

Bridging the gap between theories and current affairs

EtonHouse International School elevates learning with student & news publications

Mr Robert Randall, principal of EtonHouse International School Orchard, prepares students for an increasingly globalised work by fostering global awareness



The Challenge

- Creating a curriculum that is not only informative but also relevant, engaging, and adaptable to the ever-changing world can be challenging. Traditional curriculums often fall short in keeping up with real-world dynamics. To address this, EtonHouse seeks to design a curriculum that fosters real-world application, interactive learning, diverse learning styles, critical thinking and a global perspective.



“**Recognising the limitations of purely theoretical learning, we actively seek to bridge the gap between theory and practice, cultivate critical thinking skills and prepare students for an increasingly globalised world.”**

The Implementation

SPH Media publications (The Straits Times, Little Red Dot and Thumbs Up) are incorporated into the school's curriculum to provide students with access to real-world examples, current affairs and diverse perspectives – elements that can often be missing from textbooks.

- In Primary levels, Little Red Dot and Thumbs Up are used to introduce students to printed media. It is a good change from the online content they typically consume and connects with writing genres that the school teaches.
- In our Upper School Business Studies class (aged 15-16), students use publications like The Straits Times to find real-world examples of business concepts. This helps solidify their understanding of these concepts.
- In Sixth Form (aged 16-18), the school uses The Straits Times for weekly discussions on current affairs during Life Skills lessons. Students delve into different sections, fostering critical thinking and global awareness. They also compare and contrast news coverage across various countries, which is an invaluable exercise.

“Our teachers are eager to integrate the media in lessons and classroom practices. These new approaches promise to enhance student engagement and foster deeper understanding of the subject matter.”

The Results

The publications provide real world context that supplements students' learning, engagement and understanding within the classroom.

- Students are more aware of real-world business examples in which they can apply their understanding of business activities to relevant industries.
- For younger students, publications like Little Red Dot are visually attractive and use simpler language, helping to keep students updated on the latest news and happenings in an engaging manner.
- Parents value the exposure to print media as an alternative to the digital world.

“It is a good opportunity to expose students to reading about current affairs on a print medium, something that is hard to come by these days with digital media being so prevalent.”

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