

INFORMATION BOOKLET

ACADEMIC YEAR 2023/24



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INTRODUCTION

Congratulations on your offer to join us at Li Po Chun United World College of Hong Kong (LPCUWC)! This booklet aims to help you have an easy and smooth move to the College and Hong Kong. You may find further information about the College on our website <http://www.lpcuwc.edu.hk>.

THE UWC EXPERIENCE

The UWC experience at LPCUWC falls into three broad areas:

1. Academic: All students at the College follow the IB Diploma Programme
2. The EOTC programme focuses on experiential learning – learning by doing in a context outside the traditional classroom in order to develop the whole person. EOTC is central to the values of a UWC. The programme is comprised of:
 - Quan Cai (IB CAS) activities
 - China Week & Project Week
 - Cultural Evenings
 - Orientation Week
 - Sports & sports teams
 - Outdoor pursuits

Quan Cai (IB CAS)

Consists of 4 components which students must participate in throughout the year:

- (Community) Service – service projects targeting the Hong Kong and wider community
- (Campus) Service – activities to support the running of the campus
- Creativity – activities that are artistic or require creative thinking
- Activity – activities focused on physical well-being, sports & outdoor pursuits

Project Weeks

- All students participate in Project Weeks in the Asia region
- The aim of Project Weeks focuses on facilitating *Service* and *Challenge* experiences
- Students develop independence and leadership by proposing, leading and participating in trips

3. Residential life: LPCUWC is a 100% residential community. Living together on campus enables students to learn how to share, trust, get on with others, learn from one another, and form friendships for life.

This booklet is split into two sections:

- Part 1 lists tasks you need to complete by **5 June 2023**
- Part 2 and onward contain important information and advice to help you prepare for your journey at the College in the coming months

Please read through the whole booklet and be sure to complete the required tasks as soon as possible.

You are welcome to contact the College at any time by e-mail, fax or phone if you have queries.

Contacts:

E-mail: OFFICE@LPCUWC.EDU.HK Tel: (852) 2640 0441 Fax: (852) 2643 4088

I look forward to meeting you in August. Welcome to the LPCUWC community!

Spencer Fowler

Principal

August 2023

PART 1 – THINGS TO DO

Please read the following information carefully and complete all required tasks in the correct order. If you have any questions at any time, you are of course welcome to e-mail, telephone, fax or write to the College.

What Do You Have to Do Immediately?

1. Visa Application for Overseas Students

- *If you hold a permanent HKID or a HK dependent visa, you do not need a visa – go straight to item 2 on P.6*
- *If you need a student visa to study in Hong Kong, **send the below IMMEDIATELY to the College:***

1. Completed Entry Visa Application Form*;
2. One passport size photo (please scan, do not submit a photo of the photo);
3. Completed Consent Form*;
4. A photocopy of the personal details page of your passport; (*your passport should be valid for at least one year*);
5. A photocopy of the personal details page of your both parents' passport with their signatures (*if your parent does not have a passport, please send a copy of any official document, e.g. driver's licence or bank book, etc. with his/her name and signature on it.*);
6. A notarised copy / certified true copy of your birth certificate (translated in English)
7. Financial proof document, e.g., the latest bank statement (in English, notarised translation is required if it is not in English) showing there is sufficient fund to meet your committed parental contribution.

****Please make sure all signatures on the forms are the same as on the passports.***

You should send this to us as soon as possible. We **strongly advise** you to send it by **email or courier/express mail** if delays are frequent in your national postal service. The College applies to the Hong Kong Immigration Department on your behalf for a visa label which we will send to you by courier mail to put on your passport. This process can take 10 weeks so do it early! **Do not approach the Chinese Embassy/Consulate General in your country but follow the above procedure and act promptly.**

Students might be traveling to Mainland China for Project Weeks. Overseas students will need to obtain a Chinese visa beforehand here in Hong Kong. **The above documents are required for Chinese visa application as well.**

Please send the full application with required documents to:

E-mail: office@lpcuwc.edu.hk (visa application)
admissions@lpcuwc.edu.hk (inquiries)

Or courier/post to:

Li Po Chun United World College

10 Lok Wo Sha Lane, Sai Sha Road, Ma On Shan, Sha Tin, New Territories, Hong Kong
Tel.: +852 2640 0441

2. Medical Examination

Official acceptance by the College depends on completion of the Medical Report (found https://www.lpcuwc.edu.hk/uploads/2022intake_Joining_Paper/LPCUWC_Medical_Report_2022.pdf). Take it to your local doctor and upload the completed form together with written reports on your laboratory blood test, urine test and X-ray to the SurveyMonkey Apply portal as soon as possible and **NO LATER THAN 30 JUNE 2023** (Only the reports are required, you need NOT forward the X-ray film to the College).

It is very important that all medical and psychiatric conditions are reported fully to us before you arrive at the College.

3. Joining Papers

All of the below tasks must be completed on the SurveyMonkey Apply portal. You have received an email from the portal prompting you to register for an account. Once you have done so, log in (<https://apply.uwc.org/acc/>) and you will find the program “Li Po Chun UWC Enrollment”. You will be able to access and submit all relevant forms there.

Hong Kong Students (applied through UWCHK):

To be completed and submitted on SurveyMonkey Apply by **5 June 2023**:

- Consent Form
- Influenza Vaccination Consent Form
- Data Privacy Consent Form
- UWC Student Code of Conduct Form
- Statement of Commitment to the UWC Movement
- Student Data Form
 - o Passport size photo
 - o HKID card
 - o Student Passport
 - o Father's Passport
 - o Mother's Passport
 - o Last 2 years of Academic Report (academic year 2021-2022 & 2022-2023)
 - o China Travel Pass (if applicable)
 - o Dependent visa in your passport (if applicable)

To be completed and uploaded on SurveyMonkey Apply by **30 June 2023**:

- Medical Report
 - o Copy of your vaccination record
 - o Blood test report
 - o X-ray report
 - o Urine test report

To be completed on Google Form:

- Subject Selection Form (instructions will be sent in June 2023)

Overseas Students:

To be completed and submitted on SurveyMonkey Apply by **5 June 2023**:

- Consent Form
- Influenza Vaccination Consent Form
- Data Privacy Consent Form
- UWC Student Code of Conduct Form
- Statement of Commitment to the UWC Movement
- Student Data Form
 - o Colour passport size photo
 - o Student Passport
 - o Father's Passport
 - o Mother's Passport
 - o Last 2 years of Academic Report (academic year 2021-2022 & 2022-2023)

To be completed and uploaded on SurveyMonkey Apply by **30 June 2023**:

- Medical Report
 - o Copy of your vaccination record
 - o Blood test report
 - o X-ray report
 - o Urine test report

To be completed in hard copies and submitted either through email (*preferred*) or post:

- Student Visa Application Form (**TOP PRIORITY**, please complete and return this ASAP) with supporting documents. (Please refer to P.5 of the booklet for details)

To be completed on Google Form:

- Subject Selection Form (instructions will be sent in June 2023)
- Arrival Details Form (link: <https://forms.gle/iremCsyWCDimQ5SJ7>, once you have booked your flights)

PART 2 – GENERAL INFORMATION

Important Dates (Provisional)

Overseas Student arrival in Hong Kong*	19 th August 2023
Hong Kong Student arrival on campus**	20 th August 2023
Departure for Winter break	15 th and 16 th December 2023
Return for Term 2	6 th and 7 th January 2024
Departure for Summer break	To Be Determined

*You will find out your room allocation at the Guard House when you arrive at the main gate.

The teaching year is short, and therefore students should adhere **strictly** to published term dates. You should approach the Director of Studies at least three weeks in advance for any variation that will require **Special Leave**.

Overseas students holding HK student visas studying at the College are requested to leave the College end of term each year. Although the visa might allow students to stay after the term date in HK, parents and students fully understand that LPCUWC would not take any responsibility for their extended stay.

Travel Bookings

For overseas students: Please try your best to book tickets that allow for full refund cancellation or flexible amendments. Please note that the above are all provisional dates, subject to revision. Please do not book non-refundable or non-changeable air tickets based on these dates until dates are confirmed. You should do the same when you make provisional bookings for December and June. We require you to plan to leave provisionally on **17th December 2023 for the winter break and at the end of the academic year**. Once you have confirmed your flight to Hong Kong, let the College know your flight number and arrival time by filling in the Arrival Details Form so we can arrange for any quarantine reservations.

Costs and Budgeting

Inclusive school fees:

	<u>2023-2024</u>	<u>2024-2025</u>
Hong Kong students	HKD\$308,000* (~USD\$39,200)	HKD\$316,000* (~USD\$40,300)
Overseas students	HKD\$406,000* (~USD\$51,700)	HKD\$416,000* (~USD\$53,000)

A great majority of students are in receipt of scholarships or financial assistance at the College.

Please note that students whose first year fees are not fully paid by the end of first year are **not** eligible to return to second year.

**Estimation only, subject to further change by the College Board and final approval by the Hong Kong Education Bureau.*

A total of HK\$6,500 is recommended to cover pocket money for the first year. Additional expenses are itemised below. This does not include expenses during the Winter break and may not cover the full cost of university applications that varies from student to student. University Application will only take place in the second year.

You are recommended to bring in the form of US dollars traveller's cheques or a bank draft drawn on a Hong Kong bank in Hong Kong dollars rather than in cash or as a foreign currency cheque. The College assists students in opening a bank account in the first few days after arrival. However, if you have a bank card that you can withdraw money from the ATMs in Hong Kong, then there may not be a need to open a bank account.

While we hope this will not apply to you, the College does charge students for items of College property that they have lost or damaged.

For convenience, hard currency (US\$50 or equivalent) should be converted to Hong Kong dollars on arrival at the airport.

Additional Costs:

- Visa:** The College covers the cost of the student visa for Year 1. The student visa will be renewed at the beginning of Year 2 at your cost (about HK\$230).
- Travel:** Parents or the UWC National Committee are required to meet the costs of return travel to and from Hong Kong at the beginning and end of each academic year. Families are encouraged to explore the most economic options which often are obtained by booking well in advance. The College meets travel costs for a small number of full scholarship students each year.
- Pocket Money:** Although Hong Kong is not an expensive city by world standards, it is easy for students to spend money on clothes and entertainment. However, it is recommended that students are not given excessive pocket money, in part to be sensitive to the economic circumstances of others, in part because it is not absolutely needed. We recommend a maximum of HK\$190 per week, no more than HK\$6,500 for the year.
- Winter Break:** Under normal circumstances, all students must vacate the campus during the winter break. For many students, it can be cheaper to travel to a neighbouring country than returning home, and for many students, this is an opportunity to explore Southeast Asia or China. The College will help arrange host family or alternative accommodation for students who are unable to return home for winter break. Students are encouraged to plan ahead for the break as the demand for host families is very high. There may be an alternative arrangement

dependent on the development of COVID-19. Alternative arrangement will be communicated by the College closer to date.

SAT/TOEFL and University Applications

In second year, students applying to University in the USA, Canada or UK should budget for:

CSS Financial Aid Profile	
• Initial application	US\$25
• Additional report	US\$16 per university
SAT	US\$105
ACT	US\$150/US\$166.5
TOEFL	US\$245
IELTS	US\$305
University Application fees (average)	US\$70 - 100 (per application)
UK "UCAS" general application	GBP20 / GBP26

*This is mostly incurred in the second year.

Legalization of examination results

Universities in certain countries require the IB Diploma results document to be legalized by the appropriate authority in Geneva. The Diploma itself is only legalized in exceptional circumstances when required. Argentina requires the legalization of the Diploma itself as well as the Diploma results document. In some cases, universities in Mexico, Egypt, Netherlands, Spain may also require the legalization of both documents.

The current standard legalization fee is US\$167 per document. It is important that students are aware of this, as the College is unable to provide financial support for this. This would be a cost that applies in Year 2. The Universities Guidance Counsellor Team can advise students if their host country requires this legalization process.

Insurance

The College insurance will not be able to cover the loss or damage of personal belongings e.g. personal computer, eyeglasses, contact lens, musical instrument or any other valuable/money during term times (including participation in college-related activities, China Week or Project Week) and non-term times. Students are advised to obtain their own personal insurance cover for their personal belongings or to seek advice from their home country's insurance adviser to extend their home contents' insurance to cover their property during their stay at LPCUWC and travel out of Hong Kong.

Health

Medical Treatment

There are two part-time non-resident nurses on campus from Monday to Saturday, who attend to routine minor ailments, and who offer advice on health care, diet and lifestyle. There is a government clinic close to College and a major public hospital is situated only 15 minutes away. An ambulance service arrives in a few minutes in cases of emergency. A medical doctor normally visits the College once a week. There are two part-time counsellors who visit the campus regularly. Students may be referred to the counsellor by a member of staff or self-refer. In both cases, the sessions are confidential, and the counsellor would normally only share information about a student with his/her permission.

The above services are covered by the College, but **private** medical care if required would be the responsibility of the student's family. Public health care in Hong Kong is high quality, however there are long waiting lists for any specialists. There is a long wait time at public clinics and the emergency rooms. Medical insurance is HIGHLY recommended.

It must be made clear that treatment of any illness which has occurred BEFORE a student's arrival at Li Po Chun United World College is NOT the College's responsibility, and if continuing treatment, consultation, investigation of laboratory for and/or X-ray tests are needed for such an illness, parents must pay for the cost.

The College only takes financial responsibility in a government clinic for treatment of illnesses or other medical problems arising after a student arrives, and during their stay, at the College.

Physical/Mental Illness

Because of the full and rigorous life at the College, we insist that any physical, emotional problems and mental illnesses must be brought to our attention in writing by the parent or guardian of the student, before enrolment. The information is held in strict confidence by our medical staff and only released to others on a "need to know" basis. **Failure to inform the College medical staff of previous physical, emotional or mental illness may result in dismissal of the student.** Except for specific medical conditions, e.g. asthma, diabetes, **students are not to bring medications or pills with them.** All medications should be prescribed by local doctors and should be dispensed from the local pharmacies. In cases of students bringing medication to the College, the nurse must be informed. Any supply of more than a week's medication must be left in the nurse's care.

It is important to note that medical insurance in Hong Kong does not cover most mental, psychological and emotional conditions. Treatment for these is very expensive in Hong Kong, and if needed, they will be at the student's expense.

Local Medical Expenses

(A) Public Hospital / Clinic

Public health service in Hong Kong is sufficient and is of a good standard, particularly for emergencies. Overseas students with a valid student visa will also be entitled to use the Hong Kong Public Health system at a low cost. The cost of attending public hospitals & public clinics will be covered by the College (except for PRE-EXISTING medical conditions).

However, if you choose to have private medical insurance cover i.e. you don't want to queue up and wait for the government outpatient/clinic services OR you prefer PRIVATE medical care than Public, then you need to obtain your own private medical scheme at your own cost (details as described in point (B) below).

(B) OPTIONAL Private Medical Insurance

Private Medical Insurance is optional at your own cost.

For those who are under 18 years old, you are advised to obtain private medical insurance cover in your own country because the insurance company in Hong Kong normally will not accept insurance application for those students who are under 18 years old.

For those who are 18 years old or above AND possess a bank account in Hong Kong, you can "online" contact the insurance companies in Hong Kong directly to get a quotation or to enrol to their insurance policy. Different people may have different needs. If you would like the College to refer you to a few insurance companies in Hong Kong, please email admissions@lpcuwc.edu.hk

Please note that the cost of dental and eye care are the responsibility of the student/parent.

Medical / Travel for Trips Out of Hong Kong

Students are STRONGLY advised to obtain "travel" insurance when they travel out of Hong Kong. The College provides "basic" travel insurance cover to students for "College approved" China Week and Project Week travels. The insurance only covers medical, personal accident and 24-hour global emergency assistance but does NOT cover the loss of travel documents or loss or damage of personal belongings at any circumstances. The insurance sets the limits of the College's responsibility in case of any accident. Details of these policies are available on request.

"Personal travel insurance" out of Hong Kong is the responsibility of the student/their family. Parents/Students may also like to consider obtaining travel insurance from their own country to cover the student's stay out of his/her own country.

Students who travel outside Hong Kong should prepare against travel related illnesses. During their travel, students are strongly advised not to drink water (unless bottled purified water) and to avoid ice, and to protect against mosquitoes by wearing long sleeves, light coloured clothing and using insect repellent. It is the responsibility of the

student/parents to follow the necessary vaccinations, prophylactic medication, health advice and precautionary measures for the country(ies) they are going to visit.

Immunisation

Before arrival at the College, students should be properly immunised against Meningococcus, Tetanus, Rubella, Typhoid, and Hepatitis A and B. If the College has to arrange for immunisation of any student, a charge will be made. It is strongly recommended that all female students be immunised against Rubella (German Measles). Immunisation for Typhoid and Meningococcus may be required before students travel from Hong Kong into South-east Asia, and students may wish to consider getting these before arrival in Hong Kong. Please refer to the Medical Report for the minimum acceptable level of immunisation.

Flu Vaccination

Because of the distinctive nature of the College, with students from many different countries living in close proximity to one another, the College provides free flu vaccinations for all students, residential staff and families and non-residential staff every year. This free flu vaccination is optional and a parental consent for each student has been included with the "Consent Form".

Dental Costs

Students should have had a recent dental examination and any necessary dental work completed before arrival at the College. Students requiring dental treatment while at the College may make their own arrangements locally, and at their own expense.

Eyeglasses

It is recommended that students who wear glasses or contact lens bring a second pair or a prescription of eye correction with them. The College medical plan for students does not cover the purchase of eyeglasses or ophthalmic examinations.

Safety

The College takes every precaution and maintains sound safety standards for all activities. Students and their families should be aware that there are inherent risks involved in some activities such as mountain walking, climbing, rural expeditions and water activities. The College works with staff and students to ensure that safe procedures are followed in all activities. A separate indemnity form is required for students engaged in diving.

When undertaking College approved activities during term times, students are covered by a group personal accident insurance policy taken out by the College (i.e. Accidental Death and Accidental Permanent Disablement = HK\$200,000). Details of these

policies are available on request. Parents should take out more insurance cover, private medical insurance and travel insurance, if deemed necessary, for the students' stay in Hong Kong or their travels outside Hong Kong.

As a precaution against any eventuality, we ask you to give parent/guardian's permission for us to act 'in loco parentis' should the occasion arise when your child requires urgent medical treatment.

PART 3 – PREPARING FOR THE COLLEGE

What Do You Have to Bring?

Clothing and Personal Items

We strongly advise that you bring only the luggage you can carry.

Normal everyday dress is relaxed on campus though you will need at least one smart outfit for special occasions. A “smart casual” or more formal outfit is also nice for going off campus, for social events, or when representing College. For those who come from very different climates, don't worry - all purchases can be made easily here. Warm clothes are needed for about eight weeks during January to March when the temperature may drop below 10°C. Your normal everyday wear from home will be fine most of the time if it is suitable for warm weather.

For sport, you will need sports shoes with non-marking soles, shorts, T-shirt, and a swimsuit. You may be involved in hiking and camping at some time, so stronger shoes, socks and rainwear are recommended. A sleeping bag is useful for holidays, Project Week or visits to families who may host you while you are in Hong Kong, though these may also be borrowed from the College Camp Store. Bring your rucksack if you have one.

If you have special skills or interests in music, the performing arts, sport or other hobbies, you should bring your equipment/instrument if you can. It would be the students' responsibilities to take care of their equipment as they will not be insured by the College's insurance.

You need to bring your own towels, face cloth and an initial supply of toiletries.

You will want to personalise your area of the dormitory, so personal items, photographs, posters and so on all help to make your own space colourful and homely.

As College life can be hectic, a diary is essential to keep track of your many commitments. This you can bring, or you may take advantage of a diary generated by the College.

National Dress, Flag, Posters and Information about Your Country

You are representing your country at the College. You should bring your national dress wherever possible for wearing on international evenings, open days, and special occasions. Please bring, if possible, some posters of your country. Anything else you can bring that is representative of your country, or that is relevant to your national or special commemorative days, adds to the richness of the cultural exchange on campus. Some students like to share the “taste from home”, so bringing special spices/ingredients is also a good idea. The more the better. If you are the first student from your country to attend LPCUWC, please bring your national flag.

Information about the current political, economic and environmental situation in your country will help you to contribute constructively to discussion and debate. Most useful would be a list of websites, if they exist, that have key information about your country and which you think are "readable" by students of your age. Do some surfing on the net before you come. We may ask you to help construct a simple webpage for your country while you are at College as part of the UWC network of information.

Computer, Books and Stationery

All students should have a laptop computer as they are used in almost every class. The College has an online learning platform that teachers and students frequently use both in class and outside the classroom. You may use a Windows laptop or MacBook. Please make sure you have a valid and activated Windows/Mac OS license. The minimum OS and hardware requirements of student laptop:

Operating System: Windows 7/8.1/10 or MacOS X

CPU: Intel Core i3

Memory: 4GB

Hard Drive: 256GB

Wireless Network Adapter: 802.11n/ac

Other accessories: USB Drive (16GB or above)

Note: Chromebook is NOT recommended.

If you do not have your own Microsoft Office, the College can provide it but the license will be expired after you graduate from the College.

Please also make sure you have installed/have access to the following software/platforms. Logins to these platforms will be provided in June:

Email (Office 365): <http://webmail.lpcuwc.edu.hk>

Zoom: <https://zoom.us/>

Google Drive: www.google.com/drive

Google Calendar: www.google.com/calendar

iSAMS: <https://lpcuwc.students.isams.cloud>

ManageBac: <https://lpcuwc.managebac.com>

We have an IT team who can help students with IT issues. If you have any concerns or problems regarding your laptop, please contact the College for advice. If you are not able to purchase a laptop, there is limited supply of laptops for loan. You should contact the College to see if one can be lent to you.

If you bring a laptop with you from overseas, you are strongly advised to have an international warranty covered for your laptop. Please check the warranty expiry date of your laptop, and if the warranty is soon to expire, you should consider extending the warranty to cover your time at the College. **It is important to bring the sales invoice of your laptop to Hong Kong for warranty claim.**

Please check the following links to get more information about international warranty of your laptop. If your laptop brand is not on the list, please consult your vendor directly.

Apple:

<https://www.apple.com/hk/en/support/products/faqs.html>

(AppleCare products provide global repair coverage)

Dell:

<https://www.dell.com/support/assets-transfer/hk/en/hkbsd1#/Identify>

Lenovo:

<https://support.lenovo.com/hk/en/solutions/ht505335>

HP:

<https://support.hp.com/us-en/document/bpr01266> (Warranty is non-transferable, please check with your local vendor for the availability of Global Warranty for your laptop model)

Fujitsu:

<https://support.ts.fujitsu.com/IndexWarranty.asp?lng=EN> (Please check with your local vendor for the availability of international warranty for your laptop model)

ASUS:

https://www.asus.com/support/images/upload/warranty/global_Notebook.pdf (Please check with your local vendor for the availability of international warranty for your laptop model)

Acer:

<http://www.acer.com/worldwide/support/itw.htm> (Warranty is non-transferable, please check with your local vendor for the availability of International Travelers Warranty for your laptop model)

All mathematics courses require a graphic display calculator. This costs about HK\$1,300 in Hong Kong. If you wish to buy one in advance, the brands approved by the IB for examination purposes are listed in the Mathematics section of the course selection notes. The College has a limited number of calculators for loan, allocated on a need's basis.

All textbooks are loaned by the College and a basic supply of stationery is provided. The stationery provided consists of one pack of lined paper, one whiteboard marker, one pack of printer paper and four ballpoint pens. There are several stationary shops near the College.

If your first language has not been examined before at the College, you may be contacted by the Head of Languages to ask you to bring with you a number of works of literature in your own language. The cost of these books will be refunded by the College on arrival if you bring the receipts.

What Happens When You Arrive?

Preparing to Board

Prior to boarding your flight, you are required to update your arrivals information via the [arrivals info form](#).

At the Airport

On arrival at the airport, you should fill in a [Declaration Form](#) that asks for your flight details, travel history, COVID-19 vaccination and history etc. Although there is WiFi provided at Hong Kong's airport, **we strongly encourage you to complete the form at your last departure airport as there are a lot of details to be filled in.**

At the College

You will be assigned to a four bedroom in one of the residences, each of which accommodates house tutors, their families and about 60 students. In your room, there will normally be one student from Hong Kong or Mainland China and a second year from another country. Second year students will be able to tell you lots about the College and Hong Kong. On the first day of Orientation Week, you will have a meeting with your Head of House who will explain the college procedures to you.

The First Week: Orientation Week

21st to 26th August 2023 will be a busy schedule of activities which enables you to get to know staff and students - particularly those in your house and tutor group - and to be introduced to Hong Kong and the countryside near the College. In past years, it has included a tour of the city, an overnight camp, social activities on campus and a visit to the Immigration Department to obtain your Hong Kong Identity Card (for overseas students). In certain cases, there will be some writing tasks in English and Chinese to help us recommend initial language placements.

Classes start on 28th August 2023, and before that you will meet with your tutor to ensure that you understand the academic programme and are well placed to make the most of your time at LPCUWC. You will be given plenty of information in the coming months that will allow you to make the best choices.

Activities and Service

During Orientation Week, staff and second year students run an information fair to advertise the activities and services available for you. Over the two years, you are expected to seek a balance between the components involving activity, creativity and service to both the local community and the College. You are also encouraged to start or contribute to new student initiatives.

Other Things You Might Be Wondering About

Food

The College dining room provides a choice of Asian, Western, and Vegetarian food at all meals. Fresh salad is available at lunch and dinner and fresh fruit is served daily. The College cannot undertake to cater for highly specialised diets, except for medical reasons e.g. allergies, and if you have very particular dietary preferences, you may need to budget extra money for supplementary items.

A committee composed of student representatives, the nurse, the Director of Administration and the Director of Student Welfare meets when necessary with the Caterer to monitor and provide feedback on the standard of catering. The College Caterer is currently Sodexo, one of the largest institutional caterers in the world, who caters for many of the tertiary institutes and international schools in Hong Kong, as well as overseas. They also cater for our sister Colleges, UWC-USA in the United States and UWCSEA in Singapore.

Religion

Because of the diversity of religions represented at the College, there are many opportunities for interfaith discussion and dialogue. Students are encouraged and helped to establish contact with people of their faith in the local community, and there are a number of fellowship groups on campus. The College has built an Enlightenment Centre as a place of quiet retreat and reflection as well as providing a focus for some religious celebrations. College staff include teachers from most of the larger religious traditions.

Holiday Arrangements

The College remains open during short breaks in October, Chinese New Year and Easter. Under normal circumstances, the College is closed from 17th December (p.m.) 2023 to 5th January (p.m.) 2024 during the December break.

Visitors to The Campus

Under normal circumstances, adult members of the immediate family (parents or siblings) of overseas students can book accommodation on campus in advance for a maximum of four nights depending on availability. One small guest flat and a 'hotel' room are available on campus and are available on a "First come First serve" basis, free of charge. Prior approval must be obtained from the Principal or the Director of Administration before students make arrangements with their families.

Student visitors of ages 16 to 18 may be accommodated in the dormitories, for up to five nights, if advance permission (two weeks) is obtained from the Head of House, and is free of charge. Only a maximum number of five people can be allowed in one room at any given time.

Parents (and other members of the immediate family) may visit their son/daughter's room when on campus. The purpose of such visits should be limited to a short overview of the living environment and between 9.00am and 9.00pm only. As students share their rooms with three other students, we request that parents be sensitive to other students who may not see their parents for the whole year. Meetings with son/daughter are thus requested to take place in the day room. Visitors are currently not allowed on campus under COVID-19 policy.

Keeping in Touch with Home

Many students use Skype, FaceTime, Zoom and other social media platforms to keep in touch with their family and friends. There are telephones in the residences and phone cards for international calls can be purchased. Wi-Fi is available on campus from 06:30 to 23:30 on Sunday to Thursday; and 06:30 to 01:00 on Friday, Saturday and the day before public holiday. Students may purchase SIM cards for offline data or emergency calls for a small cost with monthly packages (pay as you go). However, most overseas students do not choose to buy a local SIM card.

Overseas students may send and receive messages from home via the College fax: **(852) 2643 4088**. Incoming mails are available for collection in the General Office from Monday to Friday during the office hours. There is a post office in the local shopping centre. The College does not process outgoing mail, so students must take it to the post office themselves.

The College communicates with parents and National Committees on several occasions, using the addresses/telephone numbers provided at the time of application. Should a change of address and/or circumstances occur during the time a student is in the College, it is important that the College gets a written notification of the change(s).

Like other United World Colleges, LPCUWC insists that students remain on campus overnight during weekends to build a closer sense of community. Overnight leave is not granted except in exceptional circumstances, and this includes students from Hong Kong as we do not want to foster a division between local and overseas students. When Hong Kong students are granted overnight leave, such as during special holidays and festivals, it is expected that they will host one or more overseas friends if possible. There are currently limitations due to COVID-19 policy. Such policies will be updated from time to time, depending on the development of COVID-19.

Personal Support

Your first lines of support are the students who share your room, your tutor and your tutor group. In addition, you will soon make other friends on campus. There is a student support system which includes talks and discussions during the year to help you manage your time, balance your activities, and to enable you to meet the various challenges of College life. A group of second year students have been trained as peer supporters. To ensure protection of all students, the College has very clear policies on Student Protection and Harassment. Many students make social contacts in the

community through religious affiliation, their consulate, or other expatriates from their country.

Substance Use and Abuse

This is important – you must understand that illicit drug use, including marijuana, is viewed VERY seriously in Hong Kong, as it is strictly illegal. Under no circumstances may any student at LPCUWC possess or use drugs, and non-compliance on this matter will usually result in a student’s visa to study in Hong Kong being withdrawn for overseas students, and it could result in a criminal record. In Hong Kong, the legal drinking alcohol age is 18.

Possession and use of alcohol on campus is strictly prohibited. The College retains the right to search students’ living areas if possession of alcohol and/or drugs is reasonably suspected or reported.

Under Hong Kong Law, LPCUWC is a smoke-free campus.

College Procedures and Policies

College procedure will be explained in detail at the beginning of Orientation Week. However, you are required to read and understand the following College policies and rules by clicking the relevant links at <https://www.lpcuwc.edu.hk/about-us/lpcuwc/college-policies>, which are for your awareness and protection. The policies will be updated from time to time as necessary.

- Conduct in the Residences
- Policy on Harassment
- Policy on Student Protection
- Policy on Substance Abuse
- Rules for the Student Community

Please also make yourself aware of the other College policies when you look at the website link.

And in Conclusion.....

The most important expectation we have of our students is that you make the very best of the opportunities which attending a United World College offers. The two years go by very quickly, and it is vital that you get fully engaged in all aspects of the College life. Do not miss an opportunity to share ideas and experiences with students from other countries. Inform yourself about key environmental and political issues. Try new activities. Follow through your good ideas and turn them into action. Be fully committed to your service programmes. Aim for excellence in everything you do, especially your academic work. The more you give the more you will get out of the experience.

It is the hope of everyone concerned with the United World Colleges that the attitudes and values which underpin the College life will stay with you beyond the two years UWC experience. In your life at university and beyond, we hope you will seek to promote international understanding, to resolve conflict and to be an active, responsible and informed international citizen. The enormous amount of voluntary effort and fundraising by generous benefactors which support the College is given in the hope that you will, in your lifetime, help to make the world a better place.

We also hope that you will value the UWC experience and seek to enable others to have the same opportunity that you have had, through involvement in the UWC network of graduates, in support of the UWC National Committee in your country of residence, and in due course by donation to the scholarship endowment of the College.

As a UWC student, you are accepting a place which has been awarded on merit often from a wide field of applicants. You are being offered a unique educational opportunity, but one that brings with it is responsibilities. The great majority of students are receiving scholarships or financial assistance from the College, and continued funding in the second year is dependent on satisfactory participation and involvement in the programme in the first year.

It is hard to imagine a more stimulating environment for education than Hong Kong. Our College is situated in a beautiful setting that is a cultural crossroad, a major world city, and a great place to be! However, to get the most from your experience in Hong Kong, it is necessary to understand and fit in with the traditions and culture of the place.

Good luck, and I look forward to welcoming you to the College. You have two very exciting years ahead of you.

Spencer Fowler
Principal
August 2023

PART 4 – RULES FOR THE STUDENT COMMUNITY

These rules support the UWC Common Code of Conduct, which is a statement of principles, by providing details on how it is implemented at LPCUWC.

One of the key aims of Li Po Chun United World College is to encourage honesty, integrity and high personal standards among the student body. Formal rules are kept to a minimum, but a certain number is necessary to ensure the smooth-running of the institution and to conform with the framework of Hong Kong Law. College rules are organised as follows: these rules apply to all College activities, on or off campus -

1. Expellable

For actions such as the following, students should expect to be immediately expelled from the College:

- Theft
- Possession or use of illegal drugs (see Substance Abuse Policy)
- Physical/sexual harassment, including assault
- Repetition or accumulation of offenses from the other, serious or very serious categories

2. Very Serious

For actions such as the following, students should expect to receive a strongly worded letter home and to your National Committee, as well as a nine days gating including two weekends stating their suspension*, with any repetition resulting in expulsion.

- Sexual or inappropriate intimacy on campus
- Intentional-speech likely to result in potential harm to self, others or the College
- International action likely to result in potential harm to self, others or the College
- Hazing**
- Repetition or accumulations of offenses from the serious category

3. Serious

For actions such as the following, students should expect to receive a strongly worded letter home and to your National Committee, as well as two normally consecutive weekends gating, with any repetition within this category resulting in suspension*. A third offence within this category would result in expulsion.

- Drunkenness or possession of alcohol on campus
- Leaving campus at unauthorized times
- Creating a fire hazard (e.g. through tampering with fire safety equipment)
- Smoking on campus
- Using the swimming pool when no lifeguards are on duty (will be considered very serious if under the influence of alcohol)
- Major anti-social behavior (including, but not limited to, harassment (non-sexual) and discriminatory behavior)

- Academic malpractice (see Policy on Academic Malpractice)
- Intentional/negligent destruction of College property or the property of members of the community
- Repeatedly missing scheduled College activities (including, but not limited to, classes and QC)
- Non-compliance with a reasonable instruction from an employee of the College
- Intentional deceptive speech or action
- Repetition or accumulation of offenses from the 'other' category

4. **Other**

In the case of other infringements, such as the following, students should expect to receive two weekends gating:

- Visiting the dormitories of another student at unauthorized times
- Anti-social behaviour (e.g. noise, disturbances, unauthorized removal of canteen ware out of canteen)
- #Also see Policy on Consideration in the Residences

In addition, at the end of term 2, any student breaking any of the College rules will not be allowed to participate in the Graduation ceremony. Depending on the severity of the breach, the Principal might decide to apply the UWC Common Code of Conduct to the letter.

* Depending on the circumstances, suspension can range from a symbolic one (e.g. a disciplinary letter stating suspension with no further action) to being sent home for up to a month

** Hazing is usually defined as the practice of rituals and other activities often involving harassment, abuse or humiliation. It includes but is not limited to:

- "any act or behaviour which would generally not be socially acceptable in a society"
- "any act or behaviour which carries intent (malicious or not) to cause harm/intimidate/humiliate/harass/ abuse/torment physical or emotional torment"
- "any act or behaviour which allows one party to be demeaned for the amusement of another"

In extreme cases, such acts/behaviours might be considered as expellable.

August 2023

PART 5 – ADVICE FROM PREVIOUS STUDENTS

Dear First Years: Getting used to a new school life is always an exciting experience. As a school, we try our best to help you settle in and make new friends. From over two decades here at Li Po Chun United World College, our students have come up with a list of suggestions to make it easier for you. This is a list of what they *wish* they had brought when they first arrived:

Things from home:

National songs, dances, and simple recipes (with any special ingredients you need) will all be of help for planning international evenings.

Traditional items from your country that will come in handy for cultural evenings.

Snacks you are used to will help you miss home a bit less, especially as these are not always found in Hong Kong.

A loud and reliable alarm clock.

Outlet converters: Hong Kong uses the British three-pin rectangular blade plug (220 V).

Your national flag (this is highly recommended).

Photos of family and friends.

Toiletries and medicines that you like, as you may not find recognizable brands here. If you have prescription medicine, please contact the College before coming.

A towel from home will help you get through your first week.

A small stash of laundry detergent for the first week. Consider bringing stain remover sticks.

Souvenirs from home to give as gifts to friends for birthdays, host families during China Week, your roommate's family, etc.

Your old school uniform to wear on special uniform dress-up days.

There is a sale of reasonably priced, used furnishings (eg: rugs, cushions, power strips) on campus during or after Orientation Week, so you don't need to bring these things with you in your luggage. There is also a branch of IKEA (affordable furnishings) nearby.

Things to wear:

Clothing on campus is very casual. Students usually wear jeans, shorts and T-shirts, which can all be bought here in Hong Kong.

Shoes suitable for camping/hiking are very useful. So are walking/running shoes, and shoes for sports such as soccer and basketball.

Due to the climate, the temperature will go from about 30°C in September to about 5°C in December. It is necessary to bring warm clothes, in addition to summer wear. A rain jacket is also important. It is important to note that there is no central heating on campus.

A national costume unique to your culture would be most useful. There will be several international evenings and other occasions where everyone wears costumes representing where they are from. These are great photo opportunities you wouldn't want to miss out on.

For important meals, events, or nights out, you will need a semi-formal outfit such as a suit or a semi-formal dress.

There is also a school pool on campus so remember to bring your swimming costume and goggles. If you are unable to swim, or would like to improve your skills, the lifeguard and fellow students will be very happy to teach you.

Things to decorate your corner with:

Your favourite pictures and posters, especially those from your country, are great for decorating your room and the residences.

Dolls, childhood toys; anything that you love in your room back home will make your corner here seem more like your own.

Things to keep you occupied:

A few books about your country or literature in your own language may be donated to the College library for other students to enjoy. Your favourite books are always good reading material too.

A few textbooks in your own language might also be helpful, especially for getting used to the new terminologies used in subjects taught in English, an unfamiliar language for some.

Dormitory Contents:

Each room has four student 'corners', which all contain the same items, although they may not be exactly the same size depending on the shape of the room.

Each corner contains the following items:

- Single bed (twin, not a bunk bed) - with 1 pillow, 1 set of sheets and 1 duvet with cover. The College provides heavier (winter) duvets. Drawers under the bed offer storage space.
- Desk – with a chair, lamp and a set of free standing drawers (that can be locked).
- A narrow free-standing bookshelf (not available in all rooms)
- Walls shelves (2-5)

- Wardrobe – with a drawer, a top shelf and hanging space (limited hangers available).
- Full length mirrors or mirror tiles are available in some rooms (not standard item, left by previous students)
- Curtains – window curtains are provided by the College. A curtain rail surrounds each corner, curtains can be purchased cheaply on or off campus.
- Laundry bins/bags are not provided, but can also be easily purchased along with detergent.

Here is a useful video made by an LPC student which shows a typical student corner: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sXarg9ZllkM>

'Dorm tour Li Po Chun United World College' -Elena Handtrack

Other Tips:

As a guide to the spending money you may want to budget, those full scholars who receive pocket money from the College get HK\$650 per month. Access to money well above this level can cause tensions.

There is 24/7 hour security on campus, with a guardhouse at the main gate and at least two guards on duty at all times. You must sign in/out whenever you enter or leave the campus.

Dormitory doors on campus lock automatically whenever closed, therefore you must carry your room key at all times.

The College is very close to an MTR (subway) and bus station, which also has a taxicab stand. There are pharmacies, supermarkets, bakeries, cafes and a cinema in the nearby malls. Here is a link to learn about the MTR:

<http://www.mtr.com.hk/en/customer/tourist/index.php>

You can sign up for an octopus card when you arrive at the College to help you get around Hong Kong: <http://www.octopus.com.hk/en/consumer/index.html>

During Orientation Week, you will have the opportunity to open a local bank account with Hang Seng Bank. However, you may not need this, if you already have a bank account at home which you can access in Hong Kong. Check to see if fees will be applied when transferring funds from your home account to a Hong Kong account. You should check that your debit/credit card can be used in Hong Kong to withdraw local currency, whether your bank will charge a fee for doing so, and register with your bank of your time abroad. Depending on your nationality, opening a bank account might be less straightforward.

Expect to spend more money during your first month here due to “settling-in” costs (curtains, rugs, adaptors, power strips, etc.).

There is broadband internet access in the rooms and in the Computer Room in each block.

The lessons are conducted in English. Even if your English is not very strong, it becomes better very quickly so do not be afraid of using it from the beginning.

Native English speakers are asked to try to cut as much slang out of their vocabulary as possible to make it easier for those studying English as a second/ava new language to understand them easily.

You may notice that in your corner you have a paper-recycling bin and you as an LPC student are expected to recycle your paper, aluminium and recyclable plastic. This is in order to protect the environment.

However, the biggest tip we can give you is to pack light, as you will find your belongings accumulate very quickly. Most items may be purchased upon your arrival in Hong Kong.

LPCUWC students 1992-2023

