



香港學術及職業資歷評審局
Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of
Academic & Vocational Qualifications

SUMMARY ACCREDITATION REPORT

**YEW CHUNG COLLEGE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD
EDUCATION**

**PROGRAMME AREA ACCREDITATION
CHILD EDUCATION AND SERVICES**

JULY 2021

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Yew Chung Education Foundation (YCEF) has been registered as a company limited by guarantee under Cap. 622 and a tax-exempt charity under Section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112) since the early 1970s. Since its establishment, YCEF has been providing educational services at kindergarten, primary and secondary levels.
- 1.2 In 2008, YCEF established the Yew Chung Community College (YCCC) under the Education Ordinance (Cap. 279) to offer Associate Degrees (AD) and Higher Diplomas (HD) at QF Level 4 and Diploma programmes at QF Level 3. In 2018, YCEF established Yew Chung College of Early Childhood Education (hereafter named as the College) under the Post Secondary Colleges Ordinance (Cap. 320) to offer accredited bachelor's degree and sub-degree programmes with a focus on Early Childhood Education (ECE).
- 1.3 The College commissioned HKCAAVQ to conduct this PAA exercise. HKCAAVQ formed an expert Panel and appointed a Financial Expert for this accreditation exercise. Due to the outbreak of the novel coronavirus pandemic, the expert Panel held meetings with the College via video conferencing from 21 to 23 April 2021. *HKCAAVQ's Manual for the Four-stage Quality Assurance Process under the Hong Kong Qualifications Framework* was the guiding document for the College and the Panel in conducting this exercise.

2. Terms of Reference

- 2.1 Based on the Service Agreement (No.: AA692), the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ), in the capacity of the Accreditation Authority as provided for under the Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications Ordinance (AAVQO) (Cap. 592), was commissioned by Yew Chung College of Early Childhood Education to conduct a Programme Area Accreditation (PAA) with the following Terms of Reference:
 - (a) To conduct an accreditation test as provided for in the AAVQO to determine whether Yew Chung College of Early Childhood Education (the College/the Operator) can be granted Programme Area Accreditation status for the Programme Area (as listed under the Specifications of the Programme Area undergoing Programme Area Accreditation) for a specified validity period; and

- (b) To issue to the Operator an accreditation report setting out the results of the determination in relation to (a) by HKCAAVQ.

2.2 Specifications of the Programme Area undergoing PAA

Area of Study and Training	Programme Area	QF level
Education	Child Education and Services	4

** After discussions, the College agreed with the Panel that the programme area of Early Childhood Education and Early Childhood Education Services would be a more accurate description of the scope of the programme area that is substantiated by its track record of the operation of the HDECE Programme.*

3. HKCAAVQ's Determination

- 3.1 HKCAAVQ has determined that subject to the fulfilment of the condition set out below, Yew Chung College of Early Childhood Education can be granted the Programme Area Accreditation (PAA) status for the programme area of Early Childhood Education and Early Childhood Education Services (ECE and ECE Services) at QF Level 4 under the Area of Study and Training, "Education", with a validity period of five years.

The College granted the PAA status is considered as meeting the HKCAAVQ accreditation standards of Institutional Domains and Programme Area Domains of the PAA. The College has the institutional competencies to develop programmes meeting its strategic objectives. The College has robust internal processes to ensure the development and operation of learning programmes under the approved programme area are aligned and managed in accordance with its institutional development plan, and that its learning programmes meet the stated objectives and QF standards.

3.2 Validity Period

- 3.2.1 The validity period will commence on the date specified below. Operators may apply to HKCAAVQ to vary the commencement date of

the validity period. Applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

3.2.2 The maintenance of the accreditation status within the specified validity period is subject to the fulfilment of the requirement set out in Para. 3.4 by the specified deadline.

3.3 The determinations on the PAA status are specified as follows:

Name of Operator	Yew Chung College of Early Childhood Education
Address of Operator	2 Tin Wan Hill Road, Tin Wan, Aberdeen, Hong Kong
Name of Award Granting Body	Yew Chung College of Early Childhood Education
Area of Study and Training	Education
Sub-area	Education and Teacher Education
Programme Area and Scope of Programme Area	<p><u>Early Childhood Education and Early Childhood Education Services</u></p> <p>Study and training in the theoretical knowledge and/or competencies in one/more areas that is/are related to the education and services provided for children within the age range of 0-8 for their sound and holistic development. Such areas can be categorised under six broad domains:</p> <p>(i) Child Studies, (ii) Foundations of Early Childhood Education, (iii) Curriculum in Early Childhood Education, (iv) Children with Diverse Needs, (v) Educational Management and Sustainable Development of Early Childhood Settings and (vi) Parental Involvement in Early Childhood Education.</p>
QF Level	Level 4
Start Date of Validity Period	1 September 2021
End Date of Validity Period	31 August 2026

Address of Teaching / Training Venue(s)	Yew Chung College of Early Childhood Education (2 Tin Wan Hill Road, Tin Wan, Aberdeen, Hong Kong) Yew Chung International School - Secondary Section (3 To Fuk Road, Kowloon Tong, Kowloon)
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3.4 Condition

Requirement

3.4.1 The College is to review and revise the management of the QF-recognised Continuing & Professional Development (CPD) programmes with respect to the following aspects to ensure their proper integration into and synergy within the programme area:

- (a) To produce policy statements that
 - (i) define the role that the College envisages for all of its CPD provision;
 - (ii) define the range of types of CPD provision which the College plans to offer; and
 - (iii) stipulate how the College will regulate the maximum time over which a student can accumulate CPD credits towards a QF Level 4 qualification;
- (b) To amend the current QA system for QF-recognised CPD programmes to place responsibility for the quality assurance under the Board of Studies;
- (c) To provide a revised 5-year academic plan showing clearly the maximum number of students for each QF-recognised CPD programme to demonstrate that it will have sufficient physical accommodation and learning resources;
- (d) To provide a staffing strategy that demonstrates how the College will support QF-recognised CPD programmes, especially where a programme is delivered in both English and Chinese languages; and
- (e) To review and develop a comprehensive set of programme regulations governing QF-recognised CPD programmes.

- 3.4.2 The College is to submit a report with relevant approval documents to demonstrate integration and synergy of QF-recognised CPD programmes within the programme area and validate that staff expertise and resources are commensurate with the revised 5-year academic plan for the programme area. The documents are to be submitted to HKCAAVQ for the fulfilment of the above requirement by 31 December 2021.

3.5 Recommendations pertaining to Institutional Domains

HKCAAVQ also offers the following recommendations for continuous improvement of the College.

- 3.5.1 The College should develop a policy and procedures on periodic external reviews of their key governance bodies which should include reference to utilising experienced external experts who are independent of the operations of the College to undertake such reviews.
- 3.5.2 The College should consider a maximum term of office for all members of the Board of Governors and Council.
- 3.5.3 The College should further review the key performance indicators to ensure that clearly defined targets are set relating to all areas of their operation to facilitate performance analysis.
- 3.5.4 The College should develop a policy and process that detail how to engage all teaching staff in the planning and formulation process of the strategic plan.

3.6 Recommendations pertaining to Programme Area Domains

HKCAAVQ also offers the following recommendations for continuous improvement of the Programme Area.

- 3.6.1 The College should consider making the majority of the new appointments, if not all, to candidates with specialist ECE qualifications and experience including leadership.
- 3.6.2 The College should further enhance its staff development opportunity for all three tracks to develop their leadership potential to ensure sustainable development of the programme area of ECE and ECE Services.

3.7 HKCAAVQ will subsequently satisfy itself whether the Operator remains competent to achieve the relevant objectives as claimed by the Operator by reference to, amongst other things, the Operator's fulfilment of any conditions and compliance with any restrictions stipulated in this Accreditation Report. For the avoidance of doubt, maintenance of accreditation status is subject to fulfilment of any condition and compliance with any restriction stipulated in this Accreditation Report.

4. Important Information Regarding this Accreditation Report

4.1 Variation and withdrawal of this Accreditation Report

4.1.1 This Accreditation Report is issued pursuant to section 5 of the AAVQO, and contains HKCAAVQ's substantive determination regarding the accreditation, including the validity period as well as any conditions and restrictions subject to which the determination is to have effect.

4.1.2 HKCAAVQ may subsequently decide to vary or withdraw this Accreditation Report if it is satisfied that any of the grounds set out in section 5 (2) of the AAVQO apply. This includes where HKCAAVQ is satisfied that the Operator is no longer competent to achieve the relevant objectives and/or the Programme no longer meets the standard to achieve the relevant objectives as claimed by the Operator (whether by reference to the Operator's failure to fulfil any conditions and/or comply with any restrictions stipulated in this Accreditation Report or otherwise) or where at any time during the validity period there has/have been substantial change(s) introduced by the Operator after HKCAAVQ has issued the accreditation report(s) to the Operator and which has/have not been approved by HKCAAVQ. Please refer to the '*Guidance Notes on Substantial Change to Accreditation Status*' in seeking approval for proposed changes. These Guidance Notes can be downloaded from the HKCAAVQ website.

4.1.3 If HKCAAVQ decides to vary or withdraw this Accreditation Report, it will give the Operator notice of such variation or withdrawal pursuant to section 5(4) of the AAVQO.

4.1.4 The accreditation status of the programme area will lapse immediately upon the expiry of the validity period or upon the issuance of a notice of withdrawal of this Accreditation Report.

4.2 Appeals

- 4.2.1 If the Operator is aggrieved by the determination made in this Accreditation Report, then pursuant to Part 3 of the AAVQO the Operator has a right of appeal to the Appeal Board. Any appeal must be lodged within 30 days of the receipt of this Accreditation Report.
- 4.2.2 If the Operator is aggrieved by a decision to vary or withdraw this Accreditation Report, then pursuant to Part 3 of the AAVQO the Operator has a right of appeal to the Appeal Board. Any appeal must be lodged within 30 days of the receipt of the Notice of Withdrawal.
- 4.2.3 The Operator should be aware that a notice of variation or withdrawal of this Accreditation Report is not itself an accreditation report and the right to appeal against HKCAAVQ's substantive determination regarding accreditation arises only from this Accreditation Report.
- 4.2.4 Please refer to Cap. 592A (<http://www.legislation.gov.hk>) for the appeal rules. Details of the appeal procedure are contained in section 13 of the AAVQO and can be accessed from the QF website at <http://www.hkqf.gov.hk>.

4.3 Qualifications Register

- 4.3.1 The PAA status as defined by the approved programme area(s) will enable the Operator to offer programmes up to the QF level specified for the approved programme area(s) without prior learning programme accreditation. The programmes offered by the Operator up to the QF level specified for the approved programme area(s) are eligible for entry into the Qualifications Register (QR). All other programmes offered by the named Operator falling outside the approved programme area(s) and which have not obtained accreditation status will not be considered as accredited programmes.
- 4.3.2 Upon completion of relevant procedures by Operators as determined by the QR Authority, Operators may enter the qualifications covered within the scope of the PAA status into the QR at <https://www.hkqr.gov.hk> for recognition under the Hong Kong Qualifications Framework (QF).

- 4.3.3 Only learners who commence the study of a qualification covered within the scope of the PAA status during the validity period and who have graduated with the qualification listed in the QR will be considered to have acquired a qualification recognised under the QF.

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