

**Existing and planned measures  
on the promotion of equality for ethnic minorities**

**Education**

The Government's education policy is to provide appropriate learning opportunities for all students with a view to helping them attain all-round development. The Education Bureau attaches importance to providing education support for non-Chinese speaking (NCS) students to facilitate their early integration into our local education system and wider community. We have laid down clear direction and various educational support measures have been put in place since the 2006/07 school year.

**Supplementary Guide to the Chinese Language Curriculum for NCS students**

Services Concerned

- The Supplementary Guide recommends different curriculum modes under the umbrella of a common curriculum framework for all NCS students in need. To ensure that these curriculum modes could be easily adopted in schools with NCS students irrespective of race, learning materials covering both primary and secondary levels and a series of packages of teaching reference materials have been developed to tie in with the issue of the Supplementary Guide.

Existing Measures

*The Supplementary Guide*

- The Supplementary Guide was released in November 2008 and distributed to schools with relevant packages of teaching reference materials in December 2008. Workshops to facilitate teachers to adapt the curriculum have been organised.

*Learning materials and teaching reference materials*

- The first set of learning materials, covering both primary to secondary levels, was uploaded in two parts in March and June 2009 with the printed copies in the form of textbook delivered to schools in June and September 2009 respectively.
- The teaching reference materials, including various learning software and Chinese lexical items with English explanations for use in Hong Kong schools, were distributed to schools from December 2008 to May 2009. Copies are also available for sale in the Government Bookstore.

Assessment  
of Future  
Work

- The above measures will be evaluated after a few years of school implementation.

Additional  
Measures  
Taken / To  
Be Taken

- The final set of learning materials will be uploaded in June 2010 with printed copies in the form of textbook delivered to schools in September 2010.
- A set of research-based assessment tools being developed for supporting schools in assessing the Chinese Language learning of NCS students will be completed by the end of 2010.

**Designated Schools**

Services  
Concerned

- The purposes of establishing designated schools are to strengthen our focused support to schools having admitted a critical mass of NCS students, with a view to facilitating the development of supporting teaching materials and school-based support programmes for NCS students for sharing of good practices and professional experiences with other schools which have also admitted NCS students.

Existing Measures	<i>Designated schools and provision of a special grant</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The number of designated schools was increased from 15 in the 2006/07 school year to 22 in the 2008/09 school year and to 26 in the 2009/10 school year.</li><li>• Each designated school has been provided with an annual special grant ranging from \$300,000 to \$600,000 to put in place school-based support programmes for NCS students.</li></ul>
Assessment of Future Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The number of designated schools will be reviewed and their performance would be monitored regularly to ensure effective use of the special grant to improve the learning and teaching of NCS students.</li></ul>
Additional Measures Taken / To Be Taken	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The number of designated school will be increased to 28 in the 2010/11 school year. We will continue to increase the number of designated schools in future years as and when necessary.</li></ul>

### **Provision of after-school support in Chinese learning for the NCS students**

Services Concerned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Remedial programmes after school hours or during holidays for NCS students with a view to reinforcing the learning of the Chinese Language of the NCS students, in particular the late starters, and rendering professional support to teachers have been offered since mid-2007.</li></ul>
Existing Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Chinese Language Learning Support Centre (Centre), commissioned to a tertiary institution, has expanded its services in the 2009/10 school year by operating at ten designated venues.</li><li>• The number of NCS students enrolled in the Centre has increased from about 350 (2008/09 school year) to about 410 in the 2009/10 school year.</li></ul>

- 9 teacher briefing sessions for teachers in those schools which have also admitted NCS students were held in the 2008/09 school year.

Assessment  
of Future  
Work

- The remedial programmes and teacher briefing sessions organised by the Centre have been successfully completed in the 2008/09 school year. They will continue and be kept under review in the light of changing circumstances.

Additional  
Measures  
Taken / To  
Be Taken

- About 20 classes of remedial programme for NCS students are being operated and about 10 teacher briefing sessions will continue to be provided in the 2009/10 school year.
- We have also planned to further support the NCS students in the learning of the Chinese language in the form of provision of after-school extended Chinese learning in non-designated schools. The applicant schools will be provided with a cash grant for a period of three years to roll out school-based after-school support services to assist NCS students in learning Chinese, with a view to allowing time for expanding the existing services of the Chinese Language Learning Support Centres to support the NCS students studying in non-designated schools.

### **Summer Bridging Programme**

Services  
Concerned

- Summer Bridging Programme aims to help NCS children adapt to the new learning environment, to widen their learning experience and exposure in using Cantonese as the medium of instruction under real classroom situation, and consolidate what they have learnt at Key Stage 1 to facilitate transition to Key Stage 2.

Existing  
Measures

- Starting from the summer of 2007, the 4-week Summer Bridging Programme has been extended to cover not only incoming NCS P1 entrants, but also NCS students proceeding to P2, P3 and P4.

Assessment of Future work • Review on the Summer Bridging Programme will be conducted on a need basis.

Additional Measures Taken / To Be Taken • We will continue to organise the Summer Bridging Programme. It is planned that about 80 classes will be provided in the summer of 2010.

### **Training Programme for Chinese Language Teachers**

Services Concerned • Professional training courses for primary school teachers on teaching Chinese Language to NCS students have been organised for primary Chinese Language teachers to help strengthen the teaching of Chinese Language.

Existing Measures • The training programme, conducted from the 2006/07 school year to 2008/09 school year, comprised of five identical courses and was commissioned to the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Each course offered 30 training places. A resource package compiling the materials of the courses conducted is available for teachers' reference on the EDB website.

Assessment of Future work • The content of the Programmes will be revised taking into account of the feedback collected from the courses conducted and the newly issued Supplementary Guide to the Chinese Language Curriculum for Non-Chinese Speaking Students.

Additional Measures Taken / To Be Taken • The training programme will continue to be held.

## **Alternative measures to cater for the aspirations of NCS Students for higher education**

### *General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) Chinese*

Services Concerned • The GCSE (Chinese) Examination has been administered in Hong Kong since 2007, to provide an alternative Chinese qualification to meet the aspirations of the NCS students, in particular those who have a late start in learning Chinese or have not been given ample opportunity to study the local Chinese curriculum.

Existing Measures • The GCSE (Chinese) Examination is being administered through the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority. Eligible school candidates sitting for the GCSE (Chinese) Examination, starting from 2010, will be subsidised to the effect that the examination fee level of GCSE (Chinese) charged is on par with the Chinese Language paper in the Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination or Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education in future.

Assessment of Future work • We will encourage more NCS students to sit for the examination to attain the alternative Chinese qualification as and when appropriate.

Additional Measures Taken / To Be Taken • We will continue to keep in view of the needs of the NCS students in this regard.

### *Alternative Chinese Language qualification for admission to S6*

Services Concerned • Schools under the Secondary 6 (S6) Admission Procedure to consider the alternative Chinese qualifications.

Existing Measures

- After a trial run in 2008, schools are required, starting from 2009, to consider eligible S5 students holding alternative Chinese Language qualification(s) and give conditional offers to these students at each stage of the S6 Admission Procedure pending the release of the relevant examination results in late August each year provided that the students have met the specified conditions, and have fulfilled all the admission requirements with equal points compared with their counterparts.

Assessment of Future work

- Relevant data will be collected.

Additional Measures Taken / To Be Taken

- Not applicable upon the implementation of the New Academic Structure.

*Alternative Chinese Language qualification for admission to universities*

Services Concerned

- The University Grants Committee (UGC)-funded institutions to consider alternative Chinese Language qualifications for admission to undergraduate programmes under the Joint University Programmes Admissions System (JUPAS).

Existing Measures

- The UGC-funded institutions have, starting from 2008, provided further flexibility for acceptance of alternative Chinese Language qualification(s) for application under JUPAS under specified circumstances. This is a significant step to address the aspirations for higher education of NCS students studying in our local schools.

Assessment of Future work

- The UGC-funded institutions have agreed to continue to accept alternative Chinese Language qualification(s) for students fulfilling the specified circumstances under the New Senior Secondary Curriculum.

- Additional Measures Taken / To Be Taken
- Not applicable as the UGC-funded institutions will continue to accept alternative Chinese Language qualification(s) for students fulfilling the specified circumstances under the New Senior Secondary Curriculum.

### **Information for NCS Parents / Students**

- Services Concerned
- To help the NCS parents/students understand our school system, major education policies and the related education services.

Existing Measures

*Non-Chinese Speaking Parent Information Package*

- The Non-Chinese Speaking Parent Information Package available in major ethnic minority languages have been prepared and distributed to NCS parents through schools and Maternal and Child Health Centres. It has also been distributed to the non-government organizations and relevant Government bureaux/departments to strengthen the support for NCS parents/students.

*Other measures to facilitate communication*

- Relevant information, e.g. applications for Primary 1 and Secondary 1 places under relevant school places allocation systems and the executive summary of the Supplementary Guide to the Chinese Curriculum for the NCS students, has been translated into major ethnic minority languages.
- Simultaneous interpretation service is provided when conducting briefing sessions and, where necessary, interpretation service of major ethnic minority languages can be arranged.

*Dedicated website*

- A dedicated website is available at <http://www.edb.gov.hk/ncs> to facilitate NCS parents' understanding of the services available.

Assessmen  
t of Future  
Work

- Feedback on the Information Package, other leaflets or website will be collected on a need basis.

Additional  
Measures  
Taken /  
To Be  
Taken

- Updating of the Parent Information Package and other information leaflets will be done as and when necessary.

**Conclusion**

We will update the above measures and include other new measures as and when appropriate.

**Education Bureau**  
**April 2010**