CHOICE OF SECOND LANGUAGE INFORMATION SHEET

The YMCA of Hong Kong Christian College offers the following second language options:

- Local Chinese
- Elementary Chinese
- French
- Spanish

All students must study one of these second languages and take the relevant public examination at the end of the course.

If your child is accepted by the school, the choice of second language must be made before s/he is officially registered as a YHKCC student. Once the choice of second language has been confirmed by the school, no changes will be made. It is therefore crucial to make the right decision at this time. Parents are advised to base the decision on their child’s language learning background, ability, interest and career plan for the future.

For enquiries, please contact Ms. Kit Ng, Assistant Principal (Examinations), by telephone on 29888123 or by E-mail at kitying.ng@yhkcc.edu.hk.

LOCAL CHINESE

Target Group: This subject is designed for
(a) students who studied the local Chinese language curriculum in primary school, and
(b) the primary language spoken at home is Chinese.

(Please note that the Education Bureau has specific requirements regarding the language that students learn in secondary school. Students who have studied the regular local Chinese language curriculum for 6 years or more in primary school must study the local Chinese language curriculum in secondary school.)

Public Examination: Students allocated to the Hong Kong Stream in Senior Forms will take the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) Chinese Language examination at the
end of Form 6. Students allocated to the International Stream in Senior Forms will take IGCSE First Language Chinese at the end of Form 4 and can opt to study GCE A-level Chinese in Forms 5 and 6, and take the GCE A-level examination at the end of Form 6.

**ELEMENTARY CHINESE**

**Target Group:** This subject is designed for
(a) students who studied elementary level Chinese in primary school (including local schools with an adapted Chinese curriculum, international schools in Hong Kong and schools overseas), or
(b) students who studied the local Chinese language curriculum in primary schools in Hong Kong for not more than 6 years, or
(c) students with no foundation in Chinese language learning, and
(d) the primary language spoken at home is not Chinese.

**Public Examinations:** Students allocated to the Hong Kong Stream in Senior Forms will take IGCSE Chinese as a Second Language or IGCSE Chinese (Mandarin) Foreign Language at the end of Form 4, and either GCE AS-level or GCE A-level Chinese at the end of Form 6. Students allocated to the International Stream in Senior Forms will take IGCSE Chinese as a Second Language or IGCSE Chinese (Mandarin) Foreign Language at the end of Form 4. They can then opt to study GCE A-level Chinese in Forms 5 and 6, and take the GCE A-level examination at the end of Form 6.

**FRENCH**

**Target Group:** This subject is designed for
(a) students who studied French in primary school, or
(b) students with no foundation in French language learning, and
(c) the primary language spoken at home is not Chinese.

**Public Examinations:** Students allocated to the Hong Kong Stream in Senior Forms will take IGCSE Foreign Language French at the end of Form 4 and GCE AS-level French at the end of Form 6. (NB. GCE AS-level French is equivalent to an elective subject in the HKDSE.).
Students allocated to the International Stream in Senior Forms will take IGCSE Foreign Language French at the end of Form 4. They can then opt to study GCE A-level French in Forms 5 and 6, and take the GCE A-level examination at the end of Form 6.

**SPANISH**

**Target Group:** This subject is designed for

(a) students who studied Spanish in primary school, or

(b) students with no foundation in Spanish language learning, and

(c) the primary language spoken at home is not Chinese.

**Public Examination:** Students allocated to the Hong Kong Stream in Senior Forms will take IGCSE Foreign Language Spanish at the end of Form 4 and GCE AS-level Spanish at the end of Form 6. (NB. GCE AS-level Spanish is equivalent to an elective subject in the HKDSE.). Students allocated to the International Stream in Senior Forms will take IGCSE Foreign Language Spanish at the end of Form 4. They can then opt to study GCE A-level Spanish in Forms 5 and 6, and take the GCE A-level examination at the end of Form 6.

**General Notes**

1. Students who have studied the local Chinese language curriculum for 6 years or more in primary school are expected to choose the local Chinese language curriculum in secondary school (rather than Elementary Chinese, French or Spanish).

2. New students who are admitted to the school during Form 1 or in higher form are likely to find it more difficult to catch up with any language syllabus. They will obviously need to work very hard and are strongly advised to seek extra help from teachers.