

# INNOVATION STARTS WITH YOU



I therefore urge our EC educators to continually review the latest research studies on the science of learning so that they can reimagine pedagogical approaches and practices for our young children. Keeping abreast of such developments grounded in science allows educators to have a better understanding of how children learn and develop so that they can implement more impactful strategies and achieve better outcomes.

Innovative approaches can equip our children with higher-order thinking, communication, problem-solving and decision-making skills. They also spur imagination and creativity, which are all part of teaching and learning in the 21<sup>st</sup> century to prepare our children to address challenges and changes in a rapidly changing world.

Beyond teaching and learning, centre leaders and educators should also stay up to date on innovation in operations, such as administration, professional development as well as health and safety, to enhance productivity and make preschool work easier.

Inventor Thomas A Edison once said, "There's a way to do it better — find it." Let's work together to nurture an innovative culture in the EC sector to transform our children's preschool experiences and give them a good start in life.

**H**appy New Year to all our early childhood (EC) educators, parents and partners! While we welcome 2023 with new hopes and aspirations, it is also time to look back, reflect and set goals for the year ahead. As we usher in the new year, let's resolve to nurture an innovative mindset in the EC sector to transform teaching and learning experiences for both children and educators. I hope our preschools can see challenges as opportunities, be open to new ideas, and take informed risks to enhance the quality of our centres, educators and programmes.

An innovative environment inspires people to collaborate on new ideas and engage in active learning. One key pillar supporting innovation in the EC sector is new knowledge founded on neuroscience research and informed by ground-up practices.

**MR TAN CHEE WEE**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Early Childhood Development Agency (ECDA)



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