



The Children's Institute of Hong Kong
Teaching children with disabilities to become children with abilities

The Children's Institute (TCI) is a non-profit school established in 2003. TCI is the first school in Hong Kong set up solely to educate children who fall within the Autistic spectrum. Autism is the fastest growing children's disorder in the world. The latest U.S. statistics estimate that 1 out of every 150 children will fall somewhere on the Autistic spectrum. Autism is a neurological condition defined by the presence of impairments affecting a child's social interaction, communication and behavioral functioning. A large percentage of children diagnosed with **ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder)** can be completely mainstreamed into a typical education setting and become indistinguishable from their typically developing peers through early learning intervention and therapies.

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The Harbour School (THS) started operating in the fall of 2007. It is a non-profit international school with a mainstream curriculum and a hands-on, community based projects that specialize in offering an individualized learning program to cater to the particular needs of the child. Class sizes are very small, enabling teachers to focus on the strengths of each child (gifted or advanced abilities in math, science, computer skills, reading, leadership, or talents in music, abstract and performing arts), while also identifying any weaknesses in specific areas (difficulties with speech, reading, writing, attention, or social and behavioral functioning). THS has a very strong, intensive and nurturing **Learning Support Program** to help children with **Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLD's)**, and our **Learning Support Specialists** have specific and varying areas of expertise.

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