



Education Bureau

The Government of the
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
of the People's Republic of China

Kindergarten Education Policy Support for Non-Chinese Speaking Children

Non-Chinese speaking (NCS) children's early start in learning the Chinese language will facilitate their adaptation to mainstream curriculum and integration into the local community. Parents of NCS children are encouraged to send their children to kindergartens (KGs) with an immersed Chinese language environment as early as possible to facilitate their learning of the Chinese language. In this connection, the Government has rolled out a series of support measures for NCS children in KGs.



(2022 updated version)

Support Measures for Non-Chinese Speaking Children in Kindergartens

Admission to KGs

- ★ All KGs must ensure equal opportunities in admission for all children regardless of their race, gender and ability and their school-based admission mechanism should be fair, just, open and comply with the anti-discrimination ordinances.
- ★ KGs are reminded to provide both Chinese and English versions of their application forms and relevant information, and to create an icon or provide a simple message in English on the school webpage to facilitate parents' access to the English version of the information. KGs are also reminded to state explicitly on the school website that if interviews are arranged for NCS children, KGs should arrange interpretation and/or translation service for applicants where necessary or allow parents and children to be accompanied by a Chinese speaking relative/friend during the interview to facilitate communication. KGs should provide the information on the school's support to NCS children, enquiry telephone number and email address for parents of NCS children on the school website.
- ★ Parent seminars on Nursery (K1) admission are organised for parents of NCS children annually. Interpretation service is provided as appropriate.
- ★ Relevant materials published by Education Bureau (EDB), such as leaflets, posters, application form and guidance notes on "Application for Registration Certificate for KG Admission" as well as the subtitles of publicity announcements, have been translated into languages of diverse race.
- ★ The KG Profile, which is published in both English and Chinese, provides a wide range of school information, including support to NCS students, which serves as useful reference for parents in making school choices.
- ★ Should individual NCS children encounter genuine difficulties in seeking admission to KGs, EDB will make referrals, as appropriate, to KGs joining the KG education scheme (Scheme-KGs) that have vacancies.

Catering for NCS Students' Needs

- ★ To support KGs in catering for the needs of NCS students, different school-based support services are offered. KGs admitting NCS students may apply for the relevant services according to their school development needs.
- ★ Professional training programmes are offered for KG teachers on teaching and learning of Chinese for NCS students.
- ★ Starting from the 2019/20 school year, we have refined the additional subsidy on support to NCS students. A 5-tiered subsidy is provided to Scheme-KGs according to the number of NCS students admitted to facilitate their support for NCS students. KGs admitting 1 NCS student also receive the subsidy. The full-year provision of the highest tier in the 2021/22 school year is about \$800,000.

- ★ To help KGs strengthen communication with parents of NCS students, a set of Communication Cue Cards with audio files and a set of templates for commonly used school circulars have been translated into languages of diverse race for use of KGs.
- ★ The KG Education Curriculum Guide sets out the direction and principles for facilitating the integration of NCS students into the local school settings, as well as introducing specific strategies and relevant resources on how teachers can help NCS students learn Chinese.

Other Information

For further information or assistance,
please contact EDB:

Telephones of Regional Educational Offices:

(HK) 2863 4646 (NTE) 2639 4876

(KLN) 3698 4108 (NTW) 2437 7272

Telephone of Joint Office for Kindergartens
and Child Care Centres:

3107 2197

Hotline for parents of NCS children
on admission to KGs:

2892 6676

Other relevant websites:

KG Education Scheme
http://www.edb.gov.hk/free-quality-kg-edu_en



Admission Arrangements for
Nursery (K1) Classes in KGs
http://www.edb.gov.hk/k1-admission_e



KG Profile
<http://www.chsc.hk/kindergarten/en>



Education Services for NCS Students
<http://www.edb.gov.hk/ncs>

