







# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Xinmin Secondary School is an institution of excellence that has nurtured many generations of students to be curious learners, compassionate contributors, and confident leaders. Founded in 1945, Xinmin draws strength from our rich heritage while simultaneously looking ahead to prepare our students well for the future. From our beginning as a community school till today, the essence of a Xinmin education is to develop leaders of hearts and leaders of minds, anchored on our values of Respect, Responsibility, and Resilience.

At the same time, we continually review our total curriculum and scan educational developments to design learning experiences that develop 21<sup>st</sup> Century Competencies and dispositions in our students.

As an autonomous school, we develop our students holistically and cultivate their talents by complementing the Singapore national curriculum with a range of thoughtfully-developed signature programmes. Our signature programmes are:

- Coding@Xinmin, focusing on computational thinking and design thinking;
- RefleXions@Xinmin, developing empathy and collaboration skills;
- XinminCares, fostering civic character and the will to act; and
- the Xinmin Academy of Leaders, honing leadership competencies and confidence.

The academic subjects, co-curricular programmes, and signature programmes form our school's total curriculum that we provide for every Xinmin student entrusted to us. The total curriculum is augmented by the Xinmin Talent Development Approach, through which opportunities for students to develop their talents are organised along five domains – cognitive, aesthetics, psychomotor, community, and leadership – to empower every Xinmin student to soar.

Xinmin is blessed with a team of caring teachers and allied educators committed to reaching new peaks of excellence, and dedicated administrative and operational staff working hand in hand to ensure effective teaching and learning in the student development and academic domains. With strong support from the School Advisory Committee, alumni, and parents, our Xinmin family lives out the words of our school song every day by placing learning and growth at the centre of all we do: so that our students will be masters of their destiny and beacons of their time – not just for themselves, but also for love, integrity, freedom and peace.

We welcome you to join us – as students, parents, and partners – on this special journey together!

Mr Tan Soon Hui Principal



校长致词

新民中学是一所优秀的学府,着力于将新民学 子培育为孜孜不倦的学者,仁心仁德的贡献者 以及信心十足的领袖。新民中学于1945年创 校,在引导学生为将来做准备的同时,我校不 忘初衷,仍然秉持着创校人办校的精神,继续 为教育做出贡献。新民的教育理念以互敬互 重,尽心尽责与坚韧不拔为核心价值观。我校着 力培育有领袖之德,领袖之智的学生。与此同 时,我校也根据大环境的转变,与时并进,不 仅更新全面课程,也设计能培养21世纪技能与 素质的学习体验。

身为一所自治学校,为了让新民学子全面发展,培养各项才能,新民中学在推行全国课程的同时,也精心设计了不同的特色项目。新民的特色项目包括:

- 编码@新民 教导编程知识和设计思维
- 映像@新民 培养同理心和协作能力
- 新民关爱计划 提高公民素养和培养奉献 精神
- 学生领袖学院 提升领导能力和增强自信

我校为新民学子提供的全面课程包括学术科 目、课程辅助活动与特色项目。新民中学的人 才培育模式包括五大方面:认知能力、审美观、心理动作能力、社区服务、领导才能。新 民学子可以通过各项学习活动培养才能,发光 发彩。

新民中学拥有一支关爱学生的教师团队。教师 们与非教职人员携手合作,精益求精,尽心为 完善新民学子的全面教育而奋斗。在新民咨 询委员会、广大校友们以及家长们的鼎力支持 下,新民中学这个大家庭才能以学生的学习和 成长为重心,启发新民学子实现校歌中所提 的——成为社会的主人、时代的明灯。更重要 的是,新民学子的一言一行不仅是为了自己, 也是为了仁爱,为了信义,为了自由,为了和 平。

我们欢迎大家——不论你是学生、家长或社区 伙伴——加入新民大家庭,让我们一起携手同 行,共创更美好的未来。

陈顺惠先生 校长



# **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

Recognises 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 for a good 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, Mr Yap 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.



#### 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 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 campus area. In 1965, the longest-serving Principal took over the reins until 1985. Mr Chew Peng Leng 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 student numbers and prominence in the community.



#### The Turning Point...

The school's rise as a choice school in northern Singapore came about under the Principalship of Mr Goh Tong Pak, an alumnus of the school. With 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 ranking from 134<sup>th</sup> to 50<sup>th</sup> position. The school was thus on the map. From that point on, the school continued to excel in many other areas such as 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 region to be awarded the Autonomous Status in 2001. That was a proud moment for the family indeed.

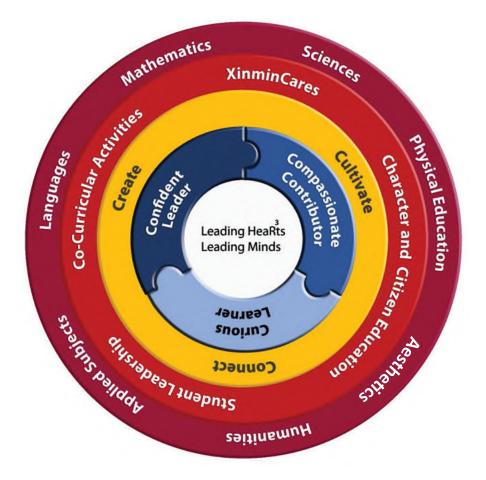


#### Adept at Change

Since then, the very close partnership between school leadership and staff has continued to build on the strong foundation and brought cohorts of students through the changing landscapes of education in Singapore. From the 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 grow in their years with us. With our steadfast nature in responding readily to changes in the recent years, we are confident that our school's Vision, Mission and Values remain relevant and meaningful for our students.



### OUR LEARNING EXPERIENCE FRAMEWORK



- O At the heart of the Framework is our school vision Leading Hearts, Leading Minds. This provides the anchor that all we do in the school is aimed at achieving our vision. The R3 represents our school values - Respect, Responsibility and 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 wish for 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. Our students look forward to a diverse range of subjects offered, as well as Co-Curricular Activities, XinminCares, Character and Citizenship Education, Student Leadership, and many other programmes.



#### **CURIOUS LEARNERS**

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 now and in the future.

#### COMPASSIONATE CONTRIBUTORS

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 those around them and giving back to society.





#### **CONFIDENT LEADERS**

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.

### **DEVELOPING TALENT** IN XINMIN



We believe in providing our students with the right environment and opportunities to explore, learn, grow and deepen their areas of passion and strengths. Different programmes and activities in five domains are developed for our diverse group of learners, so that every Xinmin student can reach at least Level 2 in all five domains when he/she graduates from Xinmin Secondary School. Here are some of the learning opportunities available.

Cognitive	<ul> <li>Competitions such as Science and Mathematics Olympiads and National Library Board Historical Investigation Challenge</li> <li>Programmes such as Creative Arts Programme by MOE Gifted Education Branch and IMDA x Unity Game Development Bootcamp</li> <li>Seminars such as the International Science Youth Forum and Singapore Model Cabinet</li> </ul>
Aesthetics	<ul> <li>Exhibitions such as S.E.A. Focus Art Exhibition and Singapore National Youth Orchestra Concert Experience</li> <li>Competitions such as SYF Arts Presentations and Speech Arts Drama Competition</li> <li>Workshops and masterclasses under National Arts Council's Arts Education Programme and Artist-in-School Scheme</li> </ul>
Psychomotor	<ul> <li>Mass events such as Cross Country and Inter-CCA Carnival</li> <li>Programmes such as the School Sports Partnership Sport Singapore</li> <li>Competitions such as National School Games and Inter-Class Games</li> </ul>
Community	<ul> <li>Programmes such as XinminCares and CCA-led Values In Action programmes</li> <li>Community outreach opportunities such as the Xinmin Change Initiator and Overseas Service Learning trips</li> <li>Advocacy platforms such as Peer Support Champions and Eco Stewardship</li> </ul>
Leadership	<ul> <li>Leadership Adventure Camp @ MOE Outdoor Adventure Learning Centre</li> <li>Workshops on leadership skills such as communication and facilitation</li> <li>Networking platforms such as World Readiness Symposium and Global Youth Leaders Summit</li> <li>Development opportunities such as Our Singapore Leadership Programme by the National Youth Council and executive coaching for students</li> </ul>

#### Coding@Xinmin

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

Undergirded by computational thinking, the Coding@ Xinmin programme exposes our students to programming and engages them in active learning. They acquire coding skills through creating animations and games, and also tinker to create prototypes to address their identified everyday problems. They also learn and apply cross-discipline skills such as design thinking and working with materials. 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 and skills

#### **RefleXions@Xinmin**

RefleXions@Xinmin is a drama programme which all lower secondary students experience. We believe that Drama is the window through which students explore the way people around them 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, and develop empathy and critical thinking skills in an atypical classroom setting. Students who have passion for and develop competence in this programme can opt for GCE O-Level Drama, which is available in our school.



Students collaborating to create a story



Students enacting a scene from their play



Students learning to use lighting for impact

#### XinminCares

The XinminCares Programme is our signature Values in Action (VIA) programme in the Character and Citizenship Education curriculum. Through XinminCares, we develop every Xinmin student into a compassionate contributor who is able to **respect diverse perspectives and needs of different individuals** and recognises his/her ability in addressing issues in our community. At lower secondary, students get the chance to interact with and befriend other people in the community, such as elderly residents, to develop a sense of empathy where they are able to recognise the strengths and perspectives of people who may be different from them. At upper secondary, 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.



Simulating aging to develop empathy



Art workshop with the elderly



Making Hougang cleaner and greener



Students packing and distributing canned food for families in need

#### **Xinmin Academy of Leaders**

Our student leadership programme adopts a whole-school approach to provide a range of opportunities 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, our students will explore and harness their strengths and talents as they hone their leadership competencies. Students develop their leadership skills through opportunities to lead their class, CCA and at the school level as Student Councillors and Peer Support Leaders. Through the suite of leadership programmes and opportunities offered, our students graduate as individuals who take initiative to lead and inspire others.



Appointment Ceremony for Student Leaders

#### **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 selfexploratory 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 MOE Gifted Education Branch, as well as public speaking competitions such as the Plain English Speaking Awards (PESA). On the Literature front, Xinmin also partners schools, such as Nan Chiau High School, 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 participating in the 'Speaking Up through Spoken Word' conducted by local writer Marc Nair



Students collaborating with peers in cluster schools



Students discussing and debating to explore perspectives



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

#### **Humanities**

In the Humanities department, programmes include movie screenings, learning journeys and self-directed inquiry projects to expose students to knowledge beyond the syllabus knowledge and to deepen existing skills and 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 and 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 and heritage of the school and the community of Hougang!



Learning journey to the Fullerton Heritage Centre



The Xinmin Model Parliament



Student Curator documenting oral history

#### **Mathematics**

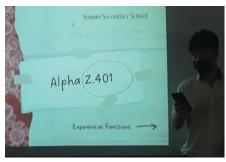
The Mathematics Department is dedicated to empowering young minds with a deep understanding and love for Mathematics. Our Talent Development Programme seeks to unearth and foster the potential within our students, offering them a rich tapestry of experiences beyond the traditional classroom setting.

Firstly, our teachers design a Math Trail which offers students an exhilarating adventure where they hop from station to station, each presenting a unique Math challenge. Each task is rooted in a real-world context, thus helping our students see the relevance of Mathematics in their surrounding environment. Secondly, selected students participate in bi-weekly training sessions led by an experienced Math Olympiad

trainer. These sessions prepare them for the prestigious Singapore Mathematical Olympiad competition, organised by the Singapore Mathematical Society. Thirdly, budding mathematicians can exercise their creativity and innovation through participating in the Singapore Mathematics Project Festival. Students work collaboratively, brainstorming ideas, and innovating solutions. At the culmination of this festival, students present their findings to a panel of judges, comprising of esteemed mathematicians. It is indeed a platform for our students to showcase their brilliance and innovative thinking in the realm of mathematics.



Students applying relevant Math concepts to tackle authentic tasks at the Math Trail



Our budding mathematicians... Singapore Mathematics Project Festival



Our students being awarded Distinction at the International Mathematical Modelling Challenge

#### **Mother Tongue Languages**



Students at the National Literature Camp



Our student presenting to the press at River Hongbao

In the Mother Tongue Languages Department, teachers are committed to identifying and grooming interest and

2022 全國中学編派比赛网络接近(低年级组)



One of the entries to the Newspaper Creation competition in 2022

talent in the languages. 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 and journalling skills conducted by experts in the field!

#### Science

In the Science Department, talent is groomed through lower secondary inquiry packages on topics such as growing hydroponic vegetables. Programmes and competitions, such as Olympiads, the International Science Youth Forum and the National STEM Championship, 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.



Students learning how to grow hydroponic vegetables



Our students at the National STEM Championship

## **OUR STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENTS**

We believe in providing our students with a holistic education. As the world increasingly becomes a more complex place to live in, we equip our students with skills, grounded in core values, ready for the future. We are proud to share with you the achievements of our students!

#### **Academic Achievements**

- 31% of our O-Level students achieved five or more distinctions
- More than 50% of students from the Normal (Academic) course are eligible for the Polytechnic Foundation Programme

Sports and Games - National School Games	
Year	Programme Highlights / Achievements
2023	<ul> <li>Badminton Zonal Competition <ul> <li>B Division Girls - 3<sup>rd</sup></li> <li>C Division Girls - 3<sup>rd</sup></li> </ul> </li> <li>Badminton National Competition <ul> <li>B Division Girls - 16<sup>th</sup></li> <li>C Division Girls - 8<sup>th</sup></li> </ul> </li> <li>Cross-Country National Competition <ul> <li>B Division Girls - Hoh Ying Min (401) 4<sup>th</sup> in Individual Category</li> <li>C Division Boys - 14<sup>th</sup></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Sports and Games - National School Games		
Year	Programme Highlights / Achievements	
2023	<ul> <li>Floorball National Competition <ul> <li>C Division Boys - 8<sup>th</sup></li> </ul> </li> <li>Volleyball Zonal Competition <ul> <li>B Division Girls - Champions</li> <li>C Division Boys - 2<sup>nd</sup></li> <li>C Division Girls - Champions</li> </ul> </li> <li>Volleyball National Competition <ul> <li>B Division Girls - 16<sup>th</sup></li> <li>C Division Boys - 2<sup>nd</sup></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

• C Division Girls - 4<sup>th</sup>







Sports and Games - National School Games		
Year	Programme Highlights / Achievements	
2023	<ul> <li>Shooting National Competition <ul> <li>Air Pistol B Division Boys -</li> <li>Champions</li> <li>Air Pistol B Division Girls - 5<sup>th</sup></li> <li>Air Pistol C Division Girls - 6<sup>th</sup></li> <li>Air Pistol C Division Boys - 6<sup>th</sup></li> <li>Air Rifle B Division Boys -</li> <li>Champions</li> <li>Air Rifle B Division Girls - 6<sup>th</sup></li> <li>Air Rifle C Division Boys - 4<sup>th</sup></li> <li>Air Rifle C Division Girls - 4<sup>th</sup></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

#### **Sports and Games Inter-School Bouldering Championships**

Programme Highlights / Achievements Year

#### Rockclimbing CCA

- B Division Boys 3rd

- B Division Girls 2<sup>nd</sup>
  C Division Boys 2<sup>nd</sup>
  C Division Girls Champions







Performing Arts Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation		
Year	Programme Highlights / Achievements	
2023	<ul> <li>Chinese Dance - Distinction</li> <li>Choir - Distinction</li> <li>Drama (English) Team A - Accomplishment</li> <li>Drama (English) Team B - Accomplishment</li> <li>Guzheng Ensemble - Distinction</li> <li>Symphonic Band - Distinction</li> </ul>	





Programme Highlights / Achievements Year

#### Art Club

- Avatar Art Competition
  - » Tan Yan Yu (304) 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - » Aura Airwan (203), Aaden Goh (304) - Finalists

#### Debate

2023

- Singapore Secondary School Debate Championship 2023 - Quarterfinals round, 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Overall Best Speaker
- Mid Year Debate Invitationals 2023: 1st Runner Up (Overall), 3<sup>rd</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Best **Overall Speakers**

#### Media Club

• IMDA National Youth Tech Championship 2023 - 1<sup>st</sup> Runner Up



















Uniformed Groups Unit Awards		
Year	Programme Highlights / Achievements	
2023	<ul> <li>Boys' Brigade</li> <li>J M Fraser Award for Excellence - High Distinction (previously known as Gold)</li> <li>Girls' Brigade</li> <li>Company Award - Gold</li> </ul>	
	National Cadet Corps (Land) Unit Recognition – Gold	
	National Police Cadet Corps •Unit Overall Proficiency Award - Gold	
	St John Brigade	

•SJB Corps Achievement Award – Gold











# STUDENT & PARENT TESTIMONIALS

Graduating in 2021, half of my secondary school life was impacted by COVID-19. 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 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.



Yee Ruo Ruo 406, Class of 2021



I have been studying in Xinmin Secondary School for the past three years and things here have been going really well. Three years ago, 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 3! What struck me the most about the orientation was the Student Councillors. 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 303, 2023 Student Council President

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 teachers 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, and many leadership opportunities. They always believe there is a leader in each student and that the students should take charge and be responsible for their learning. My daughter enjoyed her journey in Xinmin and met many friends and encouraging and supportive teachers.

We love seeing how our daughter 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

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{P@X}}$  Chairperson & Mother of Sheena Ho, 405 Class of 2022



### **OUR MENTIONS!**



SCAN MEIN 1 2 3 4





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



