

Young persons in custody at Cape Collinson Correctional Institution attain good examination results (with photos)

Twenty-one young persons in custody at Cape Collinson Correctional Institution (CCCI) of the Correctional Services Department (CSD) were presented with certificates at a ceremony in recognition of their study efforts and achievements today (October 23).

In the past year, 33 young persons in custody at CCCI sat for various academic and vocational examinations including the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) Examination, examinations of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music and examinations covering the subjects of Word Processing Technique, Cambridge English and the Aptis English Assessment Test. The young persons in custody also sat for examinations in the areas of Electrical Wireman, Refrigeration/Air-conditioning/Ventilation Mechanic (Electrical Control), Construction Industry Safety Card Course, Basic Electrical Installation, Computer Aided Design, Hair Sculpture, Food Hygiene Certificate for Hygiene Manager, Skill Proficiency in Basic Food and Beverage Service, Hong Kong Style Café Operations Course, Elementary Cantonese Cooking and Kitchen Operation, Laundry Skills and Cleaning Skills. The examinations were organised by the City and Guilds International Limited, the British Council, the Vocational Training Council, the Construction Industry Council and the Christian Action. The young persons in custody achieved 36 merits out of 109 certificates obtained. Among the candidates, six young persons in custody enrolled in this year's HKDSE Examination. One candidate scored 21 marks in six papers taken and was admitted to a bachelor degree course while others enrolled in other post-secondary programmes.

Officiating at the certificate presentation ceremony, the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of Yan Oi Tong, Mr Lin Cheuk-fung, said that Yan Oi Tong endeavours to serve Hong Kong by embracing the mission of 'Caring for the Aged and the Young, Promoting Education and Nurturing Talents, Supporting the Disadvantaged and the Sick, Serving the Community with Sincerity' in medical care, social services and education. It is also highly supportive of the CSD's various and sustained rehabilitation schemes. Mr Lin stated that he is grateful to see that persons in custody can obtain satisfactory results, particularly in the HKDSE Examination.

During the ceremony, a young person in custody shared his profound reflection on his misdeeds and learning experiences during his sentence at the institution. The parents of the young person in custody also spoke about the positive changes in their son. They expressed their gratitude to the CSD for providing their son with diverse vocational training and professional guidance. They noticed that their son had become an amiable person, and has also learned how to care for family members. The changes of their son have

enabled them to truly understand the importance of rehabilitation work. During the ceremony, young persons in custody performed rope skipping to share the fruits of their efforts with their families.

Also attending the ceremony were the Assistant Commissioner of Correctional Services (Rehabilitation), Mr Wan Ming-ki; representatives of non-governmental and community organisations; community leaders; and parents of the certificate recipients.

CCCI has a capacity of 192 penal places for young male persons in custody aged from 14 to under 21 ordered by the courts to undergo the training centre programme for an indeterminate period of six months to three years.

The department provides half-day education programmes and half-day vocational training for young persons in custody to help them rehabilitate and prepare for reintegration into society.

