

Education Bureau Circular No. 7/2018
Enhancing Parent Education at Kindergarten Stage

[Note : This circular should be read by -

- (a) Supervisors and Heads of Kindergartens, Kindergarten-cum-Child Care Centres and Schools with Kindergarten Classes - for action; and
- (b) Heads of Sections - for information.]

SUMMARY

This circular announces details of enhancing parent education at kindergarten (KG) stage which are applicable to all KGs, KG-cum-child care centres and schools with KG classes (hereafter collectively referred to as KGs). Heads of KGs should ensure that this circular is circulated to all teachers and staff concerned for action.

DETAILS

Parent Education Framework

2. Parents play a crucial role in their children's early life and are their role model. Enhancement of parents' understanding of children's development and quality KG education can help parents form appropriate expectations for their children with regard to the pace of the children's development, provide them appropriate care and support, and strengthen co-operation with schools. The Education Bureau (EDB) has implemented the new KG education policy starting from the 2017/18 school year and one of the focus areas is stepping up parent education.

3. In this connection, EDB has developed the parent education framework at kindergarten stage (**Appendix 1**) for KGs' reference in planning parent education programmes. This framework focuses on "Roles of parents with children at KG age". It covers three major domains and eight themes:

Domain (1) : Learn more about quality KG education

Themes :

- (i) Curriculum promoting children's balanced development
- (ii) Home-school co-operation
- (iii) Interface between kindergarten and primary education
- (iv) Choose a quality kindergarten

Domain (2) : Understand children's growth

Themes :

- (v) Children's developmental and learning characteristics – Learning through play
- (vi) Success is not determined at the scratch line

Domain (3) : Respect children's uniqueness

Themes :

- (vii) Learner diversity of children
- (viii) Do not compare children with each other

4. We encourage KGs to draw reference to this framework in organising school-based and/or joint school parent education programmes. EDB will also draw reference to this framework in organising territory-wide parent education programmes. For example, we have commissioned The Education University of Hong Kong to organise a series of parent education seminars in the 2018/19 school year as set out below:

Date	Theme
October 2018	Learning starts from play
November 2018	The myth of winning at the scratch line
December 2018	How to cater for learner diversity of children
January 2019	Positive parenting: growth comes from no comparison
March 2019	Tips for parents on happy transition to primary one

Details of the above-mentioned talks and other parent education programmes will be progressively uploaded to [Parents' Talk](#) on EDB's website from September 2018 onwards. KGs are invited to encourage parents to participate.

Parent Education Information

5. Besides, EDB will also continue to collaborate with other departments (e.g. Department of Health (DH)) or organisations to enhance parents' understanding of children's development from various perspectives. This includes the booklet "[Helping Your Children of Kindergarten Age](#)" compiled by EDB annually, the leaflets "[Understanding Your Child's Development -- For Parents of Preschool Children](#)" and "[To Nurture or To Pressure](#)" compiled by DH, etc. We encourage KGs to introduce the relevant key points such as "How to help Your Children Grow Up Happily", "What is a Good KG", "Develop Children's Potential through Comprehensive and Pleasurable Learning Experiences", etc. in your school-based programmes (in particular seminars for parents of new students) and select some themes to organise thematic talks or experience sharing groups, so as to deepen parents' understanding of the relevant themes. The above-mentioned booklet, leaflets and other relevant information have been uploaded to [EDB's website](#).

Home-School Co-operation

6. Parents are partners of the schools. Close home-school co-operation helps parents understand their children's learning in KGs, and helps teachers understand students' performance outside school. Close co-operation between schools and parents helps nurture children's happy and healthy development. We encourage KGs to enhance communication with parents through various channels and set up parent-teacher associations (PTAs).

7. Setting up of PTAs helps establish closer ties and collaboration as well as communication channels between parents and schools. The parent education talks and activities organised by PTAs not only enhance parents' understanding of the physical and psychological development and needs of their children for better parent-child relationship but also facilitate mutual support and learning through sharing of parenting experience. EDB provides a Set Up Grant to the newly established PTAs and an Annual Grant to the existing PTAs for meeting the recurrent expenditure. Apart from the Set Up Grant and the Annual Grant, each school can apply to EDB annually for the Subsidy for Home-School Co-operation Activities to organise activities for parent education or training for parents.

Briefing Sessions

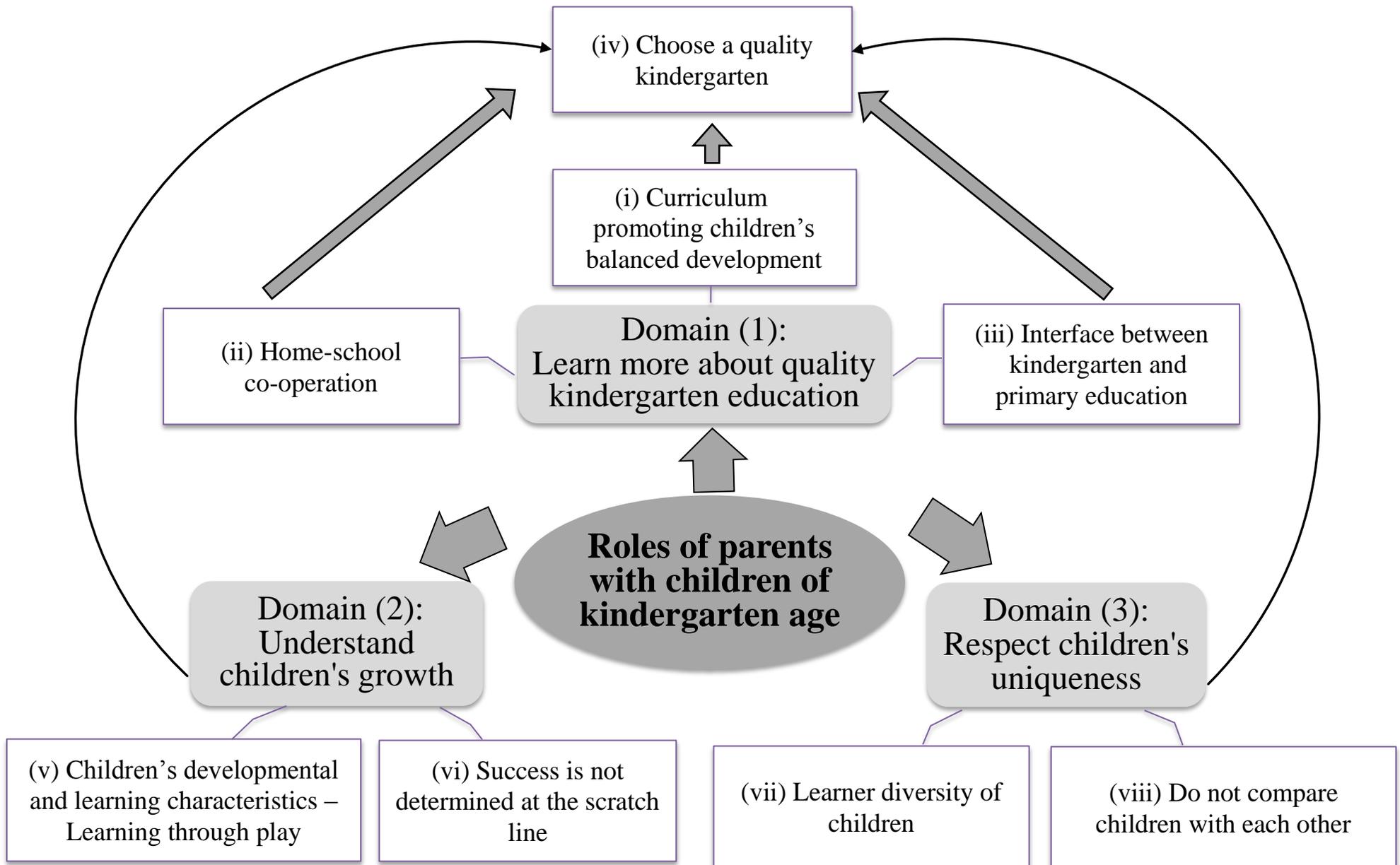
8. To enable KG principals and teachers to have a better understanding of the strategies for promoting parent education, this topic is included in the EDB briefing sessions in late-June this year. Details are at [Appendix 2](#) and will be uploaded onto the Training Calendar (Course ID: KGE020180054) on EDB's website. We have reserved 2 seats for each KG. **All KG principals and teacher representatives are invited to attend.**

ENQUIRIES

9. For enquiries, please contact the respective School Development Officers or Services Officers of the Joint Office for Kindergartens and Child Care Centres.

Mrs CHAN SIU Suk-fan
for Permanent Secretary for Education

Parent Education Framework at Kindergarten Stage



Kindergarten Education Scheme Briefing Sessions

The new kindergarten (KG) education scheme has been implemented starting from the 2017/18 school year. In the 2018/19 school year, we will continue to implement the existing measures and strengthen the development in the following areas:

1. KG principals' and teachers' professional competency
2. Strategies for promoting parent education
3. Admission arrangements for Nursery (K1) Classes

2. To enable KGs to have a better understanding of the relevant details, 4 identical briefing sessions will be organised in June 2018, details of which are as follows:

Region	Date	Time	Venue
Hong Kong Island	20 June 2018 (Wednesday)	2:00 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.	Lecture Theatre (WB), 4/F West Block, Education Bureau Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre, 19 Suffolk Road, Kowloon Tong, Kowloon
New Territories East	21 June 2018 (Thursday)	9:00 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.	
Kowloon	22 June 2018 (Friday)	9:00 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.	
New Territories West	25 June 2018 (Monday)	9:00 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.	

3. Rundown of the briefing sessions is as follows:

Time	Content	Speaker
8:55 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. / 1:55 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Registration	---
9:00 a.m. – 10:50 a.m. / 2:00 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.	Admission arrangements for K1 classes for the 2019/20 school year and Q&A	Representatives from EDB and related organisations
10:50 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. / 3:50 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Break	
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 n.n. / 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Enhancing KG principals' and teachers' professional competency	
12:00 n.n. – 12:15 p.m. / 5:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.	Strategies for promoting parent education	
12:15 p.m. – 12:45 p.m. / 5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.	Q&A	

4. EDB has reserved seats for all KGs and **no prior registration is required**. **Each KG should assign not more than 2 representatives (the principal of the KG should be included) to attend the above session of the respective region. KG representatives are required to complete the form on next page and present it to EDB staff at the entrance of the venue for seating arrangement.**

5. The briefing sessions will be conducted in Cantonese.
6. The briefing session will be cancelled on the day when Typhoon Signal No. 8 or above or Black Rainstorm Warning Signal is issued. In case Typhoon Signal No. 8 or above or Black Rainstorm Warning Signal is cancelled two hours before a briefing session, the session will be conducted as scheduled.



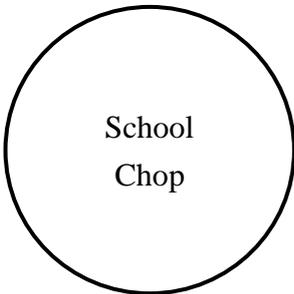
Kindergarten Education Scheme
Briefing Session (3): Strategies for Promoting Parent Education

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The following staff of our school _____ (KG name) will attend the briefing session on “Strategies for Promoting Parent Education ”:

Principal/Representative :

Teacher representative :



Signature of Principal :

Name of Principal (in English) :

(in Chinese) :

Date :
