

FACTSHEET ON FUTURESCHOOLS@SINGAPORE

In June 2006, IDA launched Singapore's 10-year infocomm masterplan called the "Intelligent Nation 2015" or "*In twenty-fifteen*", to chart the innovative use of infocomm technologies in the various economic clusters. The aim is to ensure the country remains relevant and dynamic in today's new economy.

Using infocomm, the Education and Learning cluster seeks to deliver a more engaging learning experience to meet the diverse needs of learners. It does so by enabling access to the latest knowledge and new learning resources, making learning come-to-life with multimedia and interactive elements.

Infocomm facilitates collaboration within and across learning communities, supports educators' efforts in customising teaching for different learners and creates an environment in which independent and life-long learning takes place.

One of the key efforts under IDA's iN2015 Education and Learning plan is to develop potential schools into peaks of excellence in an ability-driven education paradigm, and to encourage innovation and enterprise in schools. The development of the FutureSchools@Singapore aims to not only enhance the diversity of educational offerings to cater to learners' needs but to also provide possible models for the seamless and pervasive integration of infocomm technology that includes interactive digital media (IDM). The plan aims to position Singapore as a centre of innovation in the use of infocomm technology and IDM for the education and learning sector.

By harnessing infocomm technology in the education sector through innovative pedagogies and flexible learning environments, schools will be able to achieve higher levels of engagement of their pupils who already have an Infocomm-integrated lifestyle. Thus, pupils will be equipped with the essential skills to be effective workers and citizens in the globalised, digital workplace of the future.

By 2015, 15 schools will be developed under the FutureSchools@Singapore to serve as beacons for the wider Education and Learning community. These schools will be identified as peaks of excellence that integrate infocomm holistically in every facet of the school environment.

In May 2007, then MOS (Education) Lui Tuck Yew announced five schools as the pioneer batch of FutureSchools@Singapore, namely: Beacon Primary School; Canberra Primary School; Crescent Girls' School; Hwa Chong Institution; and Jurong Secondary School. In March 2008, MOE announced its new School of Science and Technology (SST) as the 6th FutureSchool. The SST will open in 2010 and will be established as a Specialised Independent School, complementing the NUS High School of Mathematics and Science, the Singapore Sports School and the School of the Arts in adding further diversity to our education landscape.

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There will also be a need for active participation by the public and private sectors in the development of the FutureSchools@Singapore to fortify Singapore's position as a centre of excellence in harnessing infocomm technology in education.

The partnerships to be forged among local education technology research community, infocomm researchers, industry partners, and renowned overseas education technology institutions; will result in beneficial real-time feedback, thereby allowing a vibrant exchange of ideas and collaborations.

IDA hopes that through this collaborative partnership of PPP (People - Schools, Private – Industry and Public – Government), the industry can enjoy the R&D and IP creation opportunities arising from FutureSchools@Singapore. The strong support of the industry, including investments and co-sponsorships, will help Singapore realise our FutureSchools@Singapore concept.

Call-for-Collaboration

IDA issued a Call-for-Collaboration (CFC) via GeBiz.com on 31 May inviting industry partners to form consortia to architect, develop and deploy full solutions for the pioneer batch of five FutureSchools@Singapore.

This CFC seeks to achieve the following objectives:

- i. Facilitate an open exchange of ideas and possibilities, and foster greater collaboration among industry partners.
- ii. Architect and deploy state-of-the-art infocomm infrastructure for FutureSchools@Singapore.
- iii. Propose and develop new products and services to meet the needs of FutureSchools@Singapore.

When the CFC closed in August 2007, IDA received 20 proposals for the five FutureSchools. In May 2008, four successful consortia were selected to design and address the specific pedagogy needs and research areas for the five future schools, namely, Beacon Primary School, Canberra Primary School, Crescent Girls' School, Hwa Chong Institution and Jurong Secondary School.

The consortia and their partners will commence development of solutions to implement the proposed programmes for their respective FutureSchools in 2008. The \$80 million project is targeted to achieve full-school implementation in four years (by 2012).

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The four consortia selected under the FutureSchools@Singapore CFC are:

1. For Jurong Secondary School:
 - Civica Pte Ltd – Consortium Lead
 - G Element Pte Ltd
 - Heulab Pte Ltd
 - Learning EDvantage Pte Ltd
 - Microsoft Singapore Pte Ltd
 - Playware Studios Pte Ltd

2. For Crescent Girls School:
 - Hewlett Packard Pte Ltd – Consortium Lead
 - Amdon Consulting Pte Ltd
 - ASKnLearn Pte Ltd
 - Heulab Pte Ltd
 - Inchone Pte Ltd
 - Microsoft Singapore Pte Ltd
 - Pearson Education South Asia
 - Zepth Pte Ltd

3. For Canberra Primary School:
 - SingTel Ltd – Consortium Lead
 - ACP Computer Training & Consultancy Pte Ltd
 - Heulab Pte Ltd
 - Learning EDvantage Pte Ltd
 - Microsoft Singapore Pte Ltd
 - NCS Pte Ltd
 - Playware Studios Pte Ltd

4. For Beacon Primary School and Hwa Chong Institution:
 - ST Electronics (Training and Simulation Systems) Pte Ltd – Consortium Lead
 - Addest Technovation Pte Ltd
 - FIF Technologies LLP
 - Microsoft Singapore Pte Ltd
 - Sky Media Pte Ltd
 - Temasek Polytechnic
 - Vantage Portal Systems Pte Ltd