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HEWLETT PACKARD CONSORTIUM'S SOLUTIONS FOR CRESCENT GIRLS' SCHOOL: i-CONNECT@CRESCENT

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The Solution

Hewlett Packard consortium's proposal for Crescent Girls' School (CGS) is based on an integrated physical and virtual learning environment. Students can take interactive field trips, and access learning resources and tools such as games, virtual reality learning content and interactive digital textbooks. Such learning tools are designed to support the school's integrated curriculum and project-based learning approaches. The tools also enable the school's students, teachers, administrators and parents to interact and contribute to the students' progress both in and outside the classroom.

Highlights of the i-CONNECT@Crescent solution include:

- Holistic development of students through an integrated learning and teaching platform, i-Connect Learning Space (i-CLS). i-CLS integrates different learning resources to support an integrated curriculum and infuse 21st century skills to students' learning. Salient features include personalised learning pathways and competencies, as well as differentiated instruction and assessment.
- Collaborative learning through real time classroom delivery, collaboration and management through the Virtual Global Learning Faculty (VGLF), which enhances communication and collaboration across boundaries and develops students' 21st century skills.
- Knowledge construction through NexGen Interactive books and collaborative learning through gaming scenarios.
- Independent learning through learner-centric interactive digital media content and varied assessment modes, which include essay assessment and adaptive testing tools.
- Experiential learning through 3D Interactive Virtual Reality in an immersive learning space for students. By representing learning objects using VR/3D modeling techniques, students can appreciate concepts typically difficult to illustrate in a real-world environment.
- Authentic learning through mobile devices used at outdoor learning trails that incorporate interactive and digital media with the sights, sounds and textures of the physical landscape. This provides an authentic and engaging learning experience for the students.

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Crescent Girls' School FutureSchool Programme Highlights

Key Focus – Empowered Learners

Integrated Curriculum

While the national 'O' Level curriculum forms the core content, the distinctive features in the curriculum of FS@CGS are the integration of the subject disciplines, use of learner-centric teaching approaches, deployment of multiple assessment modes, and the infusion of 21st century skills to produce 'world-ready' youths.

A range of subjects will be integrated at appropriate junctures to promote the connection of disciplines and ideas. Subject integration will be based on themes (e.g. climate, conflict, relationships) to enable linkages to relevant and authentic developments in the real world. Students will explore the themes through subject-specific lessons and student-led projects.

The project tasks will typically be foregrounded by problems, cases or scenarios that are stimulating and related to real-world issues. Students will have to collaborate with others, collect data in the real world, and widen their perspectives beyond the immediate subject areas in order to examine an issue in depth. Through the projects, students will apply existing knowledge, explore new knowledge, and demonstrate the various skills sets and knowledge acquired. In short, students will collaboratively construct their own learning.

Varied Assessment Through Technology

In support of the student-centric approach adopted by CGS, the school will use a spectrum of IT assessment tools for both formative and summative assessments. These include Mastery, Adaptive and Diagnostic (MAD) online assessments for students to gauge their level of mastery of key concepts and skills, as well as track their learning progression. Personal electronic portfolios and assessment that involve multiple parties (students and teachers) in providing feedback to various student-created learning products (e.g. digital art, video-clips, blogs and websites), will also be adopted.

Customised, Technology-enhanced Teaching and Learning

To support its proposed integrated curriculum, CGS aims to create an innovative and technology-rich environment.

- The proposed development of the learning portal iCLS, will integrate various learning resources and platforms (e.g. interactive teaching courseware and NexGen interactive digital textbooks) for students' seamless access using their personal learning devices.
- The VGLF web-portal will provide collaborative tools and resources for students, teachers and professionals to learn and work together.
- Technology tools such as SMS, instant messaging, discussion forums, blogs, digital art, music, videos and games will be integrated for enhanced learning across subjects.

Other proposed technology-enabled learning spaces for rich learning experiences include the Interactive Immersive Virtual Reality learning scenarios and Learning Trails.

