After World War II, both DGS and DBS appointed alumni as principals in the 50s and 60s. Purchased for $1420.20 in 1860, a small concrete house built on a paddy field on Bonham Road became the ‘Diocesan Native Female Training School’. In 1869, the school accepted boys and became the ‘Diocesan Home and Orphanage’. From 1878 onwards, the Diocesan Home became two separate institutions: the Diocesan Boys’ School and the Diocesan Girls’ School. Both schools aim to provide a ‘quality liberal all-round education based on Chinese virtues and Christian principles’. Through the years, the two schools shared teaching resources and collaborated regularly in extra-curricular activities, especially in music. Students of the two schools are known for their all-rounded excellence and the intense loyalty to their alma mater.

School and Leadership Culture

W hat sets leaders like Dr Symons and Mr Lowcock apart is their ability to embrace seeming paradoxes. They were able to balance their position of authority with sensitivity to the needs of the individual. They taught that freedom must be borne with great responsibility. They affirmed the value of both the individual and the collective. They commissioned the students to serve both as leaders and servants. They encouraged the students to work hard and play hard. Ultimately, through their experiences in school, these young men and women are taught to grow in maturity but never lose the purity of a childlike heart.

To this day, the two schools remain as icons of all-round excellence - living up to their Chinese name: ‘Best of the Best’ (*).

* The title is taken from the DGS and DBS school hymns.