



SCHOOL PROFILE FOR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES 2020 - 2021

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About St. Paul's Co-educational College

St. Paul's Co-educational College (SPCC) was founded by the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui (the Hong Kong Anglican Church) in 1915. It provides secondary education from Grade 7 (Form 1) through to Grade 12 (Form 6). The total enrolment presently stands at 1210. Whole person education, laid down in its mission statement and reflected through the SPCC Student Profile, is at the core of the educational philosophy of SPCC. It has always championed academic excellence and lifelong learning and has historically been highly respected for musical excellence. The school has also been recognized for the valuable contributions its graduates, being leaders in their respective professions, have made to the Hong Kong community.

SPCC is a Direct Subsidy Scheme (DSS) school and has adopted a 'through-train' mode with its linked primary school since 2002. Being a DSS school, SPCC has been able to provide greater curriculum choices, a low student-teacher ratio and exceptional and challenging educational experiences through extra-curricular activities. These has enhanced our reputation as a leading institution in Hong Kong.

SPCC is a local school with majority of its student population ethnic Chinese who were born and brought up in Hong Kong. Most of them speak Cantonese as their mother tongue.

Curriculum

English is the medium of instruction in all subjects except Chinese Language, Chinese Literature and Chinese History. Chinese Language is taught in Putonghua (Mandarin Chinese) from Grade 7 (Form 1) to Grade 9 (Form 3). All other Chinese-related subjects are taught in Cantonese.

Grade 7 (Form 1) to Grade 9 (Form 3) students follow a common programme of study. This includes English Language, Chinese Language, Mathematics and Liberal Studies, as well as a suite of humanities, sciences and cultural subjects.

This comprehensive and well-balanced school-based programme prepares SPCC students to make an informed choice between following in Grade 10 (Form 4) the three-year Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) OR a preparatory year leading to the two-year International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) in Grade 11 (Form 5) and Grade 12 (Form 6).

Both our HKDSE and IBDP students achieve admirable results that allow them to receive offers of admission and scholarship from top local and overseas universities.

About the Office of Further Studies

The Office of Further Studies at SPCC is responsible for supporting university applications for students who wish to pursue their studies outside of Hong Kong. We work with both HKDSE and IBDP students to support their academic goals after they graduate from SPCC. The graduating classes usually have 100% entry to bachelor's degree courses in Hong Kong or around the world.

The majority of our students will stay in Hong Kong to pursue their undergraduate studies. Outside of universities in Hong Kong, we will support up to 10 university applications, worldwide, per student and advise them to choose carefully based on academic and personal fit.



Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE)

For the Class of 2020, we had three (3) perfect scorers who achieved level 5** in all seven subjects (4 core subjects + 3 electives). One (1) of them also received level 5** in the Mathematics extended module.

Seven (7) other students achieved level 5** in six of their seven subjects.

A total of twenty-three (23) students got level 5** in four or more of their subjects.

95.4% of our students from the Class of 2020 qualified for JUPAS degree course (entry into local Hong Kong universities).

Though varying by subject, typically only the top 10% of all candidates sitting the HKDSE examinations are awarded the highest grade of 5.

The following chart reflects the percentage of students achieving the grade of 5** or 5* in the HKDSE examination 2020 (5** and 5* being highest achievable grades):

Subject	All Candidates in Hong Kong %	SPCC Students %	No of SPCC Students who sat the exam
Chinese Language	4.1	26.2	130
English Language	3.8	58.5	130
Liberal Studies	2.7	45.4	130
Mathematics – Compulsory Part	6.2	46.2	130
Module I – Calculus & Statistics	11.3	55.6	10
Module II – Algebra & Calculus	15.1	70.4	27
Chemistry	9.9	48.6	112
Biology	7.4	57.0	93
Economics	7.0	39.4	71
Physics	10.7	71.1	45
Geography	4.8	25.0	32
History	5.2	38.9	18
Chinese Literature	5.5	37.5	8
Chinese History	5.1	0.0	4
Music	8.6	0.0	2

HKDSE Transcript Grading Scale

A+: Outstanding

A: Excellent

B: Very Good

C: Good

D: Satisfactory

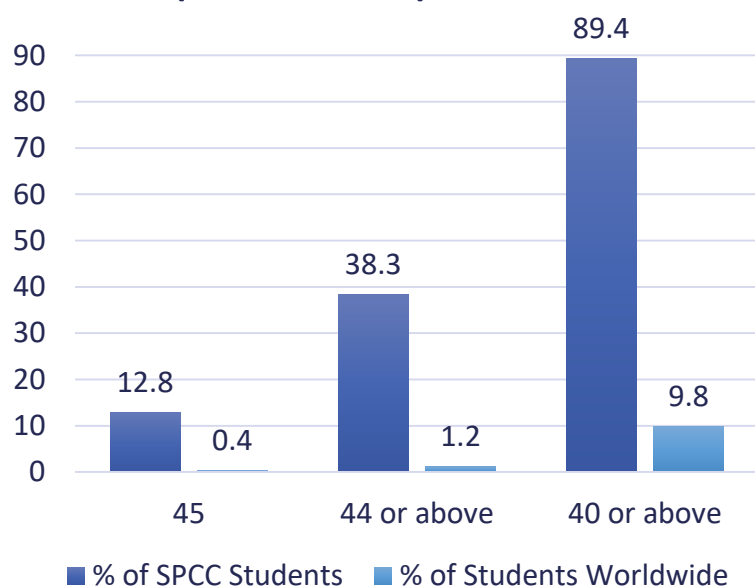
F: Fail



International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IBDP)

The average score of our 2020 cohort was 42.3 (out of a full score of 45), compared to 29.6 (worldwide). Of our 47 students, six (6) student achieved a score of 45, twelve (12) got a score of 44, and seven (7) got a score of 43.

IB Results Comparison (Class of 2020)



Year	Number of Perfect Scorers (45)
2020	7
2019	2
2018	6
2017	7

IBDP Transcript Grading Scale

- 7: Excellent
- 6: Very Good
- 5: Good
- 4: Satisfactory
- 3: Mediocre
- 2: Poor
- 1: Very Poor

Subject	Average Grade Worldwide	Average Grade of SPCC Students	No of SPCC Students who sat the exam
Chinese A: Lang and Literature HL	6.12	6.89	9
Chinese A: Lang and Literature SL	6.20	6.34	38
English A: Literature HL	4.83	6.44	9
English A: Literature SL	5.24	6.33	12
English B HL	6.02	6.88	26
Economics HL in ENGLISH	5.34	6.71	21
Economics SL in ENGLISH	4.97	6.40	5
Env. And Soc. SL in ENGLISH	4.34	7.00	4
Geography HL in ENGLISH	5.41	7.00	5
Geography SL in ENGLISH	4.96	6.80	10
History SL in ENGLISH	4.69	7.00	1
Hist. Asia/OCE HL in ENGLISH	5.26	6.71	17
Biology HL in ENGLISH	4.72	6.60	15
Biology SL in ENGLISH	4.44	6.55	11
Chemistry HL in ENGLISH	4.92	6.52	27
Chemistry SL in ENGLISH	4.34	6.43	14
Physics HL in ENGLISH	5.29	6.83	6
Physics SL in ENGLISH	4.69	7.00	4
Mathematics HL in ENGLISH	5.04	6.13	16
Mathematics SL in ENGLISH	4.79	6.90	31
Music HL in ENGLISH	4.93	6.00	1
Music So.Perf SL in ENGLISH	4.79	7.00	1



Overseas University Offers 2017 - 2020

United States		United Kingdom		Canada	
American University	1	University of Cambridge	38	Concordia University	1
Babson College	1	University of Oxford	7	McMaster University	1
Bard College	1	Aston University, Birmingham	1	University of Guelph	2
Brown University	2	Brunel University London	1	McGill University	2
Boston College	1	Bristol, University of West London	1	University of British Columbia	15
Boston University	6	Oxford Brookes University	2	University of Toronto	28
Cornell University	4	Cardiff University	10	University of Ottawa	4
Columbia University	1	Coventry University	2	University of Waterloo	3
Carnegie Mellon University	2	Imperial College London	90	University of Windsor	2
Curtis Institute of Music	1	Leeds Beckett University	1	York University	2
Drexel University	1	London School of Economics (LSE)	49	Ontario College of Art and Design (OCAD)	1
Duke University	2	Loughborough University	7	Queen's University	1
Duke University (Kunshan)	1	University College London (UCL)	167	Simon Fraser University	3
Emory University	4	King's College London (KCL)	128	Trent University	1
Johns Hopkins University	1	Keele University	2		
Georgia Institute of Technology	4	Lancaster University	11		
Georgetown University	2	University of St. Andrews	45		
Harvard University	1	University of Bristol	79		
The Julliard School	1	Durham University	104		
Manhattan School of Music	1	University of Warwick	109		
Maryland Institute College of Arts	1	University of Arts, London	2		
New England Conservatory	1	University of Aberdeen	1		
New York University	5	University of Bath	40		
New York University (Abu Dhabi)	1	University of Birmingham	29		
Northeastern University	3	University of Bradford	1		
Northwestern University	1	University of Central Lancashire	1		
Regis College	1	University of Dundee	1		
Rhode Island School of Design (RISD)	1	University of East Anglia	9		
Santa Clara University	1	University of Edinburgh	72		
School of Art Institute of Chicago	1	University of Essex	2		
Stanford University	2	University of Exeter	11		
Temple University	1	University of Glasgow	17		
Tufts University	1	University of Kent	4		
Oberlin Conservatory of Music	1	University of Leeds	22		
Parsons The New School	1	University of Leicester	5		
Pennsylvania State University	2	University of Liverpool	7		
Pepperdine University	1	University of Manchester	65		
Pratt Institute	1	University of Nottingham	20		
Princeton University	1	University of Reading	1		
University of Pennsylvania	5	University of Sheffield	14		
University of Chicago	1	University of Southampton	7		
University of Illinois, Chicago	1	University of Surrey	5		
University of Illinois Urbana Champaign	1	University of Sussex	8		
University of Michigan	4	University of Strathclyde	2		
University of South California (USC)	1	University of Winchester	1		
University of Cincinnati College - Conservatory	1	University of York	9		
University of Notre Dame (Greater China Scholar)	1	Medway School of Pharmacy	1		
University of Washington	1	MET Film School	1		
University of Washington, Seattle	1	Middlesex University	1		
University of Wisconsin-Madison	1	Newcastle University	9		
University of Vermont	1	Plymouth University	2		
UC Berkeley	6	Queen Mary University of London	20		
UC Irvine	3	Queen's University Belfast	1		
UCLA	11	Royal Holloway, University of London	2		
UC Riverside	1	Royal Veterinary College	8		
UC San Diego	8	SOAS University of London	4		
UC Santa Barbara	6	St. George's University of London	2		
UC Santa Cruz	3				
UC Davis	6				
Purdue University	1				
Rice University	2				
SUNY at Albany	1				
Washington University St. Louis	2				
Vanderbilt University	1				

Australia	
University of Western Australia	1
University of New South Wales	1
University of Queensland	2
University of Sydney	2

Others	
Kyoto University (Japan)	1
EF Internationale Sprachschule Munchen (Germany)	1
Sciences Po (France)	1
University of Peking (Beijing, China)	1
USC-HKUST-Bocconi (World Bachelor of Business) (US / Hong Kong / Italy)	2
Sciences Po- Columbia (France / US)	1
Sciences Po- HKU	1
UCL-HKU (Law) (UK / Hong Kong)	2
National University of Singapore	1
Kyoto University (Japan)	1

United Kingdom Conservatoire (Music)	
Guildhall School of Music and Drama	1
Royal Birmingham Conservatoire	1
Royal Northern College of Music	1
Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama	1
Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance	1



Culture of Excellence

We admit only 5% of applicants. Our intake is based on merit alone. This means that every student at SPCC has had to demonstrate formidable academic abilities to enter this school. Unlike grading systems elsewhere, particularly those commonly used in North America, at our school, a C is considered to be, as described, a good performance in a class of highly competitive and academically capable students. It is normal to receive these grades, and represents expected progress made by students through the learning process. Our grades are based on internal examination results only and do not include course assessment scores. It is also the tradition and practice of this school for exams to be set at the standard that students are expected to reach at the end of their course, not to the standard they are currently at. This means, for example, that Grade 10 (Form 4) and Grade 11 (Form 5) exams are commonly set at the standard expected of students when they complete their syllabuses at the end of Grade 12 (Form 6). This is done to encourage students to aim higher and obviate complacency.

We have no in-school provision for overseas exam preparation (ie. SATs/ACTs/Subject Tests/APs and aptitude tests required by UK universities). Any scores should be understood in the context of English as a second language for our students. Our students take these exams by self-study since our curriculum is very different from that commonly used in North America.

We do not rank the students or issue GPAs. For all students in Grade 7 to Grade 9 and for HKDSE students, the transcript grades are on a letter scale with A+ being outstanding and D as a pass and F as a fail. Prep Year and IBDP students' transcripts are graded in accordance with IB grades, with 1 being the lowest score and 7 the highest.

Extenuating Circumstances in 2020 (Local Context)

We would first like to say thank you so much for taking the time to read through and consider our students' applications. We understand that there is a lot of time and effort spent in making these decisions and we truly appreciate all the work that you do to allow the students here at St. Paul's Co-educational College to have the exciting and wonderful opportunity to pursue their tertiary education abroad.

As you may be aware, it was a challenging school year for students in Hong Kong in 2019-2020. In November 2019, school was cancelled for 5 days as a result of protests which made it extremely difficult for our students to get the much-needed face time with us to discuss their university applications during a critical part of the application season. Amidst the stress of seeing conflict around the city, they also had to be responsible for their own studying and learning as they were in the middle of preparing for their internal assessments and examinations.

Unfortunately, we then faced the difficulties of the COVID-19 outbreak shortly after the new year. To prevent the spread of the virus which would result from students attending school, the Education Bureau suspended school in Hong Kong from February 3, 2020 to May 27, 2020. This means that students were not on campus for classes for over four months and included the cancellation of all extracurricular activities. Although our school had transitioned to online learning so that students may continue meeting their educational goals during this period, this was an adjustment that required both staff and students to put in the extra effort to adapt to these new changes within such a short period of time and amidst much uncertainty. While we encouraged all students to maintain their enthusiasm for learning through online means, the limited capacity to meet with teachers and engage with their peers in person has certainly impacted the learning process.

We will continue to encourage all of our students to submit their best application prior to deadlines. However, we hope that this has sufficiently explained the extenuating circumstances that our students have found themselves during the 2019-2020 school year which may affect their performance on their schoolwork, examinations and/or standardized testing. If you have any further questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to us.