



The Business of Protecting the Environment

Students learn how BEC is helping companies reduce their impact on the environment and win more customers

Companies are increasingly incorporating more environmental protection practices into their businesses, which not only can reduce costs and waste, but also improve their standing with their clients and general public. Business Environment Council Limited (BEC) has been promoting environmental excellence and advocating the need for businesses to embrace sustainability. To learn more about its work and progress, 60 students from Carmel Divine Grace Foundation Secondary School visited BEC's headquarters under the Chamber's Business-Schools Partnership Programme.

Dr Veronica Chan, Programme Manager, Education of BEC, introduced the green features at its Kowloon Tong office. She explained how the green facilities and operational practices save energy by carefully controlling light, water, air and electricity.

Light and motion sensors in rooms automatically adjust lighting based on ambient light intensity, and the

presence of a user. LED lights are also fitted in the office to reduce energy consumption when in use. A rainwater collection system was installed for irrigation, washing and other purposes to reduce water usage. Dr Chan said the variety of potted plants around the office purifies the indoor air.

"Technology is important to make these innovations possible, but people are the most important factor. Our staff are encouraged to save energy and protect the environment through recycling materials, turning their computers to sleep mode when idle and making sure everything is switched off when they leave the office," she said.

Agnes Li, CEO of BEC, told students that BEC aims to enhance the Hong Kong business community's understanding of sustainability to help their businesses succeed and grow. She also encouraged the students to develop an entrepreneurial spirit. "Everyone can be an entrepreneur if they cultivate personal character, think out of the box, keep reflecting on how they can improve and serve others passionately," she concluded. ❁

Students' View 學生評價：

商界環保之道

學生了解商界環保協會如何協助企業保護環境，從而贏取更多客戶

企業漸漸在業務上融合更多環保措施，此舉不但能減省成本和廢物，更有助改善公司在客戶和公眾之間的形象。商界環保協會有限公司（協會）一直致力推廣環境保護，並提倡商界的可持續發展。在總商會「商校交流計劃」的安排下，60名迦密主恩中學的學生有機會參觀協會總部，了解他們的工作進展。

商界環保協會教育項目經理陳慧儀博士於九龍塘辦公室內向學生簡介協會的環保設備，其綠色設施和運作模式可透過準確控制燈光、水流、空氣和電力，以節約能源。

房間內的燈光及動作感應器會根據光線強弱和用戶存在與否，自動調節燈光。辦公室亦安裝了LED燈，以減少能源消耗，並採用雨水收集系統作灌溉、清洗等其他用途，以節約用水。陳慧儀博士表示，辦公室的各種盆栽有助淨化室內空氣。

她說：「科技對推行這些創新措施固然重要，但個人習慣才是最關鍵的因素。我們鼓勵員工透過回收物料、在電腦閒置時將之轉為睡眠模式，以及離開辦公室前確保關掉所有設備等，達至節約能源和保護環境的目標。」

商界環保協會行政總裁李家慧向學生表示，協會旨在增加本港商界對可持續發展的認識，從而協助他們的業務發展。她同時鼓勵學生培育企業家精神，並指出：「只要培養個人品格、跳出傳統思維框框、時刻檢討反省，以及樂於服務他人，任何人都可以成為企業家。」✿



“I was impressed by the CEO talk, because entrepreneurship is important for developing ourselves as well as our careers.”

— Siu Hiu Ching

「行政總裁的演講令我印象難忘，企業家精神對我們的個人及職業發展同樣重要。」

— 蕭曉晴



“I understand more about environmental protection and how as individuals we can do more to save our Earth.”

— Keung Wing Sze

「我了解到更多環保之道，以及如何能多出一分力愛惜地球。」

— 姜穎詩



“It’s good to know BEC is promoting the green message to other companies so they fulfill their corporate social responsibilities and not just focus on making money.”

— Wong Wing Yan

「我很高興得知協會正致力向企業推廣環保訊息，讓他們在賺取利潤的同時，不忘履行企業社會責任。」

— 黃詠恩

