



KUO CHUAN PRESBYTERIAN SECONDARY SCHOOL

10, Bishan St 13, Singapore 579795

Tel: 62593811 Fax: 63536535

25 Jun 2021

Dear Parents / Guardians,

New Beginnings

Coming Together

We begin this new school term filled with gratitude and hope. Over June, the school community has come together to create a safe, secure and enhanced environment for students to return to. Thank you for doing your part to respond to the national call to be socially responsible, especially as we enhance our testing, contact tracing, and vaccination efforts. It is with your support that we have been able to swiftly vaccinate most of our school population, allowing us to resume schooling this term.

Vaccination is central to our ability to continue schooling and for our country to shift to a new phase of the pandemic. Our teachers and staff showed the way earlier this year by stepping up to be vaccinated, and we will be facilitating vaccination for your child if you have yet to do so. Vaccination is not compulsory, but is one way you and your child can contribute to the safety and health of those around you.

Beyond vaccination, we also have had to adjust to new habits and norms for many social and day-to-day activities. In school, we have carefully considered how to implement these guidelines in a way that is sustainable and educational. Hence, we are announcing several key changes to our school routines that will allow us to sustain a safe learning environment. These include allowing students to consume their meals in class, and having fixed classrooms for classes this semester. Please read the details in the relevant section below; we seek your support and understanding as your child adjusts to these changes.

New Ways of Learning

With the gradual resumption of school this term, including our CCAs and key school events, we look forward to a time of rich learning and growth. This term, we have enhanced how we will be celebrating school events such as Youth Day and National Day, leveraging technology and new experiences to develop in students a sense of belonging to Kuo Chuan and deeper relationships with each other. I look forward to sharing more about these events later this year.

In addition, we are on track to begin a new phase in our learning as a school when our Sec 1 to 3 students receive their iPads later this term. With the iPad, our students will be able to benefit from a digitalised learning experience, with the use of platforms such as the SLS, Google Classroom and other apps and functionality providing your child with a personalised, collaborative and future-ready experience. I am glad to share that our staff received their iPads in June and have already begun preparing for this transition with a sense of excitement.

With the iPads, we will also be better prepared for HBL and Blended Learning. Later this year, we will embark on regular HBL days which will employ a range of lessons and activities that will involve less screen time and more self-initiated, self-directed learning activities at home. This Blended Learning concept will strike a balance between teacher guidance and student



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motivation, confidence and skills required for them to learn for life. We will share more details about these regular HBL days and Blended Learning when ready.

As a school, we are also focussed on the needs and journey of our graduating students. I believe deeply that we must come together to give them every support for their well-being, academic learning and decision-making as they prepare for the next phase of their lives. Therefore, we will be actively supporting them in a number of ways; details can be found in the relevant section below.

Celebrating our Students

I hope that you have had a chance to read *Espoir*, our school magazine, when it was distributed last term (it can also be found at <https://kuochuanpresbyteriansec.moe.edu.sg/the-kuo-chuan-experience/espoir-school-newsletter>). We had much to celebrate and share with you, and in addition to the reports on our Semester 1 activities, I am glad to share that our students have done us proud at the Singapore Youth Festival and National Schools Games this year:

Singapore Youth Festival		
CCA Group	Attainment	Performance Title
Band A	Accomplishment	The Wind Blows Where it Will
Band B	Not Assessed	Beyond the Highland
Chinese Dance	Distinction	“悠. 惊梦” (Leisure - A Surprising Dream)
Drama	Commendation	Firefly
Guzheng	Distinction	欢乐的边寨 (Joyful Border Village)
Modern Dance	Accomplishment	The Pursuit of _____
Choir	Not Assessed	信じる (Shinjiru)
National Schools Games B Division		
Badminton (Boys)	1 win, 2 losses	
Golf (Girls)	6/11 position	
Table Tennis (Boys)	2 wins, 2 losses	
Table Tennis (Girls)	1 win, 5 losses	
Shooting (Boys)	Pistol: 14/16 position, Rifle: 16/18 position	
Shooting (Girls)	Pistol: 15/16 position, Rifle: 14/17 position	
Volleyball (Boys)	2 wins, 2 losses	

These results are the culmination of many years of perseverance and commitment. I had the chance to interact with many students as they stayed focussed and strong in their preparations and through the many changes that took place. Please congratulate and encourage your child if he/she took part; they will have gained tremendously from the experiences, relationships and memories, and will retain them for life.

Embracing the Future

Finally, I would like to share some thoughts about our school direction. I believe deeply in the importance of Kuo Chuan supporting the community as an essential and important part of the education of every KCPIan, and to do this, we must strengthen our relationships and



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connection with you even as we embark on a new push towards excellence and richer experiences for our students.

As a part of this, I hope to create an inclusive and vibrant school environment for learning and growth. Thus, for 2022, we have expanded the range of DSA talent areas, opening up student admissions in the areas of media literacy and the performing arts in addition to our traditional focus on community and youth leadership. I am glad to share that we have had a bumper crop of applicants and look forward to receiving many of these talented and driven students in 2022.

Dialogue and feedback

Your voice and involvement in our school is central to us providing you and your child with a learning experience that will prepare your child for life. God has been faithful to the school over the generations, and over June, I was reminded daily of His generous provision, protection for us as we navigated the challenging situation nationally and in school. We have emerged from this season with a sense of possibility and excitement about what is to come, and I hope that as you read the details of our plans in this letter, you will be inspired and motivated to reach out and share your thoughts, hopes and dreams for your child and for Kuo Chuan.

You can do so by writing to me or by simply connecting with our dedicated teachers and staff; with your involvement, we can provide the best possible education for your child. I look forward to hearing from you!

Mr Justin Tan
Principal

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School calendar updates

1. Do take note of the following key dates and details for Term 3.

Date	Level	Event	Remarks
Fri 2 Jul	All Students	Youth Day Celebrations	KCPians will be dismissed from 11:45am onwards
Sun 4 Jul	Youth Day		
Mon 5 Jul	All students	Day After Youth Day (Scheduled School Holiday)	KCPians do not need to report to school.
Tue 6 Jul	Registered students	GCE O-Level Mother Tongue Listening Comprehension	
Mon 19 Jul	Muslim Students	Eve of Hari Raya Haji	All Muslim students will be dismissed at 12pm.
Tue 20 Jul	Hari Raya Haji		
Wed 21 Jul	All Students	Racial Harmony Day	Lessons as usual.
Fri 6 Aug	All students	National Day Celebrations	Details will be released at a later date.
Mon 9 Aug	National Day		
Tue 10 Aug	All students	Day After National Day (Scheduled School holiday)	KCPians do not need to report to school.
Thu 2 Sep	All students	Teachers Day Celebration	Details will be released at a later date.
Fri 3 Sep	All students	Teachers Day (Scheduled School Holiday)	KCPians do not need to report to school.

Nurturing Everyday Leadership in Overcoming the COVID-19

2. We would like to assure parents/guardians that measures will be in place to safeguard the safety and well-being of staff and students to ensure the school remains a safe and healthy environment for learning. To do this well, we will be implementing a number of changes to school routines this term.

3. First, we would like to encourage students to be responsible and to be suitably attired and equipped – i.e. they should wear an effective mask (of similar grade to a surgical mask) and carrying their TraceTogether token or device at all times. Also, as a part of efforts to improve school tone, we will bring back our school routine of wearing our full school uniform (with white shirt/blouse) on Mondays.

4. Second, to reduce school movement, we will be implementing fixed classrooms this semester. This means that your child's form class will have a classroom assigned and most lessons will be in this classroom, with a fixed seating arrangement.

5. Finally, as part of enhancing safety measures and in compliance with national guidelines, KCPians will be staying in their classrooms to have their meals during their daily recess and snack break time. From week 3 onwards, up to 7 classes will be rostered daily to have their meals in the canteen. Details of the roster will be shared later.



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6. This is an opportunity for students to do their part to contribute to a safe environment. Students may contribute to the smooth running of this approach by bringing their own lunch box to pack food to the canteen (thereby saving costs and reducing packaging waste), or by bringing their own food.

7. As a school, we will also encourage students to work together to step up as servant leaders and work together to ensure that the purchasing and consumption of food, and disposing of waste food and wipe-down processes, takes place smoothly. Staff will be on hand to monitor the situation and support students, so that they use their time wisely and do not affect other school activities.

Home-Based Learning instructions for Sec 1 & 2 from Mon 28 Jun to Wed 30 Jun

8. As Singapore moves into Phase 3 (Heightened Alert) with gradual easing of community safe management measures, MOE will progressively bring students back to school after the June school holidays. Our Sec 1 and 2 KCPIans will be on Home-Based Learning (HBL) from Mon 28 Jun to Wed 30 Jun, and will return to school on Thu 1 Jul.

9. During HBL, the daily routine starts with the morning facetime with Form Teachers (FTs) checking in with your child/ward at 7:30am.

HBL programme	
7:20am	FTs will start the class Zoom session with the link sent either through WhatsApp or the Class HBL Google Link
7:30am	Morning Message to start the day right with encouragements
7:40am	FTs Check-in with Class.
8:00am onwards	The lesson flow for the HBL can be found in the Class FHBL Google Link.

Class HBL Google Link	
Sec 1 https://go.gov.sg/kcpss1faith2021 https://go.gov.sg/kcpss1joy2021 https://go.gov.sg/kcpss1love2021 https://go.gov.sg/kcpss1peace2021 https://go.gov.sg/kcpss1grace2021 https://go.gov.sg/kcpss1hope2021 https://go.gov.sg/kcpss1praise2021	Sec 2 https://go.gov.sg/kcpss2faith2021 https://go.gov.sg/kcpss2grace2021 https://go.gov.sg/kcpss2hope2021 https://go.gov.sg/kcpss2joy2021 https://go.gov.sg/kcpss2love2021 https://go.gov.sg/kcpss2peace2021 https://go.gov.sg/kcpss2praise2021



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Support for Graduating Students

10. As a school, we will come together to support our graduating students as they prepare for the national examinations. This begins with a focus on their well-being and will include platforms to sustain their academic learning and ECG experiences.

11. In particular, we will be:

- a. Regularly connecting with students through FT conversations, dialogues and school activities that will allow your child to highlight needs and requests
- b. Arranging for supplementary lessons, remedials and consultations for students across a range of subjects during the school day, using both face-to-face and virtual modes of guidance
- c. Creating platforms for your child to have a conducive learning environment for revision and consistent progress, as far as guidelines allow
- d. Developing confidence and purpose in your child through whole-school affirmation, encourage and support through their peers and school community
- e. Providing access to ECG guidance and resources so that your child can explore the various pathways and options available after secondary school

12. Your child will hear more about these approaches as they prepare themselves for the various exams this term; please encourage them to reach out to teachers should they need support, and you may also approach the school if you have feedback for us.

Youth Day Celebration

13. Youth Day Celebrations (YDC) is a day of celebrating the immense potential and youthful vibrancy of our students. This event provides a platform to celebrate the VIA efforts and as a channel of advocacy for chosen social causes. The key message of empowering youths and student-initiated efforts to reach out and make a difference to community is reflected in its yearly theme of "Let Your Light Shine @ YDC!"

14. KCPians will report to school as usual at 7:20 am. They will be dismissed from 11:45 am onwards. Please refer to table for dismissal timing for the levels.

Level	Details
Sec 3	Dismiss at 11:45 am
Sec 2	Dismiss at 11:50 am
Sec 1	Dismiss at 11:55 am
Sec 4/5	Dismiss at 12:10 pm

15. As the following Monday is a scheduled school holiday in lieu of Youth Day, KCPians do not need to report to school on Mon 5 Jul.



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Early Dismissal for GCE O-Level Listening Comprehension

16. The GCE O-Level Mother Tongue Listening Comprehension will take place on Tue 6 Jul. To provide a conducive environment for conducting the examination, all students not taking the examination will be dismissed at the following time

Level	Details
Sec 4/5	Dismiss at 12:00 pm
Sec 3	Dismiss at 12:10 pm
Sec 2	Dismiss at 12:30 pm
Sec 1	Dismiss at 12:40 pm

17. Your child will have to leave the school premises upon dismissal. We seek your support and understanding in this as we strive to provide the best environment for KCPians taking the examination.

National Day Celebration

18. The school continues to celebrate the Singapore Spirit on Fri 6 Aug. It will be a day of coming together as a nation to inspire resilience and a sense of hope to overcome the pandemic in unity. To add a celebratory vibe to the occasion, KCPians are encouraged to come to school in either Red or White t-shirts. Details will be disseminated later in July.

Teachers' Day

19. The school will be celebrating Teachers' Day on Thu 2 Sep. Planning is underway to empower students for a meaningful time in expressing appreciation and gratitude. Details of the day's programme and schedule will be disseminated later. Do note that Fri 3 Sep will be a scheduled school holiday.

School Examination Dates

20. School examinations will be conducted on dates in the table below. They will be conducted in line with prevailing SMM measures, and details of the conduct will be shared with students and parents closer to the actual examination.

Level	Exam/Subjects	Dates
Sec 4NA	English, Mother Tongue & Social Studies	Mon 26 Jul to Wed 28 Jul
	Other subjects	Tue 24 Aug to Fri 27 Aug
Sec 4E/5N	Science Practical Exam	Mon 16, Fri 20, Mon 30 Aug, Wed 1 Sep
	Other subjects	Mon 23 Aug to Fri 27 Aug Mon 13 Sep to Wed 15 Sep
Sec 1	EOY Examinations*	Mon 4 Oct, Mon 11 to Thu 14 Oct
Sec 2	EOY Examinations*	Mon 4 Oct, Fri 8 to Thu 14 Oct
Sec 3	EOY Examinations*	Mon 4 Oct, Thu 7 to Thu 14 Oct

*The detailed schedule will be distributed later in term 3.



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National Examination Dates in Term 3

21. This following is a summary of the dates for N and O-Level examinations in Term 3. The full detailed timetable can be found at www.seab.gov.sg.

Level	Exam	Dates
GCE O-Level	Mother Tongue Listening Comprehension	Tue 6 Jul
	Mother Tongue Oral Examination	Wed 7 Jul to Fri 16 Jul
	English Language Oral Examination	Thu 22 Jul to Tue 3 Aug
	Higher Mother Tongue Oral Examination	Wed 11 Aug to 17 Aug
GCE N-Level	English Language Oral Examination	Mon 12 Jul to Fri 16 Jul
	Mother Tongue Oral Examination	Thu 29 Jul to Mon 2 Aug

End-of-Year Sec 3 Supplementary Lessons

22. While Secondary 1 & 2 students will complete the school year on Fri 29 Oct, additional supplementary lessons will continue till Fri 12 Nov for our Sec 3 students to prepare them for their graduating year. Please do not make plans for holiday activities during this period. Details of the programme will be shared in Term 4.
