

School Impact Report



Introduction

Student Ambassador: Evelyn (Evie) Diep
eviediep28@gmail.com

School: Saigon South International School

Location: Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Reporting Period: January 2026 - April 2026

Impact in Numbers



Number of
Student Advisory
Board Members



Number of
solutions
implemented



Number of
individuals
impacted

Solutions Implemented

#1 High Energy Usage

- Problem Observed: Electrical appliances such as lights, air conditioning units, hallway TVs, and other devices were frequently left on after school hours, particularly in classrooms and shared spaces. This suggested a lack of clear responsibility and systematic procedures for ensuring that energy usage was minimized at the end of the day.
- Behavioural Insight Applied: Choice Architecture
- Solution Implemented: Planned the purchase of **15-20 heavy-duty, surge-protected power strips** to allow multiple devices to be switched off at once, with implementation scheduled for the next academic year. In addition, developed a **standardised checklist** containing six standards for security guards to follow during their end-of-day rounds, ensuring that lights, air conditioning units, and other electrical appliances are consistently turned off.

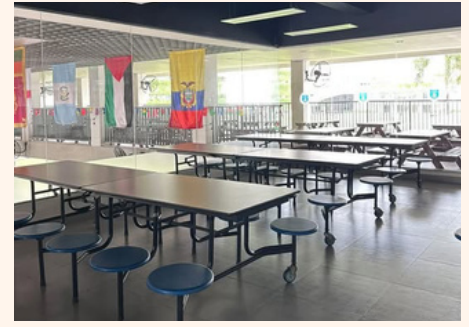


#2 Use of Artificial Lighting

- Problem Observed: Excessive use of artificial lighting was observed across campus, particularly in classrooms and common areas where lights were often left on despite sufficient natural daylight or after spaces were no longer in use.
- Behavioural Insight Applied: Nudge Theory



- Solution Implemented: Placed reminder signage next to **50 light switches** using posters designed from the toolkit. These signs were installed in classrooms and high-traffic communal spaces such as MPR 2. In addition, a "**Lights Off Hour**" trial week was conducted from **May 4th to May 8th**, followed by a more structured implementation beginning on **May 17th**. Teachers implemented the initiative according to their class schedules, turning off classroom lights during a designated 1 hour and 20 minute block period when sufficient natural light was available. Some teachers chose to extend the initiative beyond this period. The initiative also extended to shared spaces across campus, including **C222**, one of the main dining areas used by high school students. These changes helped reduce unnecessary energy consumption while encouraging more sustainable habits throughout the school community.



#3 Consumption and Waste Reduction

- Problem Observed: A significant amount of food waste was observed during school events, suggesting that portions were too large and food quantities were not accurately aligned with actual attendance.
- Behavioural Insight Applied: Default Effect
- Solution Implemented: Worked with caterers to reduce plate sizes and purchased smaller serving scoops to encourage more appropriate portioning. Collaborated with the **NHS 2026 Induction Committee** and the catering company several weeks before the induction ceremony to improve RSVP-based food estimates. Invitations were sent to all new inductees in advance, allowing organizers to collect more accurate attendance confirmations and provide caterers with reliable estimates of the number of guests expected. This enabled the catering team to prepare an appropriate quantity of food while avoiding over-ordering. As a result, all food items were consumed, attendees were satisfied with the portions provided, and food waste was significantly reduced.



School Event



- Date: 24th April 2026
- Hosted an eco-workshop in collaboration with the National Honor Society for the entire high school student body at Saigon South International School.
- Promoted environmentally conscious lifestyles through hands-on activities, including painting plant pots and tote bags to encourage sustainable habits and the use of reusable items.

- NHS members volunteered during the event by setting up materials, guiding participants, and encouraging students to join.
- Attracted participants from all high school grade levels and several teachers throughout the lunch period.
- Hosted in the open space of MPR 2, creating a relaxed and welcoming environment for students to participate.
- Received positive feedback from students and staff, many of whom appreciated the opportunity to relax, connect with friends, and learn about sustainability after their mock exams.



Testimonials

“As the Finance in Charge for the Student Advisory Board, I really liked how EcoPsych combined creativity with practical environmental action. The workshop encouraged students to reflect on their sustainability habits through activities like painting reusable tote bags and completing reflection surveys. I also appreciated the school-wide solutions implemented afterward, especially the efforts to reduce food waste and improve energy conservation around campus.”

- Nam, Member of Student Advisory Board

“I really enjoyed participating in the EcoPsych workshop because it felt both relaxing and meaningful at the same time. Painting tote bags and plant pots with friends made sustainability feel more approachable and fun, especially after the stress of exams. I also became more aware of everyday habits around energy use after seeing the reminder signs placed around campus.”

- Mary, Grade 12 student

“The EcoPsych project this year is a great example of how student-led initiatives can combine education, creativity, and community engagement. The event created a welcoming environment while encouraging students to think more carefully about sustainable habits. I was especially impressed by the behavioural interventions implemented afterward, such as reminder signage and systems aimed at reducing unnecessary energy use across campus!”

- Ms. Rebeca Lozano Garcia, Advisor for Environmental Conservation Club