



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部教育局
Education Bureau
Government Secretariat, The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
The People's Republic of China

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8 October 2020

To: Supervisors / Principals of All Schools

Dear Supervisor / Principal,

Stay Vigilant and Fight COVID-19 Together

Since the phased face-to-face resumption of classes in late September, school personnel, parents and students have paid relentless efforts in taking various health precautionary measures to ensure that students can learn in a safe campus environment. The Education Bureau (EDB) appreciates your dedication and commitment in the fight against the epidemic. As you might have already noticed, the epidemic situation has shown signs of resurgence recently and the winter influenza season is approaching. Hence, health experts are reminding members of the public to stay vigilant and continue to strictly put in place all the anti-epidemic measures to guard against the virus. We hereby urge schools to continue to observe the measures in the “Health Protection Measures for Schools” issued earlier by the EDB and the “Health Advice to Schools for the Prevention of COVID-19” issued by the Centre for Health Protection. Schools must implement all the required anti-epidemic measures, including checking of body temperature every day before returning to schools, wearing of masks at all times, maintaining proper hand hygiene and appropriate social distances, avoiding crowd gathering and paying attention to personal and environmental hygiene, etc. and cannot drop your guard. We will update the “Health Protection Measures for Schools” on a need basis from the time to time and schools are advised to follow the latest guidelines in implementing the anti-epidemic measures.

Schools are required to continue with half-day schooling and should reduce learning and other activities (including supplementary classes) on top of the half-day sessions. If it is inevitable to conduct such activities on top of the half-day classes, schools should properly arrange meals for students within the school campuses and maintain adequate social distances amongst them. Schools should also urge students to return home once the campus activities are finished. They should not stay in public

areas in order to minimise the risk of infection. Schools at this stage should not organise mass events such as Sports Days and Swimming Galas to avoid gathering of crowds that poses significant risk of spread of the virus.

The epidemic situation will likely continue to fluctuate in the future. Hence, schools should be prepared to adapt to the “new normal” by switching to different learning modes in a flexible manner to sustain students’ learning. The EDB will closely monitor the development of the epidemic, take into account the advice of health experts, and maintain close liaison with the education sector. We call on schools, teachers, students and parents to continue to do their parts and work together with the community to fight the epidemic.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Verena LAU', with a large, sweeping flourish on the left side.

(Dr Verena LAU)
for Secretary for Education