Major Concern 2:

To reinforce values education among students so as to enhance their whole person development

Achievements

Significant progress has been made to enhance values education and support the holistic development of our students. Our school has implemented a comprehensive approach, incorporating diverse initiatives and strategies, to effectively instill core values, introduce aspects of Chinese culture, and cultivate a culture of gratitude and care.

Many students actively engaged in programmes and activities aimed at promoting core values, including theme of the school year "Honesty and Kindness. A significant majority (63%) of students have reported positive changes in their behavior and mindset, acting with enhanced empathy and respect towards others. This improvement was attributed to the active involvement of teachers, with 91% acknowledging the effectiveness of the programmes, leading to observable enhancements (95% agreement) in student behaviour. Students became more attentive to the needs of others and willingly rendered their assistance whenever necessary. One noteworthy endeavor was the collaborative art creation activity involving multiple departments, effectively integrating core values into the curriculum. Events like the slogan design competition and "Kindness at ATEC" were organised to foster creativity while promoting values of kindness and appreciation. Over the past two years, the Stakeholder Survey for students has consistently rated "Teachers often provide suggestions on my performance and let me know how to improve." as the foremost item. Furthermore, the Stakeholder Survey for parents reflects positivity, with top rankings given to "The school enables my child to understand how to get along with others, such as respecting others and being considerate." and "The school is a caring place." showcasing the unwavering commitment of our teachers to supporting student growth and development in all areas.

The integration of Chinese cultural elements into the curriculum has achieved unanimous agreement from teachers (100%), yet there is an opportunity for enhanced engagement, with 56% of students acknowledging these elements. Teachers have observed a deeper understanding (95%) and increased participation (95%) of students in Chinese cultural activities, indicating the effectiveness of the implemented strategies. Various departments have incorporated Chinese cultural elements into their curricula and learning experience. The Visual Arts department, for instance, exposing students to Chinese calligraphy and paper cutting, while the Music department introducing Cantonese Opera and Chinese instrumental music, thereby enriching students' cultural understanding.

Although there were mixed responses regarding participation in gratitude-related activities, a majority of students (55%) have perceived a culture of gratitude, with 61% reporting an increased willingness to express gratitude. Teachers overwhelmingly agreed (91%) that strategies to foster gratitude and care have been successful, contributing to the establishment of a caring school culture. Various strategies, such as gratitude card design and writing gratitude message among students, have been employed to nurture gratitude, leading to the shaping of a positive school culture where appreciation and kindness are esteemed. As a result, there have been observable positive changes in student behaviour, as evidenced by 81% of teachers noting an increased willingness to express gratitude.

Reflection

The adoption of a holistic approach that incorporating diverse initiatives and strategies has been instrumental in reinforcing values education. This approach ensures the inclusion of various aspects of values education, ensuring students' diverse needs and interests are accommodated. Indicated by

the positive feedback received from both students and teachers, teachers' commitment and dedication have contributed to the effectiveness of the programmes and initiatives to instill favourable attitudes and behaviours within students. However, notable areas where further engagement and enhancement may be necessary to ensure broader participation and deeper impact.

In addition, the establishment of a culture of gratitude and care within the school community creates a conducive environment for values education. A supportive school culture encourages positive behaviours and reinforces the importance of kindness and appreciation. While there was considerable student engagement overall, participation in gratitude-related activities might have been limited. This suggests that certain strategies may not resonate with all students, highlighting the importance of ongoing evaluation and adaptation of initiatives to meet the evolving needs and preferences of students.

Despite the unanimous support from teachers in the successful integration of Chinese cultural elements into curriculum, there remains scope for enhancing student involvement. Identifying potential factors that contribute to uneven awareness and engagement can bolster the effectiveness of cultural enrichment efforts. In essence, ensuring the long-term sustainability of values education initiatives requires ongoing commitment and support from all stakeholders, along with continuous evaluation and adaptation.

Feedback and Follow-up

Positive values and a healthy personality are the inner guides for students to face all kinds of difficulties and challenges, enabling them to stay on the right path in the ups and downs of life and not to be confused by temptations in the future. Therefore, we firmly believe in nurturing our students with core values as fundamental aspects of education. It is imperative to ensure that values education permeates various subjects and activities. Teachers from all disciplines should be encouraged to infuse discussions, activities, and assignments that promote core values into their teaching. Providing teachers with the necessary resources and training will enable them to effectively integrate values education into their lesson plans and classroom interactions. In addition, it is essential to promote reflective practices among students for fostering self-awareness and personal growth. Incorporating activities such as group discussions or reflective writing assignments encourages individuals to contemplate their values, actions, and areas for improvement. Reinforcement of students' positive attitudes and behaviours is of equal significance and reward system for recognition and motivation should be continued.

While the incorporation of Chinese cultural elements has proven successful, it is worth exploring the expansion of cultural enrichment endeavors to encompass a broader array of perspectives and traditions relevant to the student body. This may entail organising cultural exchange activities or interdisciplinary projects aimed at fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation of Chinese culture.

To sustain the mission of students' holistic development, the cultivation of a caring and supportive school culture is crucial for promoting their mental and physical well-being, as well as core values. The integration of principles from positive psychology into the curriculum can nurture a growth mindset, resilience, and emotional intelligence among students. Furthermore, encouraging students to prioritise their well-being necessitates the promotion of a comprehensive and wholesome lifestyle through various strategies. To enable staff to effectively support students in nurturing their well-being, the provision of professional development programmes that enhance their skills is vital. Concurrently, promoting staff wellness should be given significant attention.