

MANY EXTRAORDINARY EXPERIENCES,

ONE EXTRAORDINARY SCHOOL

HISTORY OF AHMAD IBRAHIM SECONDARY SCHOOL

Ahmad Ibrahim Secondary's story began in 1963. The school was named after the late Encik Ahmad Ibrahim, the former Minister for Health and Labour, who was also the Assemblyman for Sembawang.

First located in Upper Thomson, the school moved to the current Yishun Campus in 1985. It started out as an integrated school which offered two mediums of instruction. In 1987, in line with national education policy, the school adopted English as the medium of instruction. The last batch of Chinese-educated students graduated in 1986.

A very significant fact about the school's history is that Ahmad Ibrahim Secondary was set up as an integrated school, with the primary aim of bringing together students of different language streams to study under one roof. The school was called to serve a key role in helping to promote racial cohesion in the early nation-building years, particularly during the turbulent 1960s. Today, Ahmad Ibrahim Secondary continues to champion an inclusive environment. The school is a microcosm reflective of the multi-ethnic and multi-cultural society that Singapore is, as it continues to play its role as an institution that integrates students of different languages, cultural backgrounds, and student needs.

In terms of student needs, another unique feature of the school is the integration of visually impaired students into mainstream education. In 1967, Ahmad Ibrahim Secondary was the first pilot school for Open Education Programme for the blind. Today, the school continues to have visually impaired students studying together in the same class as all the other students.

Being named after Encik Ahmad Ibrahim serves as a reminder and an inspiration for our teachers and students to emulate his qualities of determination, courage, integrity and service. Encik Ahmad Ibrahim passed on at the tender age of 35. Yet his contributions continue to be significant, from his role in managing challenging labour issues to decentralising Singapore's healthcare system and introducing polyclinics during his time as Minister for Health. Even as he battled chronic illness for years, he answered the nation's call to serve with distinction, placing others before himself. The school strives to live out these qualities through our core school values and programmes.

The school's Learning for Life Programme (LLP) is Character Development through Outdoor Learning Experience (OLE). OLE-LLP provides authentic, real world experiences for students to learn teamwork, build mental and emotional strength, as well as develop self and team leadership skills through taking on physical challenges. OLE-LLP also promotes environmental appreciation through outdoor activities.

The school's Applied Learning Programme (ALP) is Critical Social Inquiry and Media Literacy (CSI), which seeks to raise students as critical thinkers and concerned citizens who care deeply about the community they live in and who have the courage to lead and serve by taking action on societal causes they believe in.

Ahmad Ibrahim Secondary is one of four schools in Singapore offering the Enhanced Music Programme (EMP). Students with musical talent are given the opportunity to pursue O-Level music and to experience a wide array of enrichment activities ranging from concerts to masterclasses and mentorship. The school also offers an equivalent Music Preparatory Course at lower secondary.

Through these three signature programmes, Ahmad Ibrahim Secondary aims to raise the social and cultural capital of its students. We seek to grow students with character, to nurture inquiring and disciplined minds, and to inspire in our students the courage to lead and serve others unwaveringly, just as Encik Ahmad Ibrahim had done.



DNA OF AI STUDENTS

VISION

Every AI student, a young lady or gentleman who cares, learns and excels for AI and for nation

MISSION

To grow students with strength of character, nurture inquiring and disciplined minds, inspire courage to lead and serve

VALUES OF AI STUDENTS



Ability to be strong and positive again after a difficult situation



STEADFASTNESS

Ability to stay committed and be dependable



Ability to show concern for and cherish self, others and the environment





Ability to uphold strong moral values



Ability to achieve quality performance in academic and non-academic domains



Ability to be brave in the face of challenges and new opportunities



Ability to be thankful and show appreciation for others

LEARNING FOR LIFE PROGRAMME (LLP) CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT THROUGH **OUTDOOR LEARNING EXPERIENCE (OLE)**

Ask any AI student and they will tell you how OLE has defined Al's identity and heritage even years after they graduate from the school. These collective memories are uniquely Al, making OLE part of the school's DNA. Our Learning for Life Programme (LLP) is a broad-based developmental programme that spans from Secondary 1 to 3, with extended opportunities for students with special interest in outdoor activities to be trained as outdoor leaders. It provides students with authentic, real world experiences to learn teamwork, build mental and emotional strength, as well as develop self and team leadership qualities through taking on physical challenges. OLE also promotes environmental appreciation through outdoor activities.

OLE is calling and WE must go!

Some of our OLE activities are:

- Kayaking Certification
- Orienteering Hiking
- Orienteering Cycling
- Rock Climbing
- Abseiling
- Camp Craft Cooking and Camping



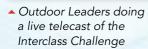
LEARNING FOR LIFE PROGRAMME (LLP) GROOMING OUR OUTDOOR LEADERS

OLE does not stop here! Recognised as part of the AI student leader's body, the outdoor leaders in AI go through structured training sessions and programmes to develop and learn as leaders. The training sessions focus on skills ranging from facilitation, programme planning to risk assessment. The outdoor leaders are also provided various opportunities to apply the knowledge and skills learned, be it in organising the Secondary 1 orientation programmes, inter-class games, or the recruitment drive for future batches of outdoor leaders.

In addition, some of the outdoor leaders were also given the opportunity to contribute to the community by participating in the Khatib Bongsu Orientation and Engagement Session jointly organised by Nee Soon East Community Centre and People's Association. During the programme, the students were able to kayak through the mangrove forest at Khatib Bongsu and provide valuable feedback to the authorities on how the area can be developed for future public use and visits.



 Outdoor Leaders presenting their suggestions to Member of Parliament Mr Louis Ng after their Khatib Bongsu Kayaking trip





"Being an outdoor leader (OL) for 2 years has taught me so many things. From the 'hard' skills such as learning how to set up the charcoal for outdoor cooking and understanding the basics of safety to 'soft' skills such as facilitating learning, managing my time, picking up skills on how to communicate effectively with my peers and even how to make new friends and to develop a good rapport with them. Being an OL has been such a blessing as it has given me the opportunity to grow as a leader and a person alongside many other amazing people whom I am glad to have worked with. One important take away from being an OL is that as a leader, my hope is not to have more people look up to me, but to have more people step up and lead with me and that is what I hope for the juniors and future leaders of Al."

Irka Nur Adlina Binte Irwan, 4E3, former student of Canberra Primary School

ENHANCED MUSIC PRORGAMMES (EMP) EMPOWERING OUR STUDENTS THROUGH MUSIC

Imagine going to a school that is filled with melodious music around campus. Facilities such as professional audio equipment, music technology and interactive jamming spaces as well as programmes such as AESPIRE lunchtime concerts and external performances, allow AI students to express themselves through music. AI equips and empowers students to become confident and passionate musicians. Apart from school-based learning experiences, our students also collaborate with industry partners and educational institutions, such as The RICE Company, Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Thunder Rock School, Raffles Institution, and Anglo Chinese School (Independent).

Did you know?

- Al is one of the only four schools in Singapore offering EMP and the only EMP school in the North Zone.
- Al is also a centre for O-Level Music, serving students from all over Singapore.
- Al has two grand pianos, three music rooms, laptops with music software (Ableton, Mixcraft, Sibelius), and a music library with scores, books, and recordings.



▲ EMP students playing on Launchpads





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"I started my musical journey in Yishun Primary School when I joined the school's Concert Band. My passion for music was further nurtured as I continued with Concert Band and joined the Enhanced Music Programme in Ahmad Ibrahim Secondary School (AI), where I would be able to take music as an academic subject. AI also encouraged and prepared me to audition for the Singapore National Youth Orchestra (SNYO). Whilst juggling my leadership role in Concert Band, commitments to SNYO, as well as my academic demands, I was often driven by the encouragement of my teachers and friends in AI. My music teachers were always there for me whenever I needed guidance and advice, especially during my Direct School Application (DSA) to Raffles Institution (RI). The teachers at AI have always been nurturing and extremely supportive in all aspects of students' development. AI is a great contributor to who I am today".

Darleene Hiap Xin Yi, alumnus of AI Concert Band and EMP, currently a student in Raffles Institution

NURTURING THE AI STUDENT THROUGH ALP CRITICAL THINKERS, HANDS THAT SERVE, AND A HEART FOR OTHERS

Have you ever watched a video so compelling it inspired you to take action to make a difference? Have you had a 'lightbulb' moment because an infographic made a difficult issue in society easy to understand? Have you ever participated in a talk show or wondered what it would be like to host one? In our Critical Social Inquiry (CSI) curriculum, you will get a chance to experience all these - not just as a participant but as a content-creator too!

The school's Applied Learning Programme (ALP) seeks to develop our students for the future while keeping them grounded in strong values and a concern for others in the community. Our students explore real-life issues in society, taking direction from larger national policies such as Smart Nation and Sustainability. In lessons, students analyse these issues so as to better understand their causes and implications from multiple perspectives. Students also learn to create meaningful digital products (e.g., infographics and videos) so as to effect change and persuade others around them to do their part for society. Up for grabs: the Best Infographic and Golden Lens Awards! These are awarded to the teams which produce the best infographics and videos respectively.



 Designed by Celest Loh Enxy and Chia Ming Jun (former students of Admiralty Primary School and Jing Shan Primary School respectively)

DEVELOPING OUR ALP-CSI AMBASSADORS

Beyond lessons, the school's ALP provides numerous opportunities to stretch students' abilities. Students take the lead in hosting the school's In mAl Opinion talk show, where guest speakers are invited to discuss hot-button issues in society. In July 2021, Al students had the great privilege of listening in to Visiting Assistant Professor Koh Choon Hwee from the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (NUS). Professor Koh helped our students understand societal issues in the Middle East, ranging from stereotypes, prejudice, and Islamophobia, widening their perspectives beyond our region. Two Al students, Bazil Khalaf and Glenda Ng, hosted the session and moderated the Question-and-Answer segment of the workshop.



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"I enjoyed the group work aspect of the ALP experience as it helped me understand how to discuss our ideas and find ways to compromise. I would say that the ALP is an eye-opening experience that has exposed me to different aspects of a societal issue where we can showcase our creativity, research data, and opinions through videography and infographics. Lastly, on the theme of technology, I've learnt that technology can not only be used for gaming and entertainment but also as a way to spread positive messages and make the lives of Singaporeans better."

Mohamed Haiqeal bin Mohamed Ali, 4E1, former student of Jiemin Primary School

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DISCOVERING OUR TALENTS AND GROWING HOLISTICALLY



Best Unit Competition (Distinction) - 2018, 2019, 2021



GIRL GUIDES

Corps Achievement Award (Gold) 2018, 2019 Chief Commissioner's Award 2019-2022 (Individual)



NATIONAL CADET CORPS LAND

2022 NSG B Div North Zone Boys 2nd 2022 NSG B Div North Zone Girls 2nd Round 2022 NSG C Div North Zone Boys 2nd Round



ST JOHN'S BRIGADE

2022 NSG 400m Top 8 2022 NSG Shot Put 5th



BASKETBALL

Singapore Green Award 2018 - Yellow Flame Award Sembcorp Go Green Fund Competition 2018 - Green Award

ExxonMobil Endangered Biodiversity and Conservation Programme **Documentary Making** Competition 2019 - 2nd



TRACK AND FIELD

SYF 2019 (Distinction)

CHOIR



GREEN SERVICE CLUB

2020 - Top 10 in D:2 Dance Competition SYF 2021 (Accomplishment)

DANCE ENSEMBLE



NATIONAL POLICE CADET CORPS





SCOUTS

2019 NSG B Div Boys League 4 2rd 2022 NSG C Div Boys North Zone 4th



SHOOTING

First LEGO League Vitrual Competition 2020 - Core Values Teamwork Award First LEGO League 2021/2022 - Innovation Project (2nd)



FOOTBALL

SYF 2021 (Distinction) International Science Drama Competition 2022 Third prize in Singapore Finals (Open Category)



AI^2 ROBOTICS

SYF 2021 (Distinction) -Mixed Ensemble

SYF 2021 (Accomplishment) -Percussion Ensemble



ORATORICAL DEBATE AND DRAMA SOCIETY

SYF 2021 (Distinction) -Percussion Ensemble SYF 2021 (Accomplishment) -Mixed Emsemble 2022 Singapore International

2022 Singapore International Band Festival Division 2B, First Place



CHINESE ORCHESTRA



HIGHLIGHTS OF LIFE IN AI (Taking Learning to the Real World) APPLIED LEARNING MODULE

In March 2021, selected Secondary 2 and 3 students had a taste of tertiary life as they ventured to our institutes of higher education for a learning experience like no other. Guided by polytechnic or Institute of Education (ITE) lecturers, students applied their critical thinking skills to real-world problems. Many enjoyed the rich conversations with their lecturers and the self-directed nature of tertiary life. Another thing that sparked joy among them - the great variety of food on campus!

SOCIAL INNOVATIONS THROUGH FUTURE CHANGE

Ever wished that all children in the world could have access to clean drinking water? Or that we could help build a proper home for those living in slums? These are real and complex issues facing many less-developed countries today.

Our students explored these issues and more as part of Ngee Ann Polytechnic's Social Innovations for Future Change module. For many, it was simply mind-blowing to discover how recent innovations could be the key to tackling these issues. For instance, did you know that with 3D printing, we can now build one small (and affordable) house within a day? Our students were excited at the possibilities!

Through simulations and in-depth discussions on topics ranging from domestic violence and child abandonment to casual racism, students ended the module hopeful and inspired to think about how they, too, could make a difference as global citizens.



 Al students participating in a simulation about Dementia



 Al students deep in discussion over the topic of Domestic Violence and Child Abandonment

FUN WITH ANIMATION!

Selected students also participated in the Fun with Animation session organised by the ITE College Central. The module was taught by the ITE instructors, which enabled our students to experience first-hand the classroom environment and teaching approach adopted in ITE.

It was a journey of self-growth and discovery, as our students gained awareness of new areas of interest and strength through the module. For many, the hands-on learning sessions helped pique their interest in the basics of digital animation and character creation techniques. Students were also exposed to a possible career in the 2D animation industry through the programme.

By helping students discover the relevance of their classroom learning to tertiary education and the 'real' world, the ApLM has granted our students renewed direction and purpose in working towards their goals.

Al student working on his animation clip



HIGHLIGHTS OF LIFE IN AI (Taking Learning to the Real World) LEARNING BEYOND CLASSROOM, EXPLORING THE WORLD!

Over a period of 7 days and 6 nights, our students expanded their horizons through visits to landmarks such as the Wild Goose Pagoda and the Tang Paradise Park. Al students were especially awed by the Terracotta Warriors, the 8th wonder of the world, and could not help but snap numerous photos of the sights as memento. In the presence of so many visually stunning historical sites, our students began to grow a newfound sense of belonging to their Chinese heritage.

It was not merely the sights that the students would look back fondly of. By sitting in lessons and chatting with the local students at Xi'an Fengxi Experimental School (西安沣西实验学校), our Al students forged new friendships which soon turned out to be the highlight of their trip.

Al students doing paper cutting together with the local students in Xi'an



Al students in Xi'an

"The trip to Xi'an, China, is definitely an experience I would keep close to my heart forever! This trip was such a memorable experience for many of us as there were so many eye-opening attractions. One example would be the terracotta warriors which tell us about the thousands of years of Chinese history. Through this experience, we have not only forged many new friendships, but have also gained a different insight of the country and grown in our own independence, having had to take care of ourselves in a foreign country."

Tan Shi Qi, Alumnus of AI, former student of Chongfu School



HIGHLIGHTS OF LIFE IN AI (Taking Learning to the Real World) LEARNING BEYOND CLASSROOM, EXPLORING THE WORLD!

INDONESIA

Imagine walking through a life-sized toy house. That was exactly how our AI students felt as they wove their way through the unique Kampung Jodipan and Kampung Tridi in Malang, Surabaya. Also known as Kampung Warna-Warni (i.e., colourful kampungs), these villages definitely lived up to their name as they stood out like a



box of crayons in the middle of the city. The most inspiring thing about this place: Kampung Warna-Warni was actually the brainchild of a group of university students! With a little imagination and a great desire to effect change, what used to be a slum has now blossomed into a global attraction. It seems that one is never too young to change the world.

There were endless learning opportunities throughout the programme. Our students also made trips to the D'Topena Kingdom, Muzium Angkut and Bagong Adventure Museum to learn more about the history and culture of Indonesia. Another unforgettable experience was the visit to a local school, SMP Negeri 20 Malang. The cultural exchange and interactions with students and teachers there is something our AI students would cherish for years to come.

- Al students having fun at the Bagong Adventure Museum
- Al students interacting with local students



Al Students at Kampung Warna-Warni



"I was so excited when I was offered an opportunity to embark on a 5D4N trip to Surabaya in Indonesia. In the trip, I immersed myself in Indonesian culture and tradition by tasting their local food and learning a traditional horse dance. I also fostered strong bonds with the locals whom we encountered. The attractions we visited were also very interesting and we enjoyed ourselves a great deal. If I am given another opportunity to go on an overseas trip, I would grab it again without hesitation!"

Nur Shahdrina Danilla Binte Shahrudin, Alumnus of Al, former student Xishan Primary School



HIGHLIGHTS OF LIFE IN AI (Building Strength of Character) VALUES-IN-ACTION @ AI

The Values-in-Action (VIA) Programme provides a platform for educators to inculcate in our students the same spirit of community service that Encik Ahmad Ibrahim embodied.

The COVID-19 situation may have brought many changes, but some things remain the same - i.e. our passion in wanting to serve and contribute to society.

Despite being faced with many challenges, AI continues to be a community resourced school, building on the momentum and supporting all students' learning through various platforms to strengthen and maximise students' experiential learning.

This year, Al students have the privilege to decide on the mode of service; whether to do it digitally or physically. Al students took the initiative in class discussion and championed a community service project after conducting a community needs analysis.













Secondary 2E3 serving the community physically at Nam Hong Welfare Service Society:





Both classes have prepared games, engagement activities and performance for the elderly, despite using different modes of service.

Al VIA Programme grants our students a deeper sense of civil engagement and a desire to make a difference to the lives of others.

HIGHLIGHTS OF LIFE IN AI (Maximising Learning In The Classroom) AI PERSONALISED LEARNING DEVICE, PLD

Since August 2021, Al was onboard the Personalised Digital Learning Programme (PDLP) under the MOE's National Digital Literacy Programme (NDLP). In this programme, each student received a school-prescribed Personal Learning Device (PLD) - The Chromebook. The PLD is currently being used in tandem with the national e-learning platform – the Singapore Student Learning Space (SLS) – as well as other educational technology to personalise and enhance our students' learning. All of our students have begun their journey to acquire digital skills and apply these skills as they navigate an increasingly digitalised world.

With hardware and software in the hands of our students, the work they need to do becomes the work they love to do. Our students love the Chromebook because it's portable, capable, and easy to use. It helps them to become self-directed and collaborative learners with a Multi-Touch experience that's interactive and engaging.



HIGHLIGHTS OF LIFE IN AI (Building Strength of Character) SECONDARY I ORIENTATION: LIGHT UP THE AI FLAME

Begin your AI journey with the AI flame burning bright! The lighting of the AI candles is a tradition you can look forward to during the campfire night of our Secondary 1 Orientation. Kick-start the year by taking the first step to making new friends during an exciting, fun-filled week. Through various activities organised and led by your caring student leaders, Secondary 1 students will grow more familiar their new environment and can better understand the AI culture and heritage. Through this process, we trust you will develop a strong sense of pride and belonging to AI, your second home.

DEVELOPING OUR STUDENT LEADERS

Al offers numerous opportunities for students to step outside their comfort zone and take on leadership positions to serve others. From planning and executing class bonding games to organising the Co-Curricular Activities Carnival and campfire night, with every experience, the student leaders of Al grow tremendously in their leadership abilities. As the Orientation Group Leaders lead and guide the Secondary 1 students, they display and pass on the values of Al such as Care, Courage and Resilience



 Secondary 1 students lighting the AI candles with their Form Teachers



 Secondary 1 students practising tying their school ties





HIGHLIGHTS OF LIFE IN AI (Building Strength of Character) SINGAPORE YOUTH FESTIVAL (SYF) ARTS PRESENTATION 2021

All our Al Performing Arts (PA) Groups took on the challenge of conquering the SYF stage this year despite the numerous obstacles posed by COVID-19.

2021 SYF AP was memorable in many ways. The PA groups experienced their first-ever SYF recordings in March, as required by MOE Arts Education Branch. During the recordings, our students experienced mixed feelings; they were nervous, excited, and in awe of the professional recording equipment in front of them as they strove to put on their best performance. The live SYF AP performance at the Singapore Conference Hall provided our students a rich learning opportunity that they will remember for many years to come.

→ AI Choir at the SYF Recording



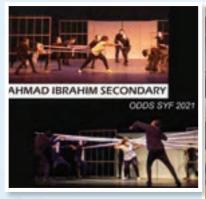
Throughout this SYF journey, our PA students persevered and emerged stronger as they levelled up their techniques and adapted to change. We are beyond proud of their achievements, and more so, their spirit to never give up!





▲ AI Concert Band at the Singapore Conference Hall

▲ AI Dance Ensemble SYF team



Al Oratorical Debate and Drama Society at the SYF performance



▲ AI Chinese Orchestra at the SYF Recording

TOUCHING LIVES STRENGTHENING RELATIONSHIPS REALISING DREAMS

Laughter and conversations fill the space in between mouthfuls of delightful food. A resident teh-tarik master serves his brew. This is not your typical Kopitiam but a scene from our classrooms during Breakfast with Form Teachers

This is just one of many ways AI students and teachers bond to strengthen relationships. In AI, teachers and students sit in circles sharing stories and experiences. Students pour their hearts out through journal-writing,

allowing teachers to engage their students in meaningful heart-to-heart conversations. We believe that positive teacher-student relationships have a significant and long-lasting impact on our students' lives and can serve to inspire them to discover themselves and pursue their dreams.





◆ AI students celebrating Teachers' Day

▼ Al students organise games for class during Breakfast with form teachers



ORDINARY MIRACLES @ AI. MAKING AI EXTRAORDINARY

"I have made numerous new friends and gained many memorable memories over the last four years. Al was a start of a new journey after the PSLE. I was intimidated at first but after interacting with my warm and friendly teachers and classmates, I have come to love AI. One of the many things that I like about AI is the Outdoor Learning Experience (OLE). Through OLE, I have learnt to be more courageous and to try things that are usually out of my comfort zone. It was an enriching experience, as my class and I grew closer through the outdoor activities. Everyone is friendly and welcoming in AI, and we get to participate in and experience different programmes of various spectrums. You should definitely join the AI Family!"

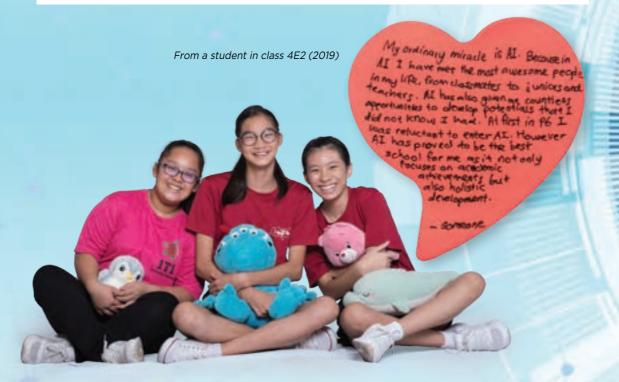
Phoebe Wong Bo Yee, Alumnus of AI, former student of Ahmad Ibrahim Primary School



"When I first entered AI, I did not have any friends. As time passed, however, I soon found many opportunities to make good friends. Al is very accommodating and provides a very good environment for students to develop in, as the teachers are friendly and kind. They went the extra mile to help me in my struggles. I learnt many things and attained various skills both from my classes and Co-curricular Activity (CCA). Being in this school has definitely made an impact on me, as I have grown more mature, disciplined, compassionate, and have become a better person. I really appreciate the school's teachers and staff who never once gave up on me, lending me a listening ear whenever I had problems and needed someone to turn to, which made me feel really cared for. In short, I would recommend that you select AI as one of your school choices; AI is one of the greatest choices I have personally made thus far."

Cheong Yee Hong Terrence, Alumnus of AI, former student of Naval Base Primary School





Some photos were taken before COVID-19

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