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# GP DIGEST

Delia Memorial School (Glee Path)

## FACILITY REVIEW



## S.1 BRIDGING PROGRAMME



INSIDE THE  
ISSUE:

# STEADY PROGRESSION

EVOLVING FACILITIES, GROWING LEARNERS

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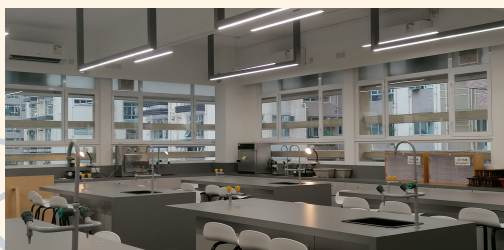
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## UPGRADED FACILITY #1: SCIENCE LABS (INTERVIEWS)

### MR LAW

**Q: What do you think about the design elements of these new labs and what kind of changes did it bring to the students' learning styles?**

**L:** There has definitely been an upgrade in terms of the scientific equipment that we didn't have before. For example, we've upgraded the incubators, fume cupboard and reserve room for all of our apparatus needs.

Next would be the abundance of idea sharing spaces. You can now write on the walls that are made of glass with markers which facilitates students' expression of ideas throughout lessons. One of the major additions would be the interactive smart TV, which also serves as an interactive whiteboard. You can play animations, videos, or have presentation slides on the TV while annotating important points on it too, which makes it easier for teaching. Finally, there are more cabinets for student showcases, letting students show others what they have done in the scientific field.

**Q: That's a lot of changes! Would you say that the development of these facilities made your teaching more effective or do you think there could have been more to aid you in teaching students?**

**L:** I think it's definitely been more effective using this lab, but one of the things that we should be thinking about are the chairs. Some students mentioned the chairs being a little too tall for them, causing discomfort. That's why we're going to find shorter replacements to meet students' needs.

**Q: I definitely agree with you on that one. The final question I would like to ask is whether or not your teaching style changed after the implementation of the new labs?**

**L:** Yes, of course. As I mentioned before, teachers and students can write whenever they'd like on the glass walls. This makes the process more convenient and easier for me to discuss data or experiment set-ups with the students when it's on the wall as it's larger and easier for me to see.



### GURNOOR (S.2)

**Q: How do you feel about the new labs? Was it easy to adapt to?**

**G:** Being a science student, I have visited both the chemistry and biology labs. In my opinion, I think that the chemistry lab is a bit small and does not have much space to move around in because of the big tables and chairs. However, new tools like the different apparatus are easier to use.



**Q: As you have had lessons in the labs, how has the new environment helped or made your learning more interesting and productive?**

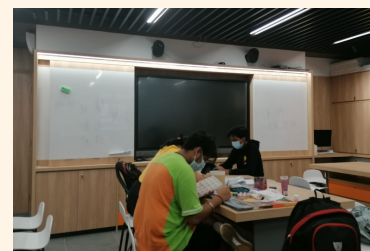
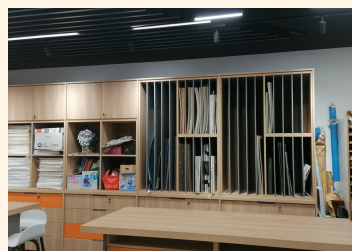
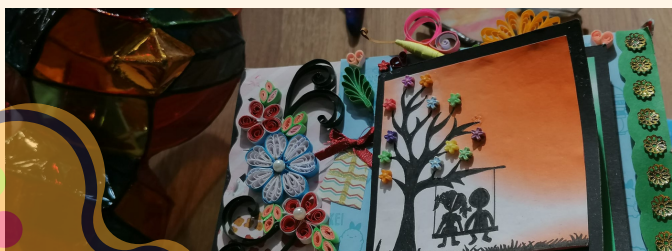
**G:** Compared to the old labs, there is not much of a big difference in my learning. I agree that there is still a feeling of a new environment now, but my learning is pretty much the same. However, it did make the class atmosphere more productive because the new design makes the students more excited to visit the labs and increases their enthusiasm which eventually makes them want to learn more.

**Q: That's great! As you mentioned, the class is more productive. How has your attention span changed with the implementation of these new labs?**

**G:** I am mostly just looking at the new things around the lab as they really catch my attention. However, at the same time, the chairs are a bit inconvenient as they are high, so it becomes difficult to get up. It also affects my attention while learning as all the time is spent adjusting the seat to try and sit comfortably.

**Q: Right! I understand. So which part of the new labs do you like the most? Why?**

**G:** I like the tables in the labs as well as the new basin with the taps attached. The sinks in the previous labs were rather old, while the new ones are cleaner and more convenient to use.



## UPGRADED FACILITY #2: VA ROOM (INTERVIEWS)

### MS YUNG

**Q: What do you think of the VA room's new design elements? What are some positive changes to students' learning styles or understandings?**

**Y:** The VA room indeed has many new elements; I really like the overall design and renovation. For example, there is a new colour scheme that matches the school. I would say that previously, there was not much space for artwork display, but now there is a



### ARIANNA (S.2)

**Q: How do you feel about the VA room? Was it something that was easy to adapt to?**

**A:** In the old art room, more student work was displayed around the room. Nonetheless, it can be argued that the reason for the lack of artwork currently is because the VA room is still very new. You can now see that there's a lot of empty space around, probably for the newer drawings and paintings that we'll see in the future. The development of



lot of new space where different artwork can be displayed. There are also more compartments compared to the previous design, which increases accessibility and provides more space for work. I also like that there is more space for the storage of both materials and artwork. In the previous room, much more cleaning would have been needed, but now, more materials can be kept in just one art room. It is also considerate that some designs fit the needs of the VA students well. For example, large artwork can be placed within a rectangular compartment, which makes it convenient for the students. Lastly, I would say that the sinks used to be very worn, which made some of them unfit for use, but now students can clean up more efficiently with the new ones which are in pristine condition.

**Q: Wow! There are definitely a lot of positive changes. How effectively has teaching been improved through the development of these new elements in the art room?**

**Y:** I would say that the curricula taught remains the same, so there wouldn't be any major changes to that aspect of teaching. However, I do think that the new SmartTV allows for more interactive teaching compared to the teaching with the projectors we used to have. The new whiteboards are another improvement in that they can be used to directly demonstrate drawing techniques. They also make it convenient to immediately identify and correct students' mistakes. It is also good for students to have personal devices which they can use to look up digital artwork when necessary.

these new tables are also relatively nice. All in all, I thought that it was an upgrade from what we had last year, so it was somewhat easy to adapt to.

**Q: I see. How has this environment advanced your learning as a whole?**

**A:** It definitely feels more alive when you walk into the classroom because it has this glass wall that everyone can see through, something most of the other classrooms don't really have. The lighting is also something worth mentioning because there was this study about how students are more attentive depending on how bright the lights are. That's not to say that brighter is better, but there is a slight increase in the brightness of the lights in today's VA room than the old one that actually improves our attention span and sense of what we were doing.

**Q: That's great to hear! Seems like you have a lot of positive things to say about the new renovations of said room. That being said, my final question to you is what is your favourite part of the new VA room and why?**

**A:** The aesthetic of the VA room is actually really nice! The room before the renovations was messy throughout the year, which kind of distracts you from listening in the lessons properly. I have to say, although the room is still relatively new, but at least the mess has been limited to only one part of the room, so that our attentiveness isn't hindered by it. There's nothing too distracting about the whole room, and everything works well with one another to build this aesthetic vibe that is unique from the other rooms in Glee Path.



## UPGRADED FACILITY #3: FIRST FLOOR (INTERVIEWS)

### MR YANNICK

**Q: What do you think about the first floors, new design elements, and what changes do you think they bring to the students' learning styles?**

**Y:** Well, first of all, I think it's a very nice design. A lot of students think it's a very fancy design. So I teach Y1 IB global politics there. Students spend so much time there on a day to day basis, with IB students especially having to be there for the day.



Having a nice environment also adds to the overall positivity. I do feel like a nice environment brings up the mood. When you're sitting in an environment where there are nice tables, nice chairs, a smart board, and a well designed interior and exterior, it promotes happier learning. Of course, you'd also have to ask the students whether this is true, especially compared to their experience last year. Perhaps the students do enjoy that sort of virtual learning experience.

**Q: You've mentioned all these new facilities, such as new smart boards and tables. Could you share with us whether these developments have actually increased your effectiveness in teaching students?**

**Y:** If I'm being honest, it hasn't changed that much in terms of my own personal teaching style. However, there are some aspects of the new facilities that I've seen different teachers explore which seem conducive to enhanced teaching. For instance, the classroom is designed with a left hand side board, a central smart TV, and a right hand side board. This is quite useful for when we do certain brainstorming tasks or discussion-based tasks, where 3 groups of students can write on the three different boards. That kind of spatial separation is quite nice for outlining ideas and for facilitating later discussion. Sometimes, if I wanted to, I could add a timer or score system on the Smart TV. Having all these features built into one system is really convenient. So in that sense, it's been a bonus. I don't think my teaching would fundamentally be shaped by this, because as a teacher it's up to you to utilise the resources that you have to teach rather than be limited by the resources.

### MERCY (S.5IB)

**Q: How do you feel about the new classrooms? Was it easy to adapt to it?**

**M:** The new classrooms made learning easier. The overall environment is sort of like a breath of fresh air compared with the old ones. Perhaps, another thing to note with the newer rooms is that the sufficient and strong lighting creates a more upbeat atmosphere that helps students adapt to the new environment more easily.



**Q: How has this new environment helped or made your learning more interesting?**

**M:** I think this only applies to the IB classrooms but the partitions are one of the more interesting parts as it's something new that not a lot of students are able to experience. There's lots of innovative additions, such as the interactive television that helps not just us students, but the teachers as well as they have more appliances to work with to make classes more interesting for us. That being said, this new environment kind of helps students become happier when going to school, and aids teachers in harnessing more ideas to make classes more interactive and interesting.

**Q: With these new facilities in school, do you think the class atmosphere has become more productive?**

**M:** I definitely think it has. As mentioned before, the interactive TV is one of the largest contributors to the class atmosphere. Students are allowed to take advantage of the new features to produce more meaningful and insightful results with projects, presentations, discussions and so on. They really aid with students' productivity.

**Q: Which part of the new classroom do you like the most? why?**

**M:** Once again, I'd like to bring our new interactive TV into the spotlight. It's new, it's innovative, and it's something that our school has implemented. It's way easier to use compared to projectors. Not only does it save a lot of time, lags are quite rare, and remote problems are uncommon. These problems would usually take up a whole bunch of our class time had we used projectors, but all of these are eliminated with the televisions. The efficiency is what I like most about the new classrooms. Technical difficulties are rare, so teachers have the time to teach instead of waiting for help.



# 2021-2022 S.1 BRIDGING PROGRAMME

## SUMMARY

The S1 bridging programme was a three-day event held in mid August, with the intention of giving incoming S1 students a taste of their new secondary life before school officially began.

Over the course of the programme, students participated in VA and STEM handicraft workshops. They also had a chance to explore every detail of our school and the nearby Mei Foo neighbourhood- from how many toilets there are in GP, to where the closest stationery shop from the school is. On the last day, students were brought to Youth Outreach Centre for an adventurous day-camp, where, under the instructions of coaches, our S1 newbies took on the highest rope courses in Hong Kong, 16 floors away from ground level. Whether the course induced laughters or tears, it was without doubt that everyone got to step out of their comfort zones!

Apart from all the nerve-racking and eye-opening experiences, we believe the programme was a great opportunity for our new students to get to know each other and the teachers. We sincerely hope that our new students will have a rewarding and cheerful school year!

## INTERVIEW: RAMZIA (S.1), HOWARD (S.1) AND WILLIAM (S.1)

**Q: What was your first impression of the school?**

**R:** Glee Path is unique and very different from other schools I applied to. GP offers the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP), another curriculum for students to pursue when they reach S5.

**H:** The layout of the school goes well with the word. I found the facilities in the school quite Western as well.

**W:** When I first saw the school, I thought it was awesome! The classrooms were different. I found the hall really cool too. I now have facilities I never had before in my primary school, like the lockers and the modern hall.

**Q: What do you think about the school facilities and decorations? Were they to your expectations?**

**R:** Yes, I thought the school was really well decorated. If I had to choose a favourite school facility, it would definitely be the school hall - I like hiding in the backstage area there while playing with my friends.

**H:** The school facilities were all really cool, especially the water fountain and the printer; I didn't have those in my primary school.

**W:** Yeah, I agree.

**Q: Were there any teachers who left an impression on you during the programme? If so, who?**

**R:** Yes, Ms. Mo. She was really helpful and encouraging during the treasure hunt we did in Mei Foo.

**H:** Yes, Ms. Mo left an impression on me as well. I learnt a lot about STEM from her during the programme.

**W:** Yes, Mr. Samson. We played a lot of educational games during science, which made me learn more through playing. He taught us a lot of new things.

**Q: What was your favourite activity from the 3 days of the bridging programme?**

**R:** My favourite activity was the adventure day camp on the third day. We went abseiling, where we climbed down from a building to the ground. I found it really fun and exciting!

**H:** For me it was the adventure day camp on the 3rd day; I had to go on the top of the building to do a rope course, which was challenging and scary but fun at the same time.

**W:** In STEM we got to make an LED lamp; that had to be my favourite activity.



RAMZIA



HOWARD



WILLIAM

**Q: What is one key takeaway you have from the bridging programme?**

**R:** Even if you don't know anyone, you can still make friends.

**H:** How to step out of your comfort zone and overcome your fears.

**W:** Our different strengths and weaknesses.

**Q: Did the programme help you make new friends from school?**

**R:** Yes, it was helpful in making friends.

**H:** Yes, I made a lot of friends.

**W:** Yes, I'm friends with the whole class.

**Q: How could the bridging programme be improved in the future?**

**R:** It would be nice to have some work to take home and complete.

**H:** I think more adventurous activities are needed. I would have preferred activities where they maybe took us to Disneyland or Ocean Park.

**W:** It would have been better if there was an icebreaker at the beginning of the bridging programme so I could know my classmates better.

