

MEDIA RELEASE

**First Pre-School at Gardens by the Bay
EtonHouse Garden School by the Bay sets new standards in early childhood
education**

October 27, 2022, EtonHouse International Education Group will launch the first pre-school at Gardens by the Bay in early 2023. Located at the Bayfront Pavilion, with excellent connections to public transport, the EtonHouse Garden School by the Bay, in the iconic and lush surroundings of Gardens by the Bay, will offer a programme from infant care to kindergarten.

The Garden School will be purpose-built and set a new direction in early years education by offering an innovative and unique programme and learning environment specially designed on the three pillars of nature education, sustainability, and community:

1. A nature school in the gardens
2. Change agents for the future
3. The garden is my community

A nature school in the gardens

Situated in the unique surroundings of Gardens by the Bay, the school's programme is derived from its immediate environment. The curriculum is designed for children to spend 50% of their time outdoors in the iconic spaces of Gardens by the Bay. Apart from curated programmes with nature education specialists and horticulturists from Gardens by the Bay, the school will have its own biophilic play area, a bioactive terrarium, a discovery pond, a bug hotel, and a sensory garden that will be exclusively created to offer children a unique and innovative learning experience that is unparalleled in Singapore.

Change agents for the future

The Garden School is committed to being a truly sustainable learning space inculcating active thinking and action in the children to become change agents in their communities.

The design and resourcing of the learning spaces will align with the school's sustainability goals of zero plastic use and using natural materials. The specially designed and curated international cuisine created by our Executive Chef and endorsed by nutritionists will have locally sourced produce to ensure that the freshest ingredients are served to children. Healthy and sustainable cooking with a farm-to-table approach will also engage children in growing produce in the outdoor edible garden. The school will have active plastic, paper, and fabric recycling and compost bins to reduce food waste, a ReAldo Lab to upcycle loose parts and other materials, and a 'water as a renewable energy' project. The children will engage in a modern-day aquaponics farming programme and experience how organisms co-exist within ecosystems. It will also include sustainability practices that will reduce waste while increasing harvesting crops, thus nurturing a natural and organic habit of mind around sustainable practices in everyday life situations. The school will also collaborate closely with Gardens by the Bay to work on initiatives relating to sustainability and innovation.

The garden is my community

The design of the learning spaces and the programmes will nurture collaboration, community spirit, and active citizenry both within and outside the school community. EtonHouse believes the 'environment is the third teacher'. In celebrating this philosophy, the school will have iconic communal spaces that all classrooms will organically connect to. The supertree piazza, a tribute to the school's location, will offer many opportunities for inquiry and exploration. It will also have an explorer mezzanine deck for children to engage in unique sensorial experiences. The enchanted reading tree and the music atelier will encourage many meaningful interactions within the school community.

This school will be a learning hub for the wider community. It will incorporate ground-breaking ideas to enrich Singaporeans' and tourists' lifestyles and recreational activities with edutainment opportunities in a sustainable garden environment through weekend workshops and nature school programmes. It will be an active hub for outdoor learning and sustainability. Charity and community initiatives under the EtonHouse Community Fund will be a key focus of the school's curriculum and operations.

A boutique infant care programme with highly personalised education for infants will be offered in an exclusive space within the pre-school by handpicked teachers and curriculum experts. The campus is easily accessible by private and public transport connections to the Bayfront MRT station.

Ng Yi-Xian, Group CEO of EtonHouse says, "I am very excited about the many ways in which this school will make a difference in the lives of children. Not just the children in the school but also the wider community. The experience in the heart of the most iconic, dynamic, and innovative garden space, which is the pride of Singapore, will provide families and staff with an unparalleled early years experience. One that will be woven intricately with nature and

sustainable practices. Beyond school hours, it will extend its space and programme to reach out to the wider community of families in Singapore. With innovation at the heart of this school’s programme and environment, we are sure it will set a new standard for early childhood education in Singapore”.

Lee Kok Fatt, Gardens by the Bay Deputy CEO said, “The new pre-school at Gardens by the Bay is part of our overall objective to create more nature-based learning opportunities to nurture in the younger generation a culture of sustainability. On weekends, when the pre-school is not in use, the premises can also serve as a space to conduct workshops and programmes rooted in nature for the wider community.”

The pre-school showcase will take place at Gardens by the Bay on the 27th of October, 2022. The school will be open to expressions of interest from the day onwards. The showcase will include the pre-school's unique spaces and experiences. Renovation for the school has commenced, and the school is expected to begin operations in March 2023, subject to approvals.

For more information and fee details, please visit etonhouse.edu.sg/gardenschoolbythebay.

Media Contact:

Bipasha Chanda Minocha Group Brand and Marketing Director Email: bipasha.m@etonhouse.com.sg	Candice Thai Brand and Marketing Manager Email: candice.thai@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 27 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.

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.