

## KAKI BUKIT CENTRE (KBC) PRISON SCHOOL

The previous Kaki Bukit Centre (KBC) was converted to a Prison School in December 1999. The School was officially opened by on 26 July 2000 by Mr Wong Kan Seng, Minister for Home Affairs.

The Prison School is a bold and innovative set up which optimises resources and spearheads rehabilitation programmes. Different categories of inmates from both penal and drug institutions can attend education classes to advance their educational qualifications. Furthermore, a multi-disciplinary team of teachers, prison officers and counsellors work together to help the students in their studies and in their journey of becoming responsible, thinking citizens.

The Prison School also provides vocational training with instructors from the [Singapore Corporation of Rehabilitative Enterprises](http://www.score.gov.sg) (SCORE) ([www.score.gov.sg](http://www.score.gov.sg)). Vocational training in electronics is provided for the students at NITEC (National Institute of Technical Education Certificate) Intermediate Level.

To help the students keep abreast with technology, computer and IT courses are introduced as part of the Core Curriculum. Moral and National Education are included in the Curriculum.



A student undergoing IT course at the Prison School.

Co-curricular activities such as sports, games, music, drama, religious counselling and foot-drills are conducted to provide the students with avenues to channel their physical and creative energies constructively while simultaneously teaching them proper social relationship and teambuilding skills.

Apart from the core curriculum and co-curricular activities, Prison School has initiated the following unique programmes:

a. Life Skills Programme

The Life Skills Programme aims to equip students with new ways of thinking, problem solving skills and better coping skills as part of the rehabilitation process. As most of the students come in for anger-related and drug-related crimes, the Life Skills Programme in Prison School focuses on cognitive restructuring and behaviour change as all the inmates have to undergo the four modules of Life Skills: Cognition, Responsible Thinking Process, Anger and Emotion Management and Drugs.

b. Specialised Treatment Programme

Specialised Treatment Programme (STP) is essentially a group-counselling programme designed to address criminogenic needs of the inmates. Therefore, inmates are selected based on the nature of their offence. In Prison School, STP is conducted by Prison Counsellors specifically on Substance Abuse Treatment, Anger and Emotion Management and Sexual offence.

c. Responsible Thinking Process (RTP)

RTP is a school discipline process where staff are trained to teach the students to take responsibility for their delinquent actions by thinking on their own, respecting the rights of others, making effective plans and building self-confidence.



A student undergoing RTP under the guidance of a prison officer.

d. National Youth Achievement Award (NYAA)

NYAA was introduced in Prison School since 2000 to encourage students to develop qualities of self-reliance, perseverance and sense of responsibility towards themselves, society and our nation. To qualify for the award, students must complete four types of programmes, namely community service, expeditions/explorations, skills development and physical recreation.



The students helped to raise funds for the World-Vision International (Singapore) through the sale of the handicrafts made by themselves.

e. Family Involvement Programme

Family involvement is an integral part in the rehabilitation of the students. Monthly Family Orientation Talks are conducted to inform family members of various programmes available at Prison School and to provide the students' family members the opportunity to discuss with teachers, prison officers and counsellors their concerns regarding their sons. In addition, there are Quarterly Family Workshops, Biannual Family Support (Educational) Groups and Family Education Talks conducted and organised by Prison School counsellors. They focus on topics such as communication within the family, anger management, family healing, conflict resolution, how parents can help their sons break out of the

crime cycle and how the family can help the student to reintegrate back to the family and to society.

f. Community Re-integration Programme

This Pre-release Programme aims to prepare all inmates for reintegration into the community with the ultimate goal of reducing recidivism. Community Re-integration Programme is conducted by volunteers and it equips inmates with critical knowledge and skills pertinent to their coping with life upon release. Issues covered include Job Search, Good Work Attitudes, Money Matters and Goal-setting and Integrating with Family.

g. Peer Support Group Programme

Prison School encourages students to assist one another in overcoming difficulties they may face in the academic field. Peer Support Groups are formed where the academically stronger students help others who are weaker in their studies. This programme hopes to inculcate desirable moral values such as selflessness and teamwork in the students.

Prison School strives to provide a conducive learning environment where the students are provided opportunities to rehabilitate themselves through the learning of skills and knowledge that will prepare them to re-integrate with society.