Abstract: "Knowledge and Action Curriculum" is a school-based curriculum system with knowledge and action moral education courses, knowledge and action subject courses, and knowledge and action activity courses as the content in Xi’an Gaoxin No.2 School. On the basis of the implementation of national curriculum and local curriculum, it insisted on moral cultivation. Under the guidance of the educational thought of “love for nine years, knowledge and action for a lifetime”, it started from the reality of nine-year education system, based on the school-running idea, educational goals and local culture, Chinese excellent culture. The knowledge and action course is devoted to the exploration of comprehensive education, and has formed innovative achievements in practical theory and mechanism system.

Keywords: Knowledge and Action Curriculum; Comprehensive education; Curriculum construction

1. The Origin of the Knowledge and Action Curriculum

At the beginning of its establishment, the school urgently needed to innovate in the concept of running a school and form its own characteristic teaching point. Therefore, Xi’an Gaoxin No.2 School fully absorbs the essence of excellent traditional Chinese culture and Shaanxi regional culture, takes Wang Yangming’s philosophy of “unity of knowledge and action” and Tao Xingzhi’s theory of “life education” as the ideological source. After years of exploration and practice, the school builds a school-based curriculum system with the characteristics of its own.

2. Practice of Knowledge and Action Curriculum

In the practice of curriculum reform for decades, the school has gradually formed a school-based curriculum system of “knowledge and action Curriculum” with the content of moral education course, subject course and activity course of knowledge and action.

2.1 The moral education of Knowledge and Action curriculum: Pay equal attention to cognition and practice

The construction and practice of the “Knowledge and Action Curriculum” (KAC) of the Xi’an Gaoxin No.2 School started in 2010. At that time, the school organized a curriculum construction team to further promote the personal growth and all-round development of students, enhance teachers' curriculum leadership, and enhance the practical needs of school curriculum characteristics. The school tried to implement the dual-track strategy of "integration of knowledge and action" and comprehensive education through action research. To establish a school-based curriculum system, the school focuses on the cultivation of students' essential character and key abilities and helps students adapt to the needs of lifelong development and social development. KAC focus on practice, which is what the current school education needs to strengthen.

Highlighting morality and talent cultivation is the fundamental task of education. Therefore, starting from the construction of moral education courses, the school tries to find a way to maintain the integrity in the series of moral education courses, and insists on paying equal attention to moral cognition and moral practice. Under the leadership of this concept, the school subdivides the moral education curriculum based on the fundamental task of cultivating people by moral education:

The KAC allows the KA to lead the growth of life. These courses adhere to the concept of “unity of KA”, reflecting the characteristics of multiple subjects and diverse contents.

Study travel of moral education of KAC allows students to know the outside world. Student development not only takes place in the school environment, but also in the journey. The course adheres to the principle of “the best classroom is on the road”, and insists that the usual traveling mainly in the province. During the summer and winter holiday, students go outside the province or go abroad.

Integrated moral education of KAC integrated scholarly education, gratitude education and nurturance education.

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2.2 The subjects of KAC: Expand your intelligence and interest

Subject teaching is the core path to realize intellectual education. The school not only promotes the reform of curriculum teaching, but also builds subject supplementary courses based on subjects, learning conditions, teachers, and schools.

Subject-based courses make classroom teaching change and improve learning methods.

Subject-expanding courses allow subject expansion to promote interest, vision and thinking. With the rapid development of the times, the growth environment of students is also constantly changing, and students’ value pursuit, personality characteristics, and growth needs are increasingly diversified. In practice, the subject-expanding course points to two aspects of student development: one is the expansion course that points to students’ interests and vision, based on the subject, stimulates students’ interest, expands the subject’s horizon, cultivates the ability of subject inquiry, and cultivates students’ subject consciousness, Improve the cognitive structure of students. At present, the school has determined a total of 20 themes of extended courses from the first grade to the ninth grade, and all teachers participate in the development of the extended courses. The second is an extension course that points to students’ comprehensive thinking. Taking the world’s excellent culture, Chinese excellent traditional culture, and Shaanxi regional culture as the humanistic theme, and natural science development as the scientific theme, school encourages teachers to break the boundaries of disciplines, cultivate students’ comprehensive thinking ability. It formed many classic lessons, such as “the converged ways from the Great Qinling Mountains to Chang’an”, “the Silk Road” and so on.

Discipline-enhancing courses make specialties develop into human growth boards. Discipline-enhancing courses highlight the cultivation of students’ specialties in their development, from helping students discover their interests, guiding their development, to creating personal specialties, and finally laying a foundation for human growth. The discipline-enhancing course focuses on cultivating the spirit of inquiry and practical ability, and enriches students’ extra-curricular life through discipline clubs. At the same time, classified system can develop their interests in different fields.

2.3 The comprehensive art and sports of KAC: Show beauty and strength

“Activity is curriculum”, according to the school’s concept of “the unity of KA and all-round development”, the school not only carries out the teaching reform of the the unity of KA in moral and intellectual education, but also strengthens aesthetic education and sports, and realizes the integration of knowledge and action in aesthetic education and sports.

Art activity courses enhance students’ ability and literacy to recognize, understand, inherit and create local and traditional arts. Physical activity courses can make a healthy personality with a healthy body.

The comprehensive course of art and sports is dedicated to the integration of beauty and power, and to improve the quality of art and sports.

3. Innovation of Knowledge and Action Curriculum

The KAC is an important part of the school’s educational reform. In the process of exploration and practice, the school has achieved innovation in theory, practice and mechanism.

Innovate the curriculum theory of knowledge and action, concretize Wang Yangming’s philosophical thought and Tao Xingzhi’s educational thought into methods to solve the development problems of students, teachers and schools. And making a complete curriculum theory including curriculum guidance, orientation, concepts, curriculum objectives, curriculum evaluation, curriculum implementation strategies and monographs.

Innovate the practice of moral education and cultivate people. By integrating the three education modules of moral education, discipline and art and sports, a comprehensive wide-area curriculum within the module is formed to cultivate students’ comprehensive thinking. The curriculum integrates excellent traditional Chinese culture, local culture and campus culture, so that the curriculum not only plays the role of educating people, but also inherits and innovates the cultural connotation and extension, and promotes the development of the curriculum cultural ecology.

The innovative curriculum construction mechanism has established a “four-in-one” curriculum community composed of students, families, schools, and society. Multiple subjects work together to coordinate curriculum resources, and introduce valuable educational resources owned by each subject into the curriculum, so as to truly create a new mechanism for school, family and society to cooperate in educating students.

“China Modernization of Education 2035” emphasizes that “pay more attention to comprehensive development and pay more attention to the integration of KA”. Under this background, the school will further promote the construction of the KAC system, and try to break the boundaries of moral education, discipline and art and sports courses in KAC and deeply explore the practice of comprehensive education.

References:


Brief Introduction to the Author:

Yangjie Gao, male, was born in November 1967, ancestral home in Kelan in Shanxi Province. The Principal of Gaoxin No.2 School in Shaanxi Province. Bachelor degree, senior teacher. The main research directions are primary and secondary school management, school curriculum leadership.