



MEDIA RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE USE
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**SKOOL4KIDZ HOSTS
FIRST DIGITAL HOUR OF CODE IN SINGAPORE WITH MINISTER ONG YE KUNG**

Skool4Kidz, as the first preschool in Singapore to host the largest Hour of Code meet in 2017, exceeds its yearly participation by going digital with Minister for Transport and Advisor to Sembawang Central Grassroots Organisations, Mr Ong Ye Kung.

This is the first Hour of Code in Singapore to go digital! Held across all Skool4Kidz preschool centres, the week-long Hour of Code is a worldwide movement encouraging everyone to spend an hour learning to code.

Programming activities help preschoolers become familiar with technology and to actively participate in using technology to explore, experiment, analyse and problem solve. Key 21st century skills such as these set the foundation of a digitally participative society to creatively build solutions and contribute socially.

Minister Ong Ye Kung officiates the Hour of Code Finale on 12 December 2020 at 9:30am remotely with children from Skool4Kidz Preschool @ Sembawang East at Block 101 Canberra Street (Level 1). Preschoolers exhibit problem solving techniques using programmable robotic toys to address challenges given to them by their teachers.

“It is good to expose the young to coding to build up basic thinking skills,” encourages Minister Ong. “Digital literacy is more than that. The starting point is to be able to use the internet safely to tell truth from falsehoods and right from wrong.”

Already incorporated into the curriculum, these tech toys are a part of the childcare’s plugged and unplugged activities from Skool4Kidz’s unique STEAM (for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) pedagogy. These are designed specially to help both young and young-at-heart learn simple coding inspired through well-loved preschool stories. Fun-filled coding activities are integrated into the year-long Early Learning Curriculum uniquely designed into Skool4Kidz lesson plans and home-based learning experiences.

According to Skool4Kidz Curriculum Founder and Director, Dr Jane Ching-Kwan, the Hour of Code synergises naturally with the preschool’s emphasis on inquiry-based learning, supported by the meaningful use of technology in a rich learning environment. “Coding is a very powerful





way to put control into the hands of the children to create the things they want to,” opines Dr Jane.

About Skool4Kidz

Skool4Kidz Pte Ltd (Skool4Kidz) is a consortium established by Kinderland Educare Service Pte Ltd and Dr Jane Ching-Kwan, an early childhood expert. It is an Anchor Operator appointed by the Early Childhood Development Agency (ECDA) to provide quality and affordable childcare services in Singapore’s heartland. It is in the forefront of providing technology-aided learning focused on a comprehensive ‘learn-as-you-grow’ curriculum. For more news and information, please visit www.Skool4Kidz.com.sg. and follow Skool4Kidz on Facebook @ Skool4KidzPreschoolSG or Instagram @skool4kidz.

About Hour of Code

The Hour of Code (HOC) is a global movement that began in 2013 as a one-hour introduction to computer science to show that anybody can learn the basics to broaden participation in the field of computer science. It has since become a worldwide effort and has reached more than 100 million students in 180+ countries. Hour of Code is supported by the likes of Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and former US President Barack Obama. It has more than 300 major partners and corporate supporters, including Amazon, Apple, Disney, Facebook, Google and Microsoft.

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