

La Salle College

Diversity Learning Grant Evaluation Report – Other Programme : Gifted Education for the 2024/25 school year

Introduction

The rationale for the gifted education at La Salle College is to ensure gifted students are identified and their educational needs are met, so that their potential can be developed systematically and strategically through the provision of suitable services. The working partners include school teachers, school education psychologist, school social worker, EDB, universities (local and overseas) and parents.

Summary

The academic year 2024-25 is a year when the college would like to extend the tertiary program with more innovative trials.

Local (Hong Kong) University Programmes

- *HKUST, Dual Programme*
- *HKU, Academy for the Talented*

The programme conducted by the HKUST include four levels, Pre-stage, Level 1, 2 and 3. Students can apply for Pre-stage, Level 1 or Level 2 programmes according to their abilities and time schedule. The team may accept F1 students with extraordinary performance for Pre-stage level only. Families were invited to the parent Information Session in HKUST. Most students performed well and attained B+ or above results and were eligible to attain higher level of the same programme in the next year. However, some students have problems in blended learning at university, an eLearning method that combines independent study and traditional in-class education.

The College has nominated 26 students for various programs from Pre-stage to Level 1 and 2 students from various programs at Level 2. 20 of them participated the program actively with outstanding performance. The college has recommended top 45 boys of F3- F5 to HKU Academy for the Talented.

1. Overseas University Programmes

- *John Hopkins University (JHU) CTY Summer Programme, USA*
F1/F2 students passed the Talent Search assessment by JHU to pursuit the summer programme in Hong Kong. Students can apply for summer programme out of HK in USA. Counselling provided for those study outside HK. Parents preferred to have face-to-face learning mode instead of eLearning. The program has resumed face toface mode this year, with the summer programme to be organized in USA. Student who preferred more flexible schedule can still choose eLearning mode.

2. Science Academy for Young Talent - STEM Academy 2024

- *Category I-University Credit Bearing / Category II-Academy Credit Bearing*

Established by the Faculty of Science, CUHK in 2010, Science Academy for Young Talent is dedicated to nurturing secondary school students who are talented in science by providing different enrichment courses. This summer, the Academy offers 20 science summer courses, Category I-University Credit Bearing and Category II-Academy Credit Bearing.

3. School-based Programmes

- *School-based Team Training*

Internal school training including Mathematics Team, Science Team, Informatics Team, Music Team, Sports Team etc were conducted as usual. All teacher advisors responsible for the training schedule and materials. Teacher advisors can apply for DLG to support. Most of the activities / training were cancelled / postponed.

4. Language Programmes

- *HKU Spanish programme (Level 1)*

30 hours program was organized from Oct to March. 18 students participated the program.

- *HKU Spanish programme (Level 2)*

30 hours program was organized from Oct to March. 8 students participated the program.

- *HKU German for Fun (Level 1)*

30 hour programme was organized from Oct to March. 10 students participated the program.

- *HKU Japanese for Fun (Level 1)*

30 our programme was organized from Oct to March. 29 students participated the program.

- *Japanese and Spanish programme (DSE elective)*

We had no students taking foreign languages DSE elective subject this year. As DSE has change the curriculum and accept public language exams as elective exam results. The higher recognition of the exams attracted more student to plan to take foreign languages as DSE elective when the college invited F3 boys to apply for an extra DSE elective subject. However, boys must passed the selection process based on their academic performance, conduct performance and needs. The college has recommended 2 F.3 to study Japanese language and 3 F.3 to study Spanish language as DSE elective in 2025-2028 cohort.

5. Scholarships

- *CTY summer programme by Johns Hopkins University*

The purpose of the summer programme is to gather like students and offer challenging academic work in the company of peers who share exceptional abilities and love of learning. The college has recommended 4 F.1 outstanding students to apply for its 2025 Hong Kong Scholarship. Together with two recurring F.2 student, they were all able to take the SCAT testing and will be taking the 2025 program free of charge.

6. Collaboration with other parties

- *La Salle Primary School*

The team continue to work with LSPS to recommend students for Talent Search, summer programme by CTY and others by various local or overseas organizations / universities.

- *The City University of Hong Kong Joint Lab for Sustainable Innovation*

The team worked with City University of Hong Kong and St. Stephen's Girls School to innovate a new exclusive tertiary program, the SEEDS. The college has recruited 10 students from F.1-5. They were divided into different groups to be mentored by university lecturers and professors in doing innovative project. The Final Presentation will be held in early September.

7. Others

- *DLG grant*

The team invited all subject panels and teams to make use of DLG grant to support students in various gifted education programmes or competitions.

Evaluation

The LSST team made use of the Diversity Learning Grant (DLG) to support talented students for Other Languages (OL) and Other Programmes (OP). Ms. Tang (OP-Gifted Programmes) coordinate with Ms Tang (OP- Gifted Programmes), Mr Lam (OP- Gifted Programmes), Mr. Yu (OP-Network Music) and Ms Sabrina (OL-French).

The team tried the best to nurture students with talent from junior to senior form which is consistent with the policy by EDB. It focus on Level 2 and Level 3 provisions and the team also provide counselling support to parents. The team played the role to identify by using multiple selection criteria such as benchmark requirement for entrance into specific programmes, academic abilities, professional test and referral. The multiple selection is objective and the team distinguish itself from interest groups. Students can choose local or overseas school-based or university level, school-based team training or network school programme. Individual needs were catered such as DSE electives, Japanese and Music. The team believe thoughtful risks, engage in experiential learning, persist in problem-solving, embrace collaboration, and work through the creative process is more important to boys in the college. However, the team is facing huge diversity of students, expectations of parents and proper understanding of affective characteristics of gifted students is needed. Some boys are suffering from poor interpersonal skills, high parental expectations and other heterogeneous needs

Summary Table

Event	No. of participants	Time of duration	Programme provider	Fee
1. Local University Programs				
<i>HKUST, Dual Programme</i> <i>HKU, Academy for the Talented</i>	26 45	Oct - Apr (7 months)	HKUST HKU	\$6000 - \$7200 Free of charge
2. Overseas University Programs				
<i>John Hopkins University (JHU) CTY Summer Programme, USA</i>	2	Jun - July (3 weeks)	JHU	Around \$36,000 (Accommodation included)
3. Science Academy for Young Talent - STEM Academy 2023				
<i>Category I-University Credit Bearing / Category II-Academy Credit Bearing</i>	10	July (3 weeks)	CUHK	Free of charge
4. School-based Programs				
<i>School-based Team Training</i>	600	Whole year	LSC	Free of charge
5. Language Programs				
<i>Spanish for Fun (Level 1)</i>	18	Oct - Mar	School of Modern Languages and Cultures, HKU	\$2,600
<i>Spanish for Fun (Level 2)</i>	8	Oct - Mar	School of Modern Languages and Cultures, HKU	\$2,600

• <i>German for Fun (Level 1)</i>	10	Oct - Mar	School of Modern Languages and Cultures, HKU	\$2,600
• <i>Japanese for Fun (Level 1)</i>	29	Oct - Mar	School of Modern Languages and Cultures, HKU	\$2,600
• <i>Spanish programme (DSE elective)</i>	1 Form 6	Sept - May	Academy of the Baptist Convention of Hong Kong	Supported by DLG
6. Scholarships				
• <i>CTY summer programme by Johns Hopkins University</i>	6 successful applicants (online)	July- Aug	JHU	Free of Charge
7. Collaboration with other parties				
• <i>CityUHK- La Salle College Joint Lab for Sustainable Innovation</i>	10	Feb- Sept	School of Energy and Environment, City University of Hong Kong	Free of Charge
8. Others				
• <i>DLG grant</i>			Japanese/ Spanish / French; Music (DSE elective); STEM Team, Drama Team etc	Supported by DLG