



# ST. PAUL'S CO-EDUCATIONAL COLLEGE

## SCHOOL PROFILE 2021-2022

St. Paul's Co-educational College (SPCC) was founded by the Sheng Kung Hui (the 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 1164. 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 recognised 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 have Cantonese as their mother tongue.

*In the spirit of faith, hope and love, our vision is to instill in our students a culture of excellence, high moral values, an altruistic spirit, a passion for lifelong learning and a global perspective.*

### Principal

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CEEB code 670280

UCAS code 45406

IB School code 003915

## CURRICULUMS

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 Society 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 in Grade 10 (Form 4) between following 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.

For the Class of 2021, we had three (3) scorers who achieved level 5\*\* in six subjects. Two (2) of them also received level 5\*\* in the Mathematics extended module.

A total of twenty-one (21) students achieved a level 5\*\* in four or more of their subjects.

95.9% of our students from the Class of 2021 qualified for the 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 level of 5.

Level 5\*\* is awarded to the highest-achieving 10% (approximately) of level 5 candidates and level 5\* is awarded to the next highest-achieving 30% (approximately) of level 5 candidates.

HKDSE TRANSCRIPT

GRADING SCALE

A+: Outstanding

A: Excellent

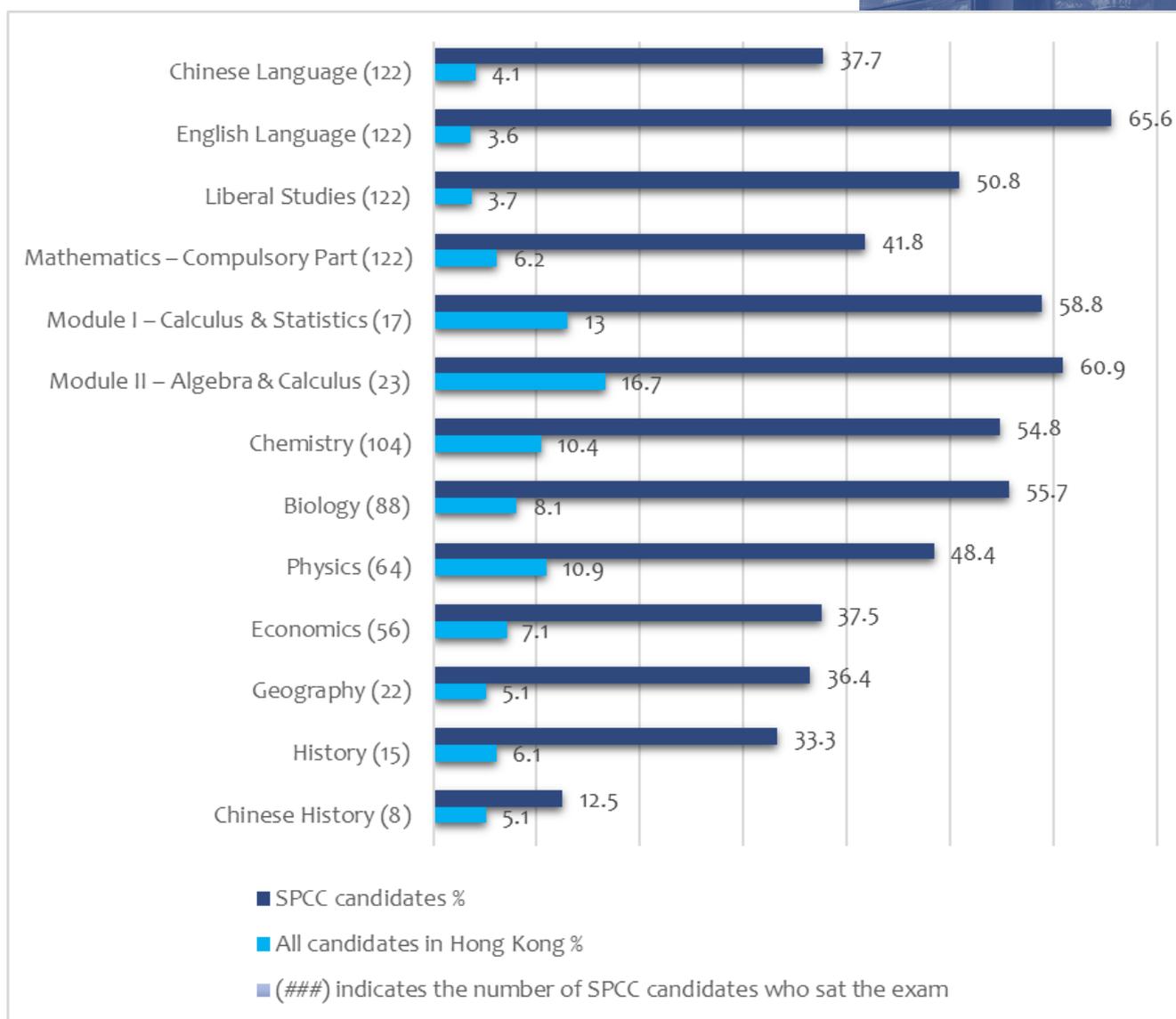
B: Very Good

C: Good

D: Satisfactory

F: Fail

PERCENTAGE OF CANDIDATES ACHIEVING THE LEVEL OF 5\*\* OR 5\*



Note: Figures updated on 3 December 2021

**IBDP TRANSCRIPT  
GRADING SCALE**

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

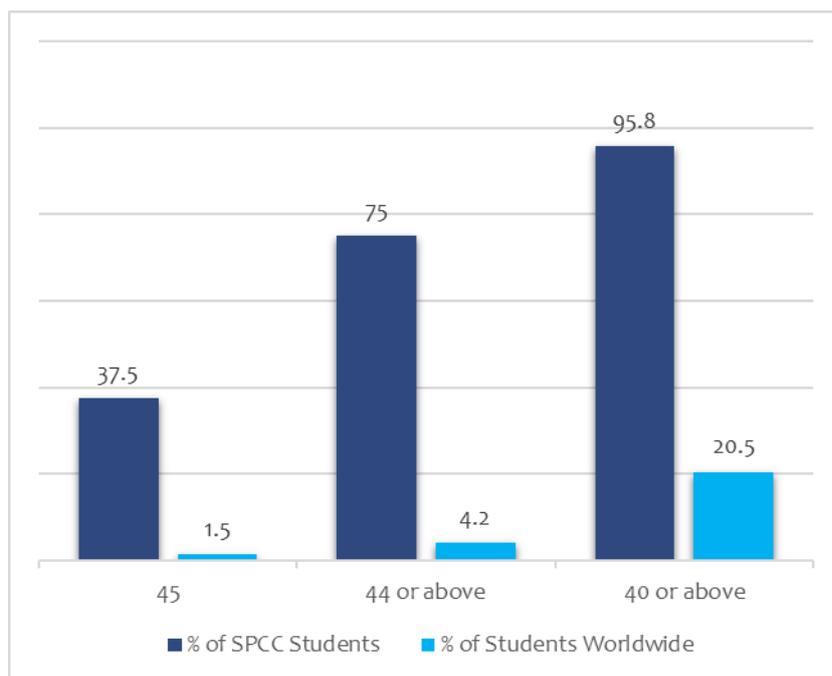
**SPCC'S PERFECT SCORERS**

Year	Number
2021	18
2020	7
2019	2
2018	6
2017	7

The average score of our 2021 cohort was 43.6 (out of a full score of 45), compared to 33.0 (worldwide).

Of our 48 students, 18 students achieved a perfect score of 45, 18 received a score of 44, and 4 received a score of 43.

**IB RESULTS COMPARISON  
(CLASS OF 2021)**



Subject	Higher Level Average Grade		Standard Level Average Grade	
	Worldwide	SPCC	Worldwide	SPCC
Chinese A: Language and Literature	6.12	6.71 (7)	6.37	6.37 (41)
English A: Literature	4.86	6.75 (8)	5.32	6.57 (14)
English B	6.16	6.96 (26)	-	-
Economics in ENGLISH	5.63	7.00 (19)	5.35	6.91 (11)
Environmental Systems and Societies in ENGLISH	-	-	4.70	7.00 (4)
Geography in ENGLISH	5.79	7.00 (2)	5.37	7.00 (5)
History in ENGLISH	-	-	5.00	6.00 (2)
History of Asia and Oceania in ENGLISH	5.56	7.00 (13)	-	-
Biology in ENGLISH	5.04	6.87 (15)	4.68	7.00 (8)
Chemistry in ENGLISH	5.38	6.86 (28)	4.99	6.77 (13)
Physics in ENGLISH	5.34	6.87 (15)	4.91	7.00 (7)
Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches in ENGLISH	5.44	6.83 (18)	5.18	6.96 (25)
Mathematics: Applications and Interpretation in ENGLISH	5.19	7.00 (4)	4.75	7.00 (1)
Music in ENGLISH	5.06	6.00 (1)	-	-
Music: Solo Performing in ENGLISH	-	-	4.96	5.00 (1)

Note: (##) indicates the number of SPCC students who sat the exam



The ‘through-train’ mode allows SPCC to admit to its Grade 7 (Form 1) all Grade 6 (Primary 6) graduates of its linked primary school. Discretionary admission to the remaining 100 places in Grade 7 (Form 1) is based on merit. 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 (Form 1) to Grade 9 (Form 3) 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.

*SPCC has since inception made the development of well-rounded young men and women a priority.*

### ABOUT THE OFFICE OF FURTHER STUDIES & COUNSELING PRACTICE

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 upon graduation. The graduating classes have a 100% entry to bachelor’s degree programs in Hong Kong and around the world.

SPCC will support up to 10 college applications and counsels its students to make informed decisions based on academic and personal fit. SPCC students understand that early decision is a globally binding decision, and should they be admitted under the early decision agreement, they must withdraw applications from all other institutions. The students sign an agreement with our school releasing the counselors to inform other colleges to which applications have been submitted of these decisions.

In line with NACAC Best Practices, when asked, SPCC will through established reporting structures, disclose to universities disciplinary infractions on student records.

All SPCC students are required to complete the FERPA agreement online.

## EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Students attend international conferences and exchange programmes that span the world. ‘Rites of Passage’ is a four-week adventure-based experiential learning programme in Australia for all 9th grade students. Student Activities Week in the first term of the academic year emphasises experiential learning in the local community, nationally and internationally.

SPCC has a long and accomplished musical heritage. Under normal circumstances, music can be heard around the campus, as members of the Senior Mixed Voice Choir, Treble Choir, Symphony Orchestra, Wind Band, and Camerata Strings gather and make music together. In addition to the various performing groups, we also have Instrumental Classes, the Pianists’ Chamber as well as a Programme for the Musically Gifted on offer.

Student exchange programmes have been established with our sister schools in Asia, Australia, Africa, Europe and North America. The programmes vary in length from one to six weeks and are of both homestay and dormitory kinds.

SPCC also ensures that its students have the best of global exposure through international conferences organised jointly with local and overseas secondary and tertiary institutions and by international organisations such as the Round Square, of which SPCC is a global member.

Our students eagerly join all manner of competitions with remarkable success in different areas. Recent accolades included attaining a Silver Medal at the 21st Asian Physics Olympiad, the Outstanding Award at the International Mathematical Modeling Challenge (Greater China), the Champion at the 36th Sing Tao Inter-school Debating Competition, the Gold Award and the Most Promising Artist of the Year Award at the UOB Art in Ink Awards, and the First Runner-up at the All Hong Kong Schools Jing Ying Table Tennis Tournament.

There is also a full roster of clubs, societies and sports teams through which students explore their potential in language arts, thespian pursuits, civic and moral development and athletic talents.

## 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.

