



Press Release

Affirma Capital acquires Little Paddington Preschool chain in Singapore

7 February 2022, Singapore – Funds managed by Affirma Capital have acquired Paddington Enterprise Pte. Ltd., an operator of premium preschools across Singapore, under the umbrella of Little Paddington Preschools (Little Paddington).

Founded in 2015, Little Paddington is a highly acclaimed chain of Preschools that now operates at five (5) locations across Singapore – Serangoon (2015), Turf Club (2016), Tanglin Park (2018), East Coast (2019) and Bartley (2021). This steady and consistent growth has been achieved through the founders, Prerna Jhunjhunwala, tireless commitment.

Little Paddington offers a top-class infant care and childcare experience, focused on “Holistic child-led experiential learning.” Ateliers which feature in the schools include specially designed classrooms to cater to the needs of different age groups, indoor and outdoor environments to support multiple modes of learning, and facilities to foster individual talents and skills. Consequently, the Little Paddington schools and curricula have received a number of awards including Preschool of the Year (Southeast Asian Business Awards 2021), Best Infant Day Care Centre (Southeast Asian Business Awards 2021), Community in Bloom – Silver Banding, Best Preschool of Asia (Global Performance Awards, 2017), Singapore’s Child Preschool Awards, Best Inquiry Based and Experiential Learning (Best Preschool Awards, 2019), Health Promoting Preschool Certification, Best Inquiry Based and Experiential Learning (Best Preschool Awards, 2017) and the Singapore Preschool Accreditation Framework (SPARK) Certification.

Affirma Capital will support the existing management team to expedite the growth of Little Paddington schools across Singapore, maintaining and institutionalizing the quality service offering to parents and children. On the back of extending the track record of high-levels of satisfaction and positive reviews, Affirma Capital expects Little Paddington to resonate as a champion brand in Singapore’s childcare; a passion shared by the existing management team.

Anandita Singh Raha, CEO of Little Paddington said:

At Little Paddington, it is our strong belief that every child is unique and deserves a safe space to realise their full potential. We have created a bespoke learning experience for children through our well-rounded and robust curriculum, focus on pastoral care, nurturing educators and a real sense of family/community. Our goal is to ensure that our child-centric curriculum is available to preschoolers in every neighborhood in Singapore. We are very fortunate to be working with Affirma Capital on this exciting new chapter and looking forward to taking Little Paddington to new heights.

Winston Mandrawa, Co-Head of ASEAN at Affirma Capital stated: “We are privileged to be able to build on this high-quality pre-K12 education business, which has and will continue to have lifelong impact on children’s development and happiness. We are looking forward to working with



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management to build on Little Paddington's strong foundation, established by Prerna Jhunjhunwala, and to extend its presence to every corner of Singapore."

Prerna Jhunjhunwala, founder of Little Paddington affirmed, "Building Little Paddington - a community of supportive parents, a team of inspiring educators, exceptionally dedicated management and a nurturing environment with happy children has been an extremely rewarding experience. I have been fortunate to have been able to scale Little Paddington as a leading Preschool in Singapore, with Affirma Capital as a partner to the management team I am confident of the continued growth and quality of care for our young ones. Educating our children is the single greatest contribution we can make towards a prosperous future, and I am confident that Little Paddington will continue to open up a world of opportunities for our children."

About Affirma Capital

Affirma Capital is an independent emerging market private equity firm owned and operated by the former senior leadership of Standard Chartered Private Equity. It currently manages over USD 3.5 billion in assets for leading global limited partners and sovereign wealth funds. Affirma Capital has offices in Singapore, Seoul, Shanghai, Mumbai, Dubai, and Johannesburg.

For further information, please email media@affirmacapital.com

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