EDUCATION BUREAU CIRCULAR MEMORANDUM NO. 186/2024

From : Secretary for Education To : Supervisors and heads of all government

Ref : 1082-2005-8050-9055-00001 schools, aided schools (including special schools), caput schools, Direct Subsidy

Scheme schools, and kindergartens/kindergarten-cum-child care centres and schools with kindergarten classes joining the

Kindergarten Education Scheme – for

action

(Note: This circular memorandum should be read by all supervisors, heads and teachers)

Arrangements for Basic Law and National Security Law Test in the 2024/25 school year

Summary

Date

: 4 September 2024

This circular memorandum informs all public sector schools¹, Direct Subsidy Scheme schools (DSS schools), and kindergartens/kindergarten-cum-child care centres and schools with kindergarten classes joining the Kindergarten Education Scheme (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Scheme-KGs") of the arrangements for the Basic Law and National Security Law Test (BLNST) organised by the Education Bureau (EDB) in the 2024/25 school year. This circular memorandum should be read in conjunction with the EDB Circular No. 13/2022 "Requirement for Newly-appointed Teachers to Pass the Basic Law and National Security Law Test" issued on 24 October 2022.

Background

2. The words and deeds of teachers have a far-reaching impact on students' growth. Teachers should have a correct understanding of the Basic Law and the National Security Law so that they can enlighten students by helping them fulfill responsibilities as a national and Hong Kong resident with a positive, law-abiding, public interest-oriented and responsible attitude. As announced in the EDB Circular No. 13/2022 "Requirement for Newly-appointed Teachers to Pass the Basic Law and National Security Law Test", starting from the 2023/24 school year, all newly-appointed teachers in public sector schools, DSS schools and Scheme-KGs (including newly-joined teachers and teachers changing schools) are required to pass the BLNST in order to be considered for appointment. For details, please refer to the EDB webpage (Home> School Administration and Management> Administration> About School Staff> Requirement for Newly-appointed Teachers to Pass the Basic Law and National Security Law Test). Schools should require teachers to have a correct understanding of the Basic Law and the National Security Law and encourage teachers to take the relevant test.

¹ Public sector schools include government, aided and caput schools.

Details

3. The EDB will conduct a total of five rounds of the BLNST for teachers in the 2024/25 school year. The tests will be arranged for degree holders and non-degree holders respectively. The tentative test schedule is as follows. Teachers who wish to take the test should plan ahead and submit an application on time.

Test	Target	Tentative test dates	Tentative application periods
Degree level	Holders of a bachelor's degree or persons who will have attained a bachelor's degree in the 2024/25 or 2025/26 academic year, and plan to join or change to another	15 December 2024 (Sunday) 12 April 2025 (Saturday)	Late October 2024 to early November 2024 Late February 2025 to early March 2025
	secondary schools, primary schools or kindergartens to take up teaching posts	19 July 2025 (Saturday)	Late May 2025 to mid-June 2025
Non-degree level	Persons without a bachelor's degree and plan to join or change to another secondary	26 October 2024 (Saturday)	6 September 2024 to 19 September 2024
	schools, primary schools or kindergartens to take up teaching posts	22 June 2025 (Sunday)	Early May 2025 to mid-May 2025

4. Persons who possess a pass result in the BLNST issued by the Civil Service Bureau (CSB) or recruiting departments/grades will be deemed to have met the relevant requirement and will not be required to take the BLNST organised by the EDB again. For details of the **BLNST** conducted by the CSB. please visit the **CSB** webpage at https://www.csb.gov.hk/english/recruit/cre/949.html.

Application for the first round of the BLNST (non-degree level)

5. The first round of the BLNST (non-degree level) is scheduled for 26 October 2024. Persons interested in taking the first round of the test may apply from 9:00 a.m., 6 September 2024 to 5:00 p.m., 19 September 2024 through the online application system on the EDB webpage. For details of the test and application, please visit the EDB webpage at www.edb.gov.hk/en/blnst. As places for the test are limited, applications will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis. The details and application arrangements of the other rounds of the BLNST will be announced through press release and EDB webpage in due course.



Enquiries

6. For enquiries about the BLNST organised by the EDB, please contact the Teacher Professional Development Special Duty Team of the Professional Development and Training Division at 2892 5709. For enquiries about appointment matters of schools, please contact the respective Senior School Development Officers or Senior Service Officers.

Ms W P LEE for Secretary for Education

c.c. Supervisors and heads of other schools and heads of sections – for information