Evaluation report on the use of DLG (Gifted Programme) 2014-2015
English Department - Speech and Communication Programme

1. Introduction
Seventeen Form 4 students identified to be gifted in English language were selected to participate in a school-based drama course to learn a range of dramatic and theatrical skills and conventions with an objective of a 20 minute performance to peers at the end. The 25-hour series of workshops used The Joy Luck Club text by Amy Tan as a stimulus to investigate, understand and elaborate upon themes and characters arising within the text. The performance was held on 29 September 2015. A total of $23,750 was spent on running this speech and communication programme.

2. Evaluation
Through discussion and formal interviews with students, the programme was found to succeed in achieving its goal of enhancing high achievers’ skills in using drama and theatre art to express themselves and communicate with others more effectively.

3. Key findings and recommendations
Participants showed much creativity and imagination in communicating with others in English. They also show greater understanding of the main themes of the chosen text The Joy Luck Club – of hope, optimism, reality and the past through semiotics. Theatre art has proved to be an effective tool in strengthening students’ confidence and repertoire in using English in front of a large group of audience.

4. Conclusion
The department will continue to apply for the grant to organize a similar programme the following year.