military Band
8.	Yio Chu Kang Secondary School	Performing Arts
9.	Yuhua Secondary School	Concert Band

Detailed information on the recipient schools can be found in the Information Sheet attached.

SCHOOL VISIT TO YUHUA SECONDARY

6. Yuhua Secondary School is well-established in Concert Band, both locally and overseas. It has received 6 consecutive gold medals at the Singapore Youth Festival competitions, and was also awarded the first prize in the First Asian Symphonic Band Competition in Bangkok, Thailand. In addition, it had numerous overseas exchanges and joint concerts with overseas schools like Nakamura-Gakuen High School, Japan.

BACKGROUND

7. To develop more peaks of excellence in our education landscape, MOE launched the Programme for School-Based Excellence and Niche Programme Schools in 2005 to encourage greater diversity in our primary school and secondary school landscape respectively.

Programme for School-Based Excellence

8. The Programme for School-Based Excellence helps to develop strong primary schools with distinctive character to give more opportunities for our students to develop different areas of excellence. Successful applicant schools would receive MOE funding so as to further raise the quality and outreach of their school-based programmes/initiatives.

9. Applications for the award were evaluated based on the strength of niche, sustainability, strength of the educational value of the programme, and involvement of stakeholders in the programme.

Niche Programme Schools

10. To be recognised as Niche Programme Schools, secondary schools must have good talent development programmes and a track record of achievements in their declared niches. They are supported with MOE funding, and they can admit up to 5% of their Secondary One intake on a discretionary basis through the Direct

School Admission exercise, for the purpose of developing talents and building up their niche programmes.

11. Applications for the award were evaluated based on the strength of niche, sustainability and how Direct School Admission can support the development of the niche excellence in the schools.

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**PRIMARY SCHOOLS WHICH HAD THEIR PROGRAMME FOR SCHOOL-BASED EXCELLENCE
STATUS RENEWED THIS YEAR:**

S/N	SCHOOL
1.	Admiralty Primary School
2.	CHIJ Kellock Primary School
3.	CHIJ St Nicholas School (Primary)
4.	Chongfu Primary School
5.	Fuhua Primary School
6.	Gongshan Primary School
7.	Greenridge Primary School
8.	Hougang Primary School
9.	Kong Hwa School
10.	Maha Bodhi School
11.	Montfort Junior School
12.	Nanyang Primary School
13.	Ngee Ann Primary School
14.	Parkview Primary School
15.	Pei Chun Public School
16.	Rosyth School
17.	Rulang Primary School
18.	Singapore Chinese Girls' School (Primary)
19.	St Andrew's Junior School
20.	St Stephen's School
21.	Tao Nan School
22.	Telok Kurau Primary School
23.	Yio Chu Kang Primary School
24.	Zhenghua Primary School

**SECONDARY SCHOOLS THAT WERE RECOGNISED AS NICHE PROGRAMME SCHOOLS IN 2005
AND 2006:**

S/N	SCHOOL
1.	Admiralty Secondary School
2.	Ahmad Ibrahim Secondary School
3.	Clementi Town Secondary School
4.	Deyi Secondary School
5.	Gan Eng Seng Secondary School
6.	Jurong Secondary School
7.	Northland Secondary School
8.	Presbyterian High School
9.	St Andrew's Secondary School
10.	St Hilda's Secondary School
11.	St Margaret's Secondary School
12.	Yishun Secondary School

**INFORMATION SHEET ON RECIPIENT SCHOOLS OF THE 2007
PROGRAMME FOR SCHOOL-BASED EXCELLENCE AWARD AND NICHE PROGRAMME SCHOOLS**

PROGRAMME FOR SCHOOL-BASED EXCELLENCE

S/N	School	Niche	Strengths and Achievements	Brief description of proposal
1.	Ai Tong School Principal: Mr Ng Keng Song Address: 100, Bright Hill Drive (579646) Tel : 64547672	Sports Excellence	- The school will be receiving SAA* (Sports) in 2007. - From 2004 to 2006, the school won Zonal and National competitions for Table-tennis, Volleyball and Gymnastics.	- Weekly Gymnastics Lessons for all P1 pupils. - Basic Volleyball & Table Tennis for all P2 pupils. - Talented pupils in any 3 identified sports grouped to Sports Classes at P3. - Specialized training for pupils in Sports Classes at P4.
2.	Anglo-Chinese School (Primary) Principal: Mr Lim Chew Hiong Richard Address: 50, Barker Road (309918) Tel : 62501633	Swimming	- The school received the SAA* (Sports) in 2006. - From 2003 to 2006, the school won National competitions for Swimming.	- Swimming Programme for P1 to P6 pupils - Basic Swimming skills - Survival swimming skills - Life-saving skills - TerrAqua Fest held annually for all pupils to participate - School positions life-saving & survival swimming skills as life-long skills - Pupils learn perseverance & discipline through swimming.

* Sustained Achievement Award

S/N	School	Niche	Strengths and Achievements	Brief description of proposal
3.	Bukit View Primary School Principal: Mdm Jenny S G Law Address: 18, Bukit Batok Street 21 (659634) Tel : 6566 1980	Aesthetics	- The school will be receiving SAA* (Aesthetics) in 2007. - From 2003 to 2006, the school has consistently won awards for the SYF for Chinese Dance, Malay Dance, Indian Dance and Concert Band.	- Extensive and intensive programme: 24 CCA modules for a student in 6 years. - A deliberate effort to include exchanges in culture and aesthetics in Overseas Twinning Programme. - Going forward: The aesthetics programme will include Speech and Drama in P3 & P4 this year.
4.	CHIJ Primary School (Toa Payoh) Principal: Mdm Chin Ming Yew Magdalene Address: 628, Lorong 1 Toa Payoh (319765) Tel : 63532164	Arts Programme	- The school will be receiving SAA* (Arts) in 2007. - From 2002 to 2004, the school won SYF awards for Choir, International and Handbell Ensemble. - Handbell Ensemble was invited to perform at various occasions overseas.	- Music curriculum for P1-P4 conducted during music lessons. - Dance curriculum integrated into PE lessons. - Art Curriculum integrated into other subjects such as English, Math and Science - All P1 to P6 pupils exposed to various art forms (e.g. painting, collage, sculpture, ceramics, digital imaging) and art appreciation. - CCA recruitment framework and Talent Management Framework in place to cater to specific talent. - Arts Exposure Programme provides various platforms for pupils to showcase their talents in the arts locally as well as internationally.

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5.	Evergreen Primary School Principal: Mr Tan Kah Teo Address: 31, Woodlands Circle (738908) Tel : 63687705	Aesthetics	- The school will receive SAA* (Aesthetics) in 2007 - From 2003 to 2006, the school won SYF awards for the following: - Dances : Chinese, Malay, Indian - Harmonica Ensemble, Angklung, Dikir Barat, Chinese Drama, English Drama, Choir	- Structured programme that reaches out to all pupils through curriculum infusion (in PE, music and English lessons). - Opportunities to perform are provided to all pupils (through the school's Art festival etc.). - Talented pupils are identified and given enriched training through CCAs or enrichment programmes - The use of the arts as a vehicle for teaching and learning promotes both academic and non-academic development - Programme supports character development as SEL competencies are infused throughout pupils' performing arts journey.
6.	Haig Girls' School Principal: Mdm Lee Yoke Gen Ginny Address: 51, Koon Seng Road (427072) Tel : 63440293	The Haig-ICE Journey with the Arts: Innovation, Creativity, Enterprise	- The school will be receiving SAA* (Aesthetics) in 2007. - From 2002 to 2006, the school won SYF awards for Arts and Crafts, Handbells, Chinese Dance, Indian Dance, Modern Dance and Choir. - Won various national and international competitions.	- The programme aims to enhance values-based learning, character building and leadership development, and to achieve excellence and innovation in the arts. - The programme provides a platform for students to express their talents and passions both within and outside the schools - Through the arts programme, students also get to give back to the less fortunate in the community. It helps students to learn how to care and give through their talents. - The various performances and displays for international audience help students to see possibilities. It will encourage students to be bolder in their future endeavours.

* Sustained Achievement Award

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S/N	School	Niche	Strengths and Achievements	Brief description of proposal
7.	Kranji Primary School Principal: <i>Mr Wong Poo Mun</i> Address: 11, Choa Chu Kang Street 54 (689189) Tel : 67634812	Basketball	- From 2002 to 2006, the school won competitions for Basketball at Zonal and National levels. - Under the School Twinning Programme, the team participated in a series of matches in China in 2005 and 2006. - The school also participated in a series of training & friendly games with top basketball primary schools in China.	- The school consciously promotes racial integration by offering opportunities for all races to participate in the programme. This is part of the school's inculcation of NE values in character development. 30% of school team players are non-Chinese.
8.	Maris Stella High School (Primary) Principal: <i>Bro Anthony Tan Kim Hock</i> Address: 25, Mount Vernon Road (368051) Tel : 62827743	Badminton	- The school will be receiving SAA* (Sports) in 2007 - From 2002 to 2006, the school won competitions for Badminton at the Zonal and National levels. - A number of outstanding players have also participated in overseas competitions.	10-year developmental programme aiming at character development through badminton. - Two-pronged approach: PE and CCA programme. - Pupils are exposed to games concept of Badminton from Pri 1, and continue with progressive learning up till Pri 5. - School team players are identified as early as Pri 1 and given specialised training - School team players are given the opportunity to coach other pupils during Sports and Games week. - Capitalisation on passion for badminton to maintain a healthy lifestyle for pupils.

* Sustained Achievement Award

S/N	School	Niche	Strengths and Achievements	Brief description of proposal
9.	Nan Chiau Primary School Principal: <i>Mr Chia Soo Keng</i> Address: 50, Anchorvale Link (545080) Tel : 64897905	Learning Models – ICT	- From 2002 to 2006, the school won various IT-related awards, including: - Hewlett Packard Innovation in IT - National eAnimation - Innergy Award - ThinkQuest Junior - Schools Video Award	eNCee Programme - Engages learners through ICT-supported learning activities. - Pupils get 1:1 access to Pocket PCs to carry out learning in a wireless environment. Learning Model 5 : An experiential learning framework - Integrates Microsoft Learning Gateway with Discussion Forum and LiveCom Server Project 1:1 - Learning in a technology-enhanced learning environment. - Pupils use Ultra Mobile Personal Computer (UMPC) to achieve learning outcomes - Programme provides pupils with ICT and life skills competencies for the future.
10.	Paya Lebar Methodist Girls' School (Primary) Principal: <i>Mrs Christine Ho</i> Address: 298, Lorong Ah Soo (536741) Tel : 62862795	The PL Sports Experience	- The school will be receiving SAA* (Sports) 5th Award in 2007. - It also received SAA* (Physical Fitness) 2004, 2005, 2006. - From 2004 to 2006, the school won Zonal competitions for Badminton, Netball, Rope Skipping and Table Tennis. It also won National competitions for	- The Programme starts pupils at P1 to develop motor skills, learning a sport and eventually excelling in it. - The Programme develops sportsmanship, ruggedness, dedication and perseverance. - It helps students to discover their talents and supports them in their pursuit of excellence. - The Programme reaches out to all P1 – P6 pupils through the Core and Elective Modules in sports. - Talents are developed through the Sports Excellence Programme which offers training in the various sports.

* Sustained Achievement Award

S/N	School	Niche	Strengths and Achievements	Brief description of proposal
			Artistic Gymnastics, Badminton, Rope Skipping, Netball, Swimming and Table Tennis.	
11.	Punggol Primary School Principal: <i>Miss Chua Soh Leng</i> Address: 61, Hougang Avenue 8 (538787) Tel : 63850762	The S.T.A.R. Programme: Hockey	- The school received SAA* (Sports) from 2004 to 2006. - From 2001 to 2006, it won Zonal and National competitions for Hockey.	- Programme aims to act as a platform to align the core curriculum with the co-curriculum, equip pupils with skills and experiences required for competitions and eventually be the Talent Hub for Hockey in the North Zone. - Athletes learn good work habits, self-discipline and independence which will then transfer to every aspect of the athlete's life - Opportunities for players to communicate, encourage, learn from one another, develop strong relationships with people from all races and work together to accomplish shared goals. - Leadership training and opportunities provided such as umpiring of mini hockey games and taking on role of "assistant coaches" to the Basic Hockey Programme.
12.	St. Hilda's Primary School Principal: <i>Mdm Kew Mee Ying</i> Address: 2, Tampines Avenue 3 (529706)	Aesthetics Alive!	- The school will be receiving its SAA* (Aesthetics) 2007. - From 2004 and 2006, the school won awards for Choir, Indian Dance, International Dance, Guzhang and Malay Dance. It also won awards for Cheerleading.	- The Programme aims to imbue an appreciation of the aesthetics among pupils and to inculcate good character - PE, Art and Music are integrated to form the Talent Fiesta. - Pupils at each level to be exposed to one aspect of the Arts in the programme. - The Programme is integrated with the PE, Art, Music and CME Curriculum.

* Sustained Achievement Award

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	Tel : 67811916			A Talent Platform has been created since 2000 for pupils to showcase their talents. This is a monthly event where pupils perform to their peers during recess.
13.	St Margaret's Primary School Principal: <i>Mrs Elsie Poey</i> Address: 99, Wilkie Road (228091) Tel : 63394247	Netball A.C.E. – A Whole School Approach	- From 2001 to 2006, the schools clinched top three positions for Junior and Senior Divisions. - Participated in Netball competitions in Australia.	- P1-P3 pupils go through the following through PE Curriculum, annual inter-class competition & cluster netball carnivals. - Gymnastics Enrichment Programme - Aerobics 'Kidznet' - a modified netball game to engage pupils in netball systematically. (3 modules - 1 per year) - P4 – P6 pupils will progress to actual Netball game through the PE curriculum, annual inter-class competition & cluster netball carnivals. 85% of players identified by respective form teachers to assume leadership roles such as prefects & monitors 15% of players also appointed as PE leaders & Sports Leaders

NICHE PROGRAMME SCHOOLS

S/N	School	Niche	Strengths and Achievements	Brief description of proposal
1.	CHIJ St Theresa's Convent Principal: <i>Mrs Christine Anne Kong</i> Address: 160, Lower Delta Road (099138) Tel : 64775777	Hockey	- Consistent achievements in Hockey at the National Level since 1970's. - From 2004 to 2006, the school achieved top 3 positions at the National Schools Hockey Tournament.	A hierarchy of programmes and activities to develop systematically the different groups of pupils with varied talents, needs and skills - A broad based PE programme for the lower secondary pupils new to the sport - A customised programme for competition preparation for school team players under a team of three PE teachers and one coach designed to develop the hockey players - A focused programme on developing leadership skills and competencies in sports. Three modules leadership development programme over three years. - Service to the school and community
2.	Fuhua Secondary School Principal: <i>Mdm Oen Siew Yock</i> Address: 5, Jurong West Street 41 (649410) Tel : 65633067	Robotics	Track record of achievements in Robotics competitions at the National and International levels.	- Comprehensive developmental plan - Mass participation from Sec 1 through a broad based robotics education & infusing robotics into the curriculum. - Training workshops & sharing sessions are provided to build staff capacity.

S/N	School	Niche	Strengths and Achievements	Brief description of proposal
3.	Jurong West Secondary School Principal: Mr Oliver Jeeva Balasingam Address: 61, Jurong West Street 65 (648348) Tel : 62623593	Uniformed Groups	- The school received SAA* (Uniformed Groups) in 2006. - Attained awards beyond school level for: - Red Cross - NPCC - NCC - Boys' Brigade - Civil Defence	- Healthy trend in Uniformed Groups participation. - Infusion of many skills: social, cooperative, discipline, teamwork, responsibility, commitment, endurance and ruggedness - Infusion of NE.
4.	Montfort Secondary School Principal: Mr Simen Lourds S/O M P Samy Address: 50, Hougang Avenue 8 (538785) Tel : 63869351	Badminton	- From 2004 to 2006, the school achieved top placing for badminton at the National level. - Students selected to train professionally at S'pore Badminton Association.	- Range of programmes to develop sports talent including Sports Scholarship for local and foreign talent. - Alignment of programme with school's vision of nurturing each student into a scholar, <i>sportsman</i>, gentleman and leader. - Alumni who are former and current National players return regularly to train with the School Team players. - Experienced coaches who are ex-national players.

S/N	School	Niche	Strengths and Achievements	Brief description of proposal
5.	Outram Secondary School Principal: Mdm Choy Wai Yin Address: 3, York Hill (168622) Tel : 67334077	Rock-Climbing	From 2000 to 2006, the school achieved top 3 placing for Rock-Climbing at National-level competitions.	Rock Climbing Programme - Inclusion of a rock climbing module for all Sec 1 students during PE lessons. - Talent development for students with potential. - Mass participation in CLIMAX@Outram event. - Built into CCA 30 week plan. - All members go through Level 1 Climbing course in Sec 1. Staff & Instructors - PE Teachers trained in rock wall climbing.
6.	Presbyterian High School Principal: Mdm Wong Yoke Lin Carolin Address: 5209, Ang Mo Kio Avenue 6 (569845) Tel : 64543722	Volleyball (Girls' Team)	From 2004 to 2006, the school achieved consistent top placing for National Schs Championship and National Junior Championships (Girls)	- School provides training centre for National Women team from 2002 – 2006 – opportunity for players to watch professionals in action. - Volleyball introduced to Sec 1 students every year through PE lessons, and new skills are taught throughout Sec 1 to Sec 3. Outstanding players are invited to join school team. - Dialogue sessions are organised with parents and they are invited to visit training sessions in school to add on to the support to the players.

S/N	School	Niche	Strengths and Achievements	Brief description of proposal
7.	St Patrick's School Principal: <i>Mr Lak Pati Singh</i> Address: 490, East Coast Road (429058) Tel : 63440929	Military Band	- From 1990 to 2005, the school won SYF Gold awards for Military Band. - Won awards at overseas competitions for Band.	- The Alumni Band is very active in coaching the current band members – passing down to them not only the skills, but also the tradition and the culture. - The Development Programme is comprehensive, comprising: - Music Tuition - Master Classes with Visiting Overseas Band Masters - Character Development Camps in collaboration with Temasek Sec - Lasallian Leadership Development Programme - Public Performances - Overseas Performances/Competitions
8.	Yio Chu Kang Secondary School Principal: <i>Mr Saminathan Gopal</i> Address: 3063, Ang Mo Kio Avenue 5 (569868) Tel : 64560669	Performing Arts	- The school received the SAA (Aesthetics) and NAC (Bronze) in 2006. - From 2001 to 2005, the school won SYF awards for Indian Dance, Drama, Malay Dance, Chinese Dance, Choir and Symphonic Band	- An average of 33% of students involved in Performing Arts groups. - Other students are exposed to Arts through the Arts Assembly Programme. - Teachers work closely with instructors from art institutions like NAFA to build capacity, and teachers with Arts certification like Theatre Studies, Dance or Music will be recruited to build up talented pool of teachers. - Twinning Programme with John Curtin College of Arts in Western Australia. - Parent Support Group and alumni involved in

S/N	School	Niche	Strengths and Achievements	Brief description of proposal
				all past public performances since 2001.
9.	Yuhua Secondary School Principal: Mr Yap Juye Long Address: 35, Jurong West Street 41 (649406) Tel : 65661985	Concert Band	- The school won SYF Gold awards for Concert Band for six consecutive years. - The Concert Band participated in numerous overseas exchanges and joint concerts with overseas schools.	- Professional team of teachers - Teacher In Charge: Music teacher, playing in NIE Symphonic Band. - Conductor: Graduate of Eastern Michigan University School of Music, USA. Appointed Music Director & Resident Conductor of the Singapore Wind Symphony & Kim Seng Wind Symphony in 1995. - Comprehensive developmental plan. - Programme structured for each level. - Sec 1: Selection Test, Instrumental Tuition, Outdoor Marching. - Sec 2: Instrumental Tuition, Outdoor Marching, Inspirational Learning. - Sec 3-5: Instrumental Tuition, Outdoor Marching, Inspirational Learning, Invited Performance

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