

5 June 2006

Press Release

Submission of Proposals for Privately-Funded Schools

1. The Ministry of Education (MOE) invites proposals to set up privately-funded schools. New privately-funded schools will provide new options and choice for Singapore students, while also providing foreign students with further avenues for study in Singapore.

Requirements for Setting Up Privately-Funded Schools

2. New privately-funded schools would add to the full range of opportunities available in the main stream school system, and the two privately-funded schools which started in Jan 2005.

3. To ensure that all Singaporean students continue to learn and interact with one another in an environment that nurtures a Singaporean spirit and character, privately-funded schools will be required to adhere to MOE's bilingual policy and incorporate National Education (NE) into their curriculum, as well as other national practices such as daily flag-raising and the singing of the national anthem. It is also envisaged that Singaporeans / Permanent Residents will comprise at least 50% of privately-funded school enrolment in order to provide a Singaporean environment.

4. More information for submission of proposals can be found on the MOE Private Schools Section website (<http://www.moe.gov.sg/privatesch>)

5. The closing date for submission of proposals is 31 Jul 2006, 12:00 noon. All proposals should be submitted, together with the submission form (refer to website), to the following address:

Planning Division
Ministry of Education
1 North Buona Vista Drive
MOE Building, Tower Block Level 21
Singapore 138675
(Attn: Ms Chua Mei Ling)

6. Successful applicants will be notified by Sep 2006.

Background

7. In Oct 2002, the Junior College/Upper Secondary Education Review Committee, chaired by Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam, who was then Senior

Minister of State for Trade and Industry & Education, recommended greater diversity in the education landscape in the form of alternative curricula and qualifications, different mix of schools, and different programmes. Setting up a few privately-funded schools was one of the key recommendations of the committee. This was endorsed by Parliament in Nov 2002.

8. The first round of privately-funded school proposals submission was conducted in 2003. MOE has given approval to ACS (International) and Hwa Chong International School, both of which started in January 2005.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

National Archives of Singapore