ST. PAUL'S CO-EDUCATIONAL COLLEGE

SCHOOL PROFILE 2023-2024

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 1169. Whole person education, laid down in its mission statement and reflected through the SPCC Core Values and 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

Mr Poon Siu Chi

Vice Principal

Mr Christopher Koay

Director of Further Studies

Ms Christy Liang

wyliang@spcc.edu.hk

+852 2523 0025

Assistant Counselor of Further Studies

Ms Tracy Wong

tywong@spcc.edu.hk

Contact Information

33 MacDonnell Road, Hong Kong

+852 2523 1187

+852 2877 0442

www.spcc.edu.hk

CEEB code 670280

UCAS code 45406

IB School code 003915

CURRICULA

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 2023, we had two (2) perfect scorers who achieved level 5** in seven subjects.*

Two other students attained level 5** in six of their subjects and the Mathematics extended module.

A total of twenty (20) students achieved a level 5** in four or more of their subjects.

96.1% of our students from the Class of 2023 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

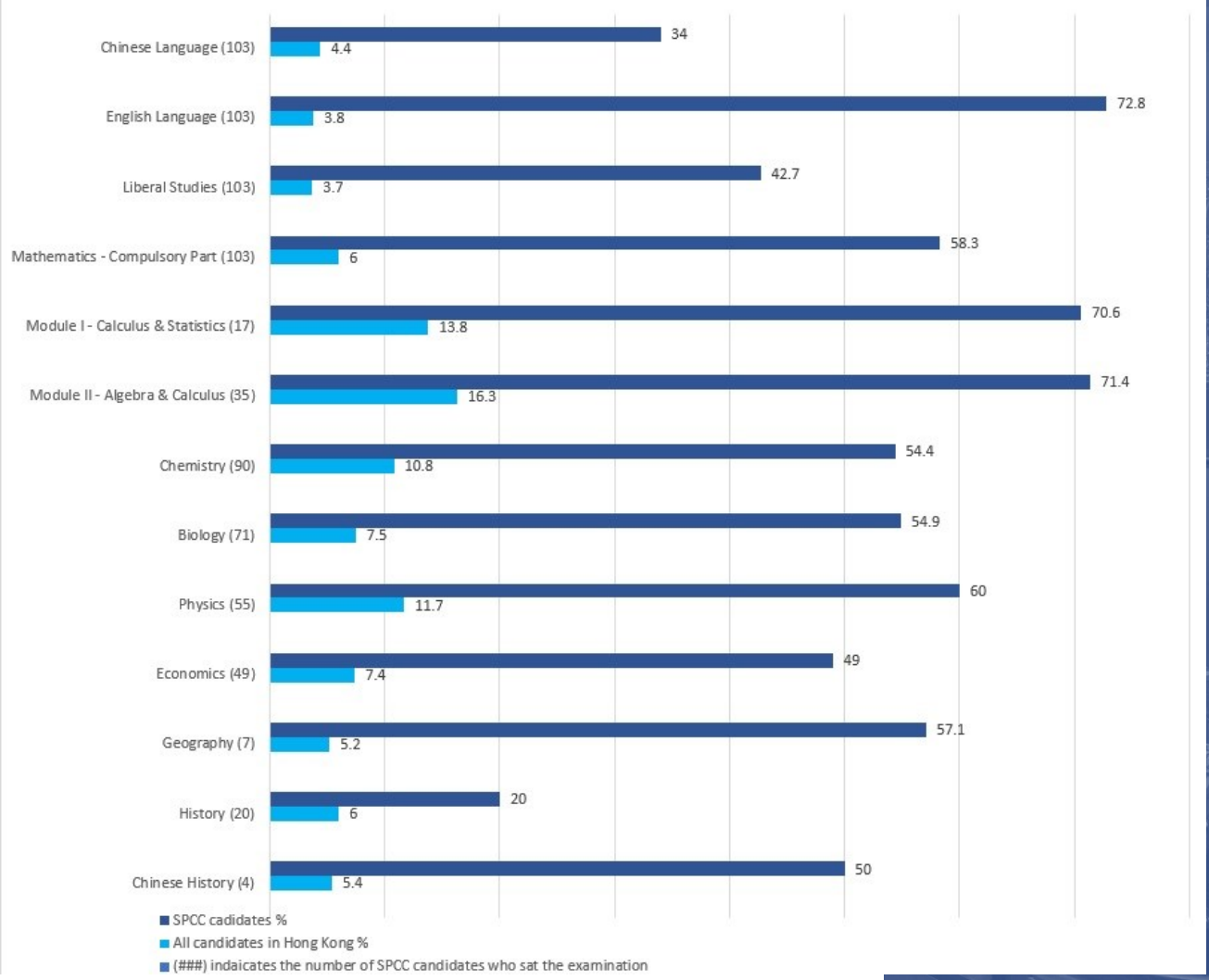
B: Very Good

C: Good

D: Satisfactory

F: Fail

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



Note: Figures for SPCC candidates based on 9 August 2023 statistics

IBDP TRANSCRIPT GRADING SCALE

7 : Excellent

6 : Very Good

5 : Good

4 : Satisfactory

3 : Mediocre

2 : Poor

1 : Very Poor

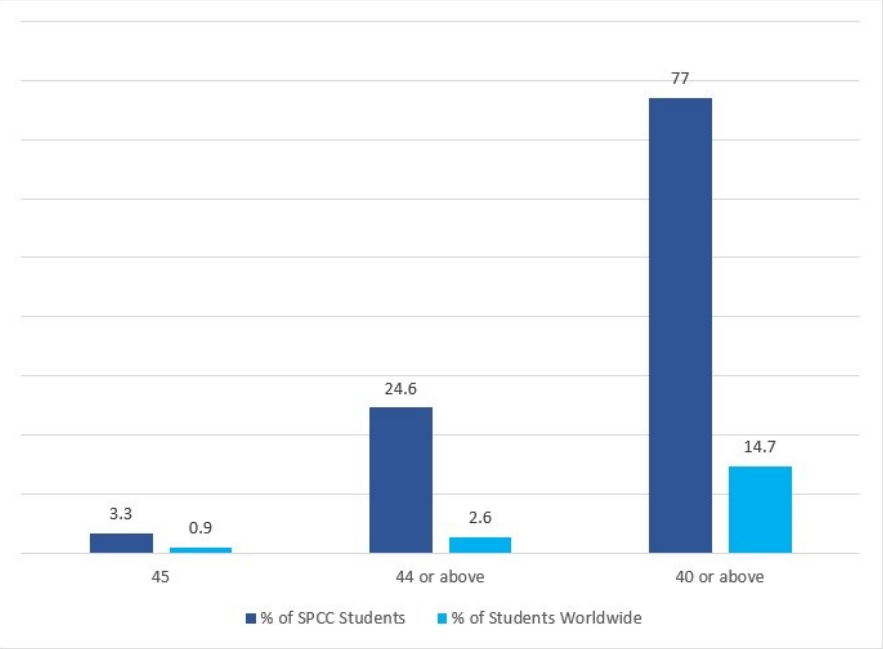
SPCC'S PERFECT SCORERS

Year	Number
2023	2
2022	13
2021	18
2020	7
2019	2
2018	6
2017	7

The average score of our 2023 cohort was 41.4 (out of a full score of 45), compared to 32.0 (worldwide).

Of our 61 students, 2 students achieved a perfect score of 45, 13 achieved a score of 44, and 14 achieved a score of 43.

IB RESULTS COMPARISON (CLASS OF 2023)



Subject	Higher Level Average Grade		Standard Level Average Grade	
	Worldwide	*SPCC*	*Worldwide*	*SPCC*
Chinese A: Language and Literature	5.19	6.00 (2)	5.29	5.53 (59)
English A: Literature	4.57	6.18 (11)	4.92	6.40 (10)
English B	5.70	6.88 (40)	-	-
Economics in ENGLISH	5.12	6.85 (20)	4.76	6.72 (18)
Environmental Systems and Societies in ENGLISH	-	-	4.23	6.83 (6)
Geography in ENGLISH	5.27	6.25 (4)	4.82	7.00 (4)
History in ENGLISH	-	-	4.66	6.60(5)
History of Asia and Oceania in ENGLISH	5.05	6.22 (18)	-	-
Biology in ENGLISH	4.40	6.43 (35)	4.15	6.75 (4)
Chemistry in ENGLISH	4.57	6.69 (36)	4.10	6.20 (15)
Physics in ENGLISH	4.81	6.67 (12)	4.21	6.67 (6)
Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches in ENGLISH	4.88	6.75 (20)	4.61	6.89 (35)
Mathematics: Applications and Interpretation in ENGLISH	-	-	3.87	7.00 (6)

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

OVERSEAS UNIVERSITY OFFERS 2018-2023

United States	
American University	2
Babson College	1
Brown University	2
Boston College	2
Boston University	2
Chapman University	1
Cornell University	4
Dartmouth College	2
Drexel University	2
Duke University	5
Eastman School of Music	1
Emerson College	1
Emory University	6
Fordham University	1
Johns Hopkins University	4
Georgia Institute of Technology	1
Georgetown University	3
Loyola Marymount University	1
Manhattan School of Music	1
Maryland Institute College of Arts	1
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)	2
Minerva Schools at KGI	1
New England Conservatory of Music	1
New York University	9
Northeastern University	1
Northwestern University	3
Regis College	1
Rhode Island School of Design (RISD)	1
Santa Clara University	3
School of Art Institute of Chicago	1
Seattle University	1
Stanford University	3
Syracuse University	1
Temple University	1
Tufts University	1
Oberlin Conservatory of Music	1
Oberlin College + Oberlin Conservatory of Music	1
Parsons The New School	1
Pennsylvania State University	1
Pratt Institute	1
Princeton University	1
Purdue University	2
University of Arizona	1
University of Pennsylvania	4
University of Illinois, Chicago	2
University of Illinois Urbana Champaign	2
University of Michigan	3
University of Southern California (USC)	4
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill	2
University of Washington	1
University of Washington, Seattle	2
University of Wisconsin-Madison	1
University of Vermont	1
University of Virginia	1
UC Berkeley	8
UC Irvine	9
UCLA	14
UC Merced	1
UC Riverside	2
UC San Diego	21
UC Santa Barbara	7
UC Santa Cruz	1
UC Davis	9
Wellesley College	1
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University	2
Yale University	2

United Kingdom	
University of Cambridge	66
University of Oxford	13
Abertay University	1
Anglia Ruskin University	2
Aston University, Birmingham	2
Brunel University London	3
Bristol, University of the West of England	3
Oxford Brookes University	1
Cardiff University	16
Central Saint Martins	1
Coventry University	8
Imperial College London	112
Leeds Beckett University	1
London School of Economics (LSE)	62
Loughborough University	8
Manchester Metropolitan University	2
University College London (UCL)	197
King's College London (KCL)	222
Keele University	2
Lancaster University	23
University of St.Andrews	49
University of Bristol	91
Durham University	131
University of Warwick	131
University of Arts London	4
University of Aberdeen	1
University of Bath	42
University of Birmingham	44
University College Birmingham	1
University of Bradford	4
University of Central Lancashire	2
University of Creative Arts	2
University of Dundee	2
University of East Anglia	6
University of East London	1
University of Edinburgh	136
University of Essex	2
University of Exeter	15
University of Glasgow	28
University of Kent	2
University of Leeds	33
University of Leicester	5
University of Liverpool	13
University of Manchester	121
University of Nottingham	24
University of Reading	4
University of Sheffield	18
University of Southampton	16
University of Surrey	6
University of Sussex	7
University of Strathclyde	3
University of Stirling	1
University of Westminster, London	1
University of Winchester	1
University of York	11
Medway School of Pharmacy	1
MET Film School	1
Middlesex University	1
Newcastle University	17
Northumbria University, Newcastle	1
Queen Mary University of London	20
Royal Holloway, University of London	5
Royal Veterinary College	14
SOAS University of London	4

Canada	
Concordia University	1
McMaster University	2
University of Guelph	2
University of McGill	2
University of British Columbia	28
University of Toronto	55
University of Ottawa	3
University of Waterloo	4
Western University	3
York University	2
Ontario College of Art and Design (OCAD)	1
Queen's University	1
Simon Fraser University	3
Trent University	1

Australia	
University of New South Wales	1
Monash University	1

Others	
Kyoto University (Japan)	2
University of Groningen (Netherlands)	2
Leiden University (Netherlands)	2
EF Internationale Sprachschule Munchen (Germany)	1
Sciences Po (France)	1
University of Peking (Beijing, China)	1
University of Hong Kong - Peking University	1
University of Hong Kong - UCL	2
USC-HKUST-Bocconi (US/HK/Italy)	7
University of British Columbia Sauders-HKU (Canada/HK)	2
University of Dundee-National University of Singapore (Scotland/Singapore)	1
Sciences Po-Columbia (France/US)	1
Sciences Po-HKU	1
UCL-HKU (UK/HK)	5
Trinity Laban Conservatoire	1
National University of Singapore	1
Yale-National University of Singapore (US/Singapore)	1

United Kingdom Conservatoire (Music)	
Royal Northern College of Music	1
Royal Academy of Music	1
Royal College of Music	2
Royal Conservatoire of Scotland	1

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/APs and aptitude tests required by US 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 FURTHER STUDIES OFFICE & COUNSELING PRACTICE

The Further Studies Office 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. On any given school week, 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.

We ensure that our students have the best global exposure through student exchange programmes organised with our sister schools in Asia and around the world; and international conferences held jointly with local and overseas secondary or 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. At the prestigious SCMP Student of the Year Awards, our students were named 1st Runner-up of the Grand Prize, along with three other prizes which included winners in two of the sub-categories, Linguist (Cantonese) and Sportsperson. Other recent accolades included attaining Gold and Silver Awards at the 38th China Mathematical Olympiad , Silver and Bronze Awards of the International Biology Olympiad, the Champion at the 38th Sing Tao Inter-school Debating Competition, the Silver Award of the Year Award at the UOB Art in Ink Awards, and 1st Runner-up and 2nd Runner-up at the Asian Junior and Cadet Fencing Championships.

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 HONG KONG

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.

On this page, we'd like to highlight extenuating circumstances that have impacted the learning trajectories of our Form 6 graduates during their Form 3 and Form 4 years. Hong Kong was then one of the first cities to experience the COVID-19 outbreak in 2020. To prevent the spread of the virus, all schools in Hong Kong transitioned to online learning which required both staff and students to put in the extra effort to adapt to these new changes 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 was a challenge for many.

During the 2020-2021 school year, there were spontaneous closures of school as mandated by the Education Bureau and Centre of Health Protection if there was a COVID case on campus. This meant that students did not have a steady form of learning, whether that was in-person or online as they had to anticipate a potential campus closure every day.

In the 2021-2022 school year, the Education Bureau announced that the usual summer holidays in July and August would be brought forward to March and April for local schools in Hong Kong. This meant that our school was closed from 17 March 2022 to 23 April 2022; our students did not attend any lessons and all extracurricular activities were cancelled. The final examinations for students were also postponed. As a result of this change in the school schedule, the students' summer break, a time normally set aside for enrichment programmes and self-directed learning, was shortened to three weeks.

We hope that this has sufficiently explained the extenuating circumstances that our students have found themselves in over the last three years which may have affected their performance on their schoolwork, examinations and/or standardised testing. If you have any further questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to us.