

Parents' Seminar on "Quality Kindergarten Education" 2016

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Kindergarten Education

The aim of kindergarten education in Hong Kong is to nurture children to attain all-round development in the domains of ethics, intellect, physique, social skills and aesthetics; to develop good habits so as to prepare them for life; and to stimulate children's interest in learning and cultivate in them positive learning attitudes, in order to lay the foundation for their future learning.



Starting Well

Benchmarking Early Education Across the World
(Economist Intelligence Unit)

http://www.lienfoundation.org/PDF/news/sw_report.pdf

Main categories	Weight %
Social context	5
Availability	25
Affordability	25
Quality	45



Indicators

Social Context 5%	Availability 25%	Affordability 25%	Quality 45%
Malnutrition prevalence 20	Preschool enrolment ratio, pre-primary age (1 year) at 5 or 6 years 20	Cost of a private preschool programme 15	Student-teacher ratio in preschool classrooms 5
Under-5 mortality rate 20	Preschool enrolment ratio, relevant age-group 20	Government pre-primary education spending 25	Average preschool teacher wages 15
Immunization rate, DPT 20	Early childhood development and promotion strategy 35	Subsidies for underprivileged families 30	Curriculum guidelines 15
Gender inequality index 20	Legal right to preschool education 25	Subsidies for preschool aimed at including underprivileged child 30	Preschool teacher training 20
Adult literacy rate 20			Health and safety guidelines 10
			Data collection mechanisms 10
			Linkages between preschool and primary school 10
			Parental involvement and education programmes 15



World Kindergarten Ranks

Overall score	1) Social Context 5%	2) Availability 25%	3) Affordability 25%	4) Quality 45%
1. Finland 91.8	1. Hong Kong 100	1. Belgium 99.7	1. Norway 92.4	1. Finland 93.5
2. Sweden 91.7	29. China 95	26. Hong Kong 60.9	20. Hong Kong 60	11. Hong Kong 68.9
3. Norway 88.9		42. China 34.8	45. China 19	41. China 27.8
4. UK 87.9				
19. Hong Kong 66.2				
42. China 30.7				



Characteristics of the Kindergarten Education Hong Kong

- Child-centred
- Freedom to deliver its own beliefs and values under the government's curriculum framework
- East meets West, fusion curriculum
- Meets global standards and perspectives



Kindergarten Curriculum

The [Guide to the Pre-primary Curriculum 2006](#) emphasises that early childhood education lays the foundation for life-long learning and whole person development. The core value of early childhood education lies in "child-centredness". Pre-primary institutions should formulate their curriculum according to the basic principles of "children's development" and "children's learning". Children's interests, needs and abilities should be taken into consideration. They should also create a stimulating learning environment that facilitates children's development of multiple intelligences. Through life experiences, sensory encounters, exploration and interesting games, children's holistic development can be fostered.



A Variety of HK Kindergarten Curriculum Approach

1. Thematic Approach

Thematic approach is a way of teaching and learning in such a way that many areas of the **curriculum are integrated and connected within a theme**. It crosses over subject lines and helps children relate basic academic skills to real-world ideas through interactive, integrated activities. These themed units incorporate reading, mathematics, science and social studies as well as the arts for a well-balanced curriculum.

2. Montessori Approach

Montessori Approach believes that children have an innate passion for learning as they have an innate path of psychological development. They **construct knowledge through play and manipulation in a prepared environment** to develop independence in all areas according to their inner psychological directives. Through their work, the children develop concentration, fine and gross motor skills, self-discipline, as well as their talents.

3. Project Approach

Project Approach is **an in-depth investigation of a real-world topic** worthy of an individual student or a group of students' attention and effort. Students are highly motivated and actively involved in their own learning, leading them to produce high-quality work and to grow as individuals and collaborators of constructive knowledge.

4. Reggio Emilia Approach

The Reggio Emilia approach is based on the principles of respect, responsibility, and community through exploration and discovery in a supportive and enriching environment based on the interests of the children through a self-guided curriculum. As children **proceed in an investigation, generating and testing their hypotheses, they are encouraged to depict their understanding through one of many symbolic languages**, including drawing, sculpture, dramatic play, and writing which are called 'the hundred languages of children'.



5. High Scope Approach

A key component of the HighScope approach is the **plan-do-review sequence**. Children first plan what materials they want to work with, what they want to do, and whom they want to do it with (this can be done formally or informally in small groups). Once they have **made a plan, however vague, of what they want to do, they can go and do it**. Then, children discuss what they did and whether it was the same as, or different from, what they had planned. HighScope assesses children's development with comprehensive observations such as daily anecdotes describing what children do and say. Several times a year, teachers review these anecdotes and rate each child using an assessment tool that is organized into six areas of development.

6. International Baccalaureate

International Baccalaureate includes a **curriculum framework that connects all subjects** including language, logical thinking, social skills, P.E. and art in three different stages. They are **Primary Years Programme (PYP), Middle Years Programme (MYP) and Diploma Programme (DP)** for students from 3-12, 11-16, 16-19 respectively.

7. 5S Approach

Sort, set in order, shine, standardize and sustain are the 5s approach, developed in Japan, aim to develop children into self-discipline, effective use of space, manage the environment, maintain the area tidy, and sustaining the new order.

8. Waldorf Education

Waldorf education, also known as Steiner education, is based on the educational philosophy of Rudolf Steiner, the founder of Anthroposophy. Its pedagogy emphasizes **the role of imagination in learning, striving to integrate holistically the intellectual, practical, and artistic development** of pupils. Steiner's early childhood education philosophy **focuses on practical, hands-on and creative play**; while its qualitative student assessments are integrated into the daily life of the classroom. Individual teachers and schools have a great deal of autonomy in determining curriculum content, teaching methodology and governance.





MUNSANG COLLEGE KINDERGARTEN



Kindergarten Life



Transition to Primary School



We, as parent, are our children's learning models.



Thank you!

