



PROSPECTUS

We Are **XINMIN**.
Unleash Your Potential.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Warm greetings from all of us at Xinmin!

Since 1945, Xinmin has grown from a humble village school to the outstanding education institution that it is today. While the contexts may have changed, what remains steadfast is our commitment to prepare our students well for their future ahead. Drawing our learning from what would qualify as a most anomalous 2020, we were offered a glimpse of the possibilities presented by a different paradigm of learning and teaching - one which harnesses technology, and which features students' self-directedness and voice more strongly.

These resonate with what we do in Xinmin. Beyond providing our students with a strong foundation for further learning, we equip all our students with competencies like critical and analytical thinking, collaboration and leadership through providing opportunities for them to create, connect and cultivate. We also emphasise character education and inculcate our values of Respect, Responsibility and Resilience in all that we do.

The secondary school years are a time where students explore their different interests and strengths and work towards their aspirations. We support this by offering our students multiple opportunities to discover and pursue their interests and passions, and through these experiences, develop holistically. It is also for this reason that we offer a range of options to our students in both the academic and co-curricular areas.

Complementing our rigorous and enriching school-based curriculum, our school also offers state-of-the-art facilities like our Creative Arts Complex for our students to extend their learning of, and deepen their appreciation for the arts. It also presents our students with a platform to perform for the community, and through this, build positive relationships with our neighbours in the community.

With our fraternity of committed and competent staff members and strong support from our stakeholders, we are committed to develop our students into the Curious Learners, Compassionate Contributors and Confident Leaders. Indeed, Xinmin Secondary School has an established tradition of producing graduates who create positive impact in their respective fields. We hope you will join our Xinmin family, and we are confident that you, like many others before you, will benefit from and enjoy the Xinmin experience!

Mr Tan Kuo Cheang

Principal, Xinmin Secondary School



OUR VISION

Leading Hearts, Leading Minds

OUR MISSION

To develop every Xinmin student to be a curious learner, a compassionate contributor and a confident leader.

OUR VALUES

Respect

Believes in our own self-worth and the intrinsic worth of all people

Responsibility

Sees that we have a duty to ourselves, our family, community, nation and the world, and fulfills our responsibilities with love and commitment

Resilience

Possesses emotional strength and perseveres in the face of challenges while manifesting courage, optimism, adaptability and resourcefulness in the process





Humble Beginnings...

Our school has a long and rich heritage of which we are very proud. It started off with a dream by a man of the community, Mr Yap Fun Hong - to build a school for needy Chinese as too many had lost the opportunity to a sound education, due to the disruptive years of the Japanese Occupation in Singapore. Together with two like-minded friends, Mr Heng Chin Soo and Mr Tan Choon Teng, they worked hard to raise funds to acquire a building for their school. When that proved challenging, they made the selfless decision to sell his five pigs to rent three bungalows along Upper Secondary Road. Sin Min School was then born, with 620 students enrolled.



The Turning Point...

The school's rise as a school of choice in Singapore came about under the Principalship of Mr Goh Tong Pak, an alumnus of the school. His eyes fixed on the goal of bringing the school to greater heights, he reformed processes and programmes and rallied the staff and students to achieve accolades never before seen in the school. In 1994, the school received its first Academic Value-Added Award and climbed up the school ranks from 134th to 50th position. The school was thus on the map and became a place of pride for those in the Xinmin family. From that point on, the school continued to excel in many other areas such as in the performing arts and sports. With continuing enriching school experiences and stellar performances in many aspects of school life, the school became the first school in the vicinity to be awarded the Autonomous Status in 2001. That was a proud moment for the family indeed.



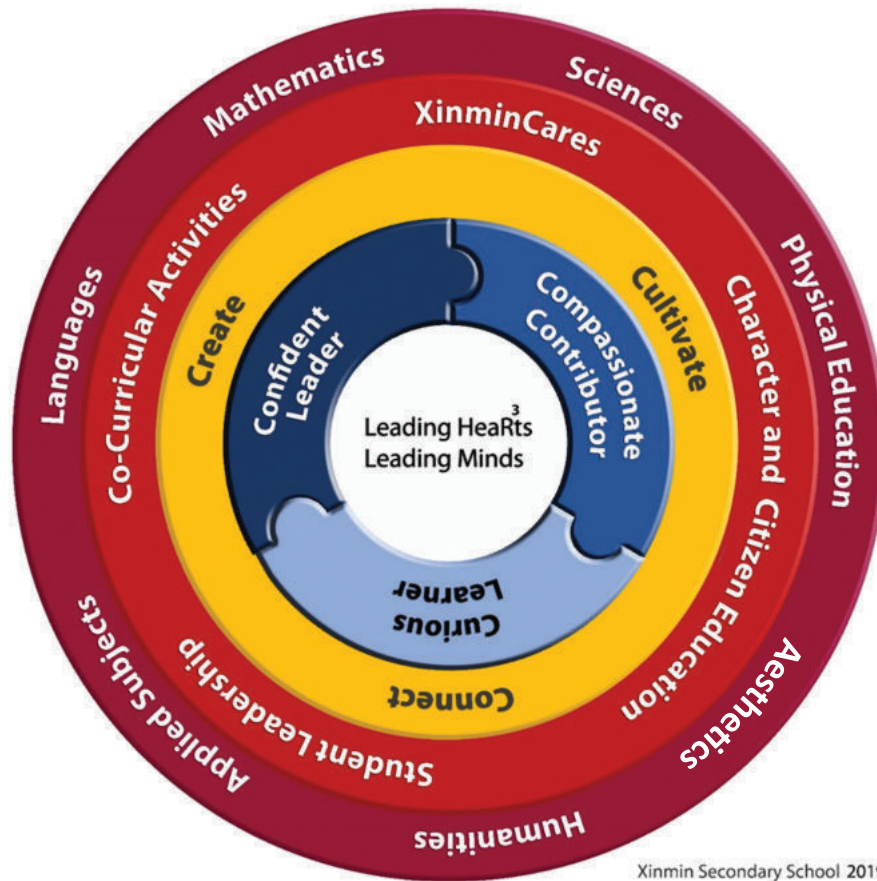
Arduous Journey...

Through the next phase of keeping the school open, viable and enriching for its students, principals and staff worked tirelessly hand-in-hand to continue building up the school bit by bit. A lot of fundraising events were planned and executed over those early years. The school truly leveraged on its ties to, and its influence on the immediate community of Serangoon and Hougang, to establish itself as an educational institution that would be worthy and upstanding. Slowly and steadily, the school grew, both in enrollment and in size of campus. In 1965, the longest-serving Principal took over the reins. Mr Chew Peng Leng, who passed away in 2022, continued the work of his predecessors and brought the school through the uncertain years of Singapore's independence and nation-building. It was under his leadership that the school converted to an English-medium one, and continued to grow in size and prominence in the community.

Adept at Change

From then on, partnership between school leadership and staff have continued to build on the strong foundation, and brought cohorts of students through the various phases of changing landscapes of education in Singapore. From academic focused curriculum in those early years to holistic development today, Xinmin has done it all and done it well. We are committed to developing our students holistically and providing a joyful and enriching environment for them to find their niche and grow that in their years with us. Looking at the way we were able to maneuver the uncertainties and disruption in the last few years with the COVID-19 pandemic, and fast-paced changes in education, such as learning with devices and full subject-based banding, we are more than confident that we have the right and relevant Vision for our students.

OUR LEARNING EXPERIENCE FRAMEWORK



Xinmin Secondary School 2019

- At the heart of the Framework is our school vision – **Leading Hearts, Leading Minds**. This provides the anchor to remind us that all that we do in the school is aimed at achieving our vision. The R3 represents our school values – Respect, Responsibility & Resilience.
- The next ring shows the **Desired Xinmin Outcomes (DXOs)** which articulate what we aim to develop in our students in their 4-5 years in the school. We would like every student to graduate from Xinmin as a Curious Learner, a Compassionate Contributor and a Confident Leader.
- The third ring describes our approach in designing learning experiences for our students that would facilitate the achievement of our DXOs. These learning experiences involve giving students the opportunities to **Create, Connect and Cultivate**.
- The fourth ring of the framework describes the **programmes** offered in our school to realise the DXOs. On top of the range of subjects offered, it also includes (i) Co-Curricular Activities; (ii) XinminCares; (iii) Character & Citizenship Education; and (iv) Student Leadership.



Curious Learner

We want our students to be inquisitive about the world, desiring to seek new knowledge and generate novel ideas or solutions to problems. They should be self-directed and motivated, and take ownership of their learning. We want our students to seize the multiple opportunities available to them in the future.

Compassionate Contributor

We want our students to be reflective, have empathy and compassion, and always have respect for themselves and for others. We want our students to have a sense of gratitude, to recognise that others have supported them in their journey, and therefore commit to serving others and giving back to society.



Confident Leader

We want our students to be leaders with a sense of purpose, and believe in themselves as they strive to achieve that purpose. They should be good role models, and have the motivation to grow and develop themselves, as well as others. We want our students to be able to communicate effectively to influence others to take action. We want them to take the initiative to act purposefully for the common good.

TALENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



- Level 4** } Cater to needs and interests of smaller groups of students
- Level 3** }
- Level 2** } Broad-based and highly inclusive
- Level 1** }

Secondary school is a time where one discovers more about oneself – **strengths, interests** and **potential**. At Xinmin, we believe in providing students with the right environment to explore, learn and grow. A spread of different programmes and activities are specially designed for students to challenge and develop themselves into Curious Learners, Compassionate Contributors and Confident Leaders. These programmes and learning experiences would provide students with opportunities to cultivate their interests, build on their strengths and talents, and enable them to enjoy learning.

Our talent development programme cuts across domains such as **cognitive, psychomotor, aesthetics, community & leadership**. The full range truly aims to cater to students of diverse needs, passion and skill.

XinminCares

The XinminCares Programme is our signature Values-In-Action (VIA) programme in the Character and Citizenship Education curriculum. Through XinminCares, we hope to develop every Xinmin student into a compassionate contributor who respects diverse perspectives and needs of different individuals and recognises his/her ability in addressing issues in our community. At the lower secondary level, students get the chance to interact with and befriend other people in the community, such as elderly residents, so as to develop a sense of empathy where he/she is able to recognise the strengths and perspectives of people who may be different from them. At the upper secondary level, students will be given opportunities to initiate their own projects to engage a particular group in the community that they have identified, through the Xinmin Change Initiator programme.



Making Hougang cleaner and greener



Student Leaders discussing strategies



e-Befriending with the elderly during COVID-19



Simulating aging to develop empathy

THE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Every child can be a leader.

Our Student Leadership Academy adopts a whole-school approach to provide a range of programmes and projects that will groom every student to lead hearts and minds with confidence. As our students learn to overcome different leadership challenges, they build problem-solving and collaboration skills that will help them create positive impact in their community. Through this process, we also hope students will get to explore and harness their strengths and talents as they hone their leadership competencies. Students have opportunities to develop their student leadership skills through opportunities to lead within their class, CCA and beyond. Through the suite of leadership programmes and opportunities offered in our Student Leadership Academy, our students leave as individuals who take initiative to lead and inspire others.



Swearing-in as Leaders



Problem-solving in a team



Student Leaders gear up for Sec 1 Orientation



A kayaking expedition to build leadership resilience & teamwork

TALENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Coding@Xinmin

Computational Thinking has been identified as fundamental as literacy and numeracy in a future where technology pervades all aspects of life. Technology will also be a key to the development of every single industry in the future. To give our students a head start in such a digital age, it is imperative that we educate them to be conversant in harnessing the affordances of technology.

Undergirded by computational thinking, Coding@Xinmin programme exposes our students to programming and encourages them to engage in active learning (i.e. Learning by Doing). They acquire coding skills through creating animations, games and also tinker to create prototypes that act as a solution to their identified everyday problems.

Aligned with 21CC, the Coding@Xinmin curriculum emphasizes opportunities that allow students to extend their fundamental skills such as keen analysis and sharpened observation skills gathered through debugging. The team projects also help them to listen to feedback whilst refining their contraptions. Beyond that, they also learn to apply cross-discipline skills such as cardboard and acrylic cutting and design thinking.

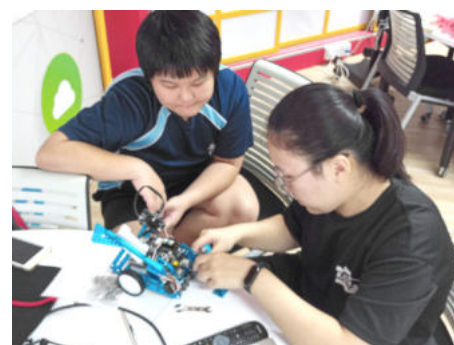
Students who wish to further deepen their interest in this area can take up GCE O Level Computing, which is available in our school.



Making sense of how parts come together as a solution to a problem.



Putting creativity into their model designs



Continuously refining the solution with knowledge & skills

RefleXions

As one of the four signature programmes we offer, RefleXions is a drama programme which all lower secondary students go through. We believe that drama is the window through which students explore the way other people think, feel and communicate. The learning through Drama allows our students to imagine a world that is different from their reality, thus enabling them to be introspective and see possibilities. Over the two years in the programme, Xinmin students learn to build connections with people, develop empathy, compassion and critical thinking skills in an atypical classroom setting.

Students who have passion in and develop competence in this programme can opt for Drama as an O Level subject at the upper secondary level.



Sec 1 students collaborate to create a story



Students enacting a scene from their play



Students learn to use lighting for impact

Humanities

In the Humanities department, programmes include movie screenings, learning journeys and self-directed inquiry projects to expose students to out-of-syllabus knowledge & to deepen existing skills & values taught in the classroom. Students who continue to show deep interest and curiosity in the Humanities are also invited to take part in programmes & competitions such as Model Cabinet and Model United Nations, national-level Historical or Geographical competitions, and an overseas trip. We also have an in-house curator programme where students get to investigate and narrate the rich history & heritage of the school and the community of Hougang!



One of many learning journeys we conduct



The Xinmin Model Parliament



Student Curator documenting oral history

English Language & Literature

At Xinmin Secondary School, students can look forward to a multitude of language learning experiences beyond the classroom. At the lower secondary levels, students can choose to embark on a self-exploratory learning journey either in the aspect of public speaking or creative writing. Beyond discovering their own interests, they can apply what they learn by creating their own portfolios, participate in Words-Go-Round workshops, hosting school wide events and taking part in competitions. Upper secondary students may challenge themselves by joining the Royal Commonwealth Society Essay Writing Competition and Creative Arts Programme organised by the Gifted Education Branch, as well as public speaking competitions such as the Plain English Speaking Awards (PESA). On the Literature front, Xinmin also partners cluster schools, such as Nanchiau High, to organise 'Read. Annotate. Debate.' – an inter-school debate for upper secondary Literature students to delve in an exciting and engaging way into thematic and character analysis.



Students collaborate with those in cluster schools



Students discuss and debate to explore perspectives



Students participating in creative writing workshop by local writer Balli Kaur Jaswal



Students participating in the 'Speaking Up through Spoken Word' conducted by local writer Marc Nair

Science

In the Science Department, talent is groomed through plenty of exposure programmes such as inquiry packages in the lower secondary classroom such as growing their own vegetables through hydroponics, to programmes and competitions that sharpen students' critical and analytical skills in dealing with scientific issues. Such include various Olympiad competitions, the International Science Youth Forum and the National STEM championship.



Hydroponics Lesson For Sec 1 students



Our students at the National STEM Championship

Mother Tongue Languages

In the Mother Tongue Languages Department, teachers are committed to identifying and grooming interest and talent in the language. Programmes and competitions include recitals, public speaking, and creative writing among others. We also hold our annual joint collaboration between our Chinese department, SPH Media and 推广华文学习委员会 Committee to Promote Chinese Language Learning - CPCLL to host the "The Create your own Newspaper Competition". This platform allows students to go through training on interviewing, photography & journaling skills conducted by experts in the field!



Sec 2 HCL students attend National Literature Camp



One of the entries to the Newspaper Creation competition in 2022



Our 4NA student presenting to the press at River Hongbao

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We believe in giving our students a holistic education and CCAs play a big role in shaping our students' secondary school experience. As the world increasingly becomes a more complex place to live in, CCAs play a critical role in preparing our students with human skills, grounded in core values. They provide our students with the opportunity to pursue their interests and acquire knowledge and skills. As a common space for students of diverse backgrounds to socialise, close friendships are forged as students journey through their experiences together for 4 to 5 years in Xinmin. Explore our CCAs & celebrate their consistent achievements with us!

Sports & Games	
Year	Programme Highlights / Achievements
2022	<p>Volleyball (Zonal)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B Div Girls: Champions • B Div Boys: Top 8 • C Div Boys: 2nd • C Div Girls: Champions <p>Volleyball (National)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C Div Boys: Top 16 • C Div Girls: 4th <p>Shooting (National)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B Div Air Pistol Girls: Champions • B Div Air Pistol Boys: 4th • B Div Air Rifle Girls: 10th • B Div Air Rifle Boys: 6th • C Div Air Pistol Girls: 4th • C Div Air Pistol Boys: 2nd • C Div Air Rifle Girls: 5th • C Div Air Rifle Boys: 3rd <p>Badminton (Zonal)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B Div Girls: 2nd • C Div Girls: 3rd

Clubs & Societies	
Year	Programme Highlights / Achievements
2022	<p>Art Club</p> <p>SYF Arts Exhibition - Recognition, Champion for "Live-On Competition" and "Mash Them Up Competition"</p> <p>Debate</p> <p>4th place in the Singapore Secondary Schools Debate Championships & Best Speaker Overall title</p> <p>Media Club</p> <p>Organised the annual Xinmin Phototition Competition, Supported all school events with photography, videography & synchronous event coverage</p> <p>ODAC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Orienteering Race (Schools) - 'C' Div Boys Team 1st & 4th; 'B' Div Boys Team 2nd & 3rd • National Orienteering Race (Open) - PA GRO Team 2nd; Open Individual 5th • Kayaking Proficiency Certification Programmes & expeditions to Coney Island and Sembawang mangroves



Performing Arts	
Year	Programme Highlights / Achievements
2021 (SYF AP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chinese Dance Team A - Distinction Chinese Dance Team B - Accomplishment MLDDS (Malay Dance) - Accomplishment Drama (English) Team A - Distinction Guzheng Ensemble - Distinction Concert Band Team A - Distinction Concert Band Team B - Accomplishment



Uniformed Groups	
Year	Programme Highlights / Achievements
2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GB: Gold Award NCC: Distinction Award SJB: National Champions for First Aid Competition BB: JM Fraser Bronze Award



STUDENT & PARENT TESTIMONIALS

Graduating in 2021, half of my secondary school life was impacted by Covid. Before the pandemic struck, there was a programme held by The Astronauts Collective (TAC)*; a non-profit organisation that guides youths in navigating and ascertaining the possible careers they would want to go for. Through this programme, I became acquainted with more people, learnt what their aspirations and interests are which I really found fascinating. The learning journeys we went on were exhilarating, eye-opening and experiences that not many students can chance upon. In addition, the teachers here are truly pillars of support for the students. All of the teachers I had were encouraging, invested and selfless. I have approached teachers with tons of questions and problems, and without fail, they would consistently reciprocate the same amount of effort I had put in for my work each and every time. I could also frequently see that they are going above and beyond to help struggling students too. My teachers have genuinely created an enriching secondary school life for me and influenced my character and values indefinitely.

**While this programme is discontinued, there are many other school efforts to provide insightful ECG-related opportunities for our students including the Career Fair and talks by post-secondary institutions.*

Yee Ruo Ruo - 406, Class of 2021



I have been studying in Xinmin Secondary School for the past two years and things here have been going really well. When I joined the school in Sec 1, I did not know anyone but thanks to the Orientation Programme, I very quickly made friends and these are my current best friends at Sec 2! What struck me the most about the orientation was the Student Councilors. I admired them because they were fun, outgoing, humorous and I wanted to be just like them. And I am now! The teachers here also have an outgoing and caring personality so you wouldn't be nervous about talking to them. Lessons are also engaging and easy to follow. In Xinmin, your days will certainly be joyful and you will leave each day with yet another happy memory. Glad I chose this school!

Jacklyn Hong Jie Ying - 204, 2022

We are always looking for a school that is not just focused on academics for our children but strengthens their inner selves and builds character. Xinmin is an all-rounded school that does exactly this. The school believes that all individuals are unique and talented. The personnel believe all their students can succeed in different ways.

To do so, Xinmin has various programmes for students to participate in, starting from XinminCares, Homecoming, Xinethsis and many leadership opportunities. They always believe there is a leader in the students and that the students should take charge and be responsible for their learning. My girl enjoyed her journey in Xinmin and met many friends and encouraging and supportive teachers.

We love seeing how our girl has grown over her four years in Xinmin, from our little baby girl to a sensible young lady who thinks for and cares about her family and peers.

Mrs Hazel Ho
P@X Chairperson & Mother of Sheena Ho, 405 Class of 2022



OUR MENTIONS!

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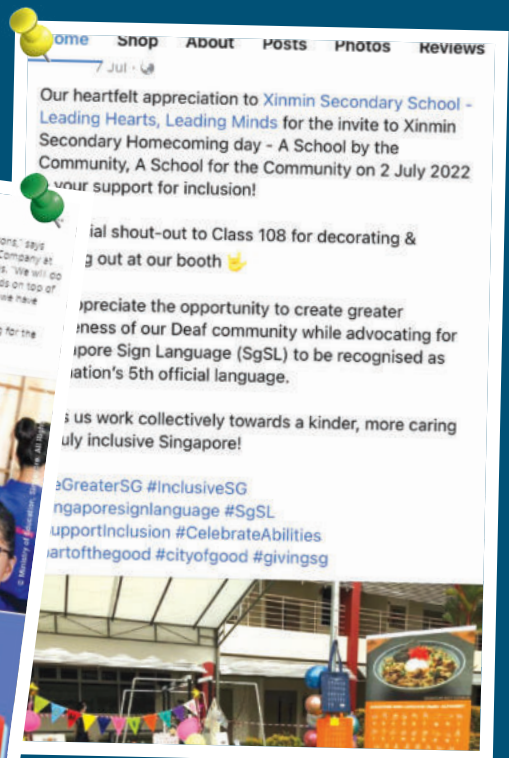
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SCAN ME!



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11 Hougang Avenue 8, Singapore 538 789
Tel: (+65) 6288 9382 | Fax: (+65) 6385 1068
Email: xinminss_email@schools.gov.sg



XINMINSEC



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