

MEDIA RELEASE

EtonHouse becomes the first school in Singapore to have an in-house aquaponics project

January 2023, Singapore observes Total Defence Day on the 15th of February every year. Climate change and recent global events have put a spotlight on sustainability and food security, highlighting the importance of the Economic, Civil and Psychological pillars of Total Defence. Schools are an integral part of nurturing and building practices and habits that promote sustainability and resilience for life. The EtonHouse International School on Broadrick Road, became the first school in Singapore to house its very own aquaponics project, a sustainable farming method.

Aquaponics is the result of combining aquaculture (farming fish in water) with hydroponics (farming plants in water). It is a sustainable farming method decoupled from soil, chemical fertilizers and pesticides.

This is the first sustainable farming system installed in a school compound. It is groundbreaking and innovative as it is different from mini-farms that mainly use soil and hydroponics, both of which use chemicals and are not sustainable.

Food grown hyper-locally helps decarbonise the food supply chain as it doesn't need to travel a long distance and also saves energy by not requiring a cold chain.

The project was a collaboration between the school community of teachers and students and V-Plus Agritech, a homegrown Singapore company that empowers communities and individuals in smart and sustainable farming. As a result of this project, the school community enjoys fresh produce from farm to table without chemicals. Students also benefit from practical STEM lessons based on the sustainable farming system and also learn about what makes agriculture sustainable.

Peter Dart, Vice Principal at EtonHouse Broadrick, said, "The aquaponics project involves the whole school community from our youngest students to our oldest, teachers, staff and parents. Since it is the first such project in a school, we hope for it to become a community project and invite other schools to participate and learn from it to make it a sustainable initiative with a wider reach and impact."

Mr Nelson Tan, CEO of V-Plus Agritech said, "With our first school installation, we hope that sustainable thinking and food resilience can permeate to individuals and communities and make a significant impact to our society and our commitment to Total Defence. We will be developing a miniaturised home kit using the same circular farming principles to expand its reach and impact"

EtonHouse®

International Education Group

Sustainability is a big focus for the EtonHouse schools. Aquaponics will also be a part of the new EtonHouse Pre-School at Gardens by the Bay.

[Watch](#) how students engage in the aquaponics project in school.

Media Contact:

Bipasha Chanda Minocha Group Brand and Marketing Director Mobile:+65-81571460 Email: bipasha.m@etonhouse.com.sg	Angela Kho Senior Brand and Marketing Manager Mobile: +65 9754 0366 Email: angela.kho@etonhouse.com.sg
--	--

About EtonHouse International Education Group

The EtonHouse International Education Group is headquartered in Singapore, with more than 120 international schools in 10 countries with over 40 campuses in Singapore alone.

Together these schools provide high-quality education to over 20,000 children globally. Over the last 28 years, EtonHouse has been at the forefront of international education, offering innovative pre-schools and K12 schools across Asia. In the early years, an inquiry-based “Inquire-Think-Learn” curriculum inspired by the Reggio Emilia approach is followed. EtonHouse International Schools are known for their bilingual programmes and offer the highly recognised International Baccalaureate (IB) and IGCSE and A-Level qualifications at the primary, secondary and high school levels.

The EtonHouse Group has won several accolades for its exemplary practice, such as the “Outstanding Leader” and “Outstanding Teacher” awards conferred by the Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF) in Singapore in 2011 and 2012. In 2014, the MSF presented EtonHouse with the “Outstanding Centre for Teaching and Learning” Award and the Early Childhood Innovation Award in 2015. The international IB K-12 school in Suzhou was voted one of China’s best international schools by a research firm based in Washington DC. EtonHouse was also crowd-voted as one of the Best Preschools in the HoneyKids Love Local Awards 2022.

The Group also works closely with the Governments in Singapore and China. In early 2014, EtonHouse became part of the Anchor Operator (AOP) Scheme to launch E-Bridge Pre-School, providing high-quality and affordable early childhood services for Singaporean families. EtonHouse schools in Suzhou, Wuxi, and Nanjing in China started at the invitation of the Jiangsu provincial government. In 2017, the EtonHouse Group launched Middleton International School, an affordable schooling option for expatriate families. In 2020, EtonHouse launched The Eton Academy (TEA), offering academic enrichment in centres islandwide.

EtonHouse[®]

International Education Group

To mark its 20th anniversary, EtonHouse launched EtonHouse Community Fund (ECF), an independent IPC charity to focus on improving the lives of underprivileged children and youth through education.

The Group is deeply committed to research and professional development and brought the first Reggio Children conference to Singapore in 2010. In 2013, EtonHouse became a Reggio Children International Network member and launched REACH (Reggio Emilia in Asia for children), representing Reggio Children in Asia.