

Training Opportunities for Serving KG Teachers

Preamble

1. This is to inform all serving kindergarten (KG) teachers of the available training opportunities for in-service Certificate in Early Childhood Education (C(ECE)) Course.

Details

2. According to the policy targets on professional upgrading of KG teachers as stipulated in the **Education Bureau Circular No. 1/2007** on 'New Initiatives in Pre-primary Education', inter alia, all serving KG teachers will obtain the C(ECE) qualification by the end of the 2011/12 school year. Please browse the details of the policy targets at the following web link :
http://www.edb.gov.hk/FileManager/en/Content_5828/professional%20upgrading.pdf
3. At present, the training opportunities available for in-service C(ECE) courses are diversified with different funding and learning modes which can cater for individual needs. Serving teachers may consider to apply for admission to government subsidised or self-financed training places provided by institutions for the 2009 Intake. Part of the government subsidised and self-financed courses offer places using English as the medium of instruction. The following link provides the updated approved course list :
http://www.edb.gov.hk/FileManager/EN/Content_5828/approved%20course%20list_e.pdf
4. Taking this opportunity, we would like to remind KGs joining the Pre-primary Education Voucher Scheme (PEVS) to better utilise the Teacher Development Subsidy (TDS) to cover the expenditure to support professional upgrading of their principals and teachers, including reimbursement of course fees, appointment of supply teachers to relieve the workload of teachers on training or provision of school-based professional development programmes. And KGs in receipt of TDS are reminded to ensure that course fee reimbursement is accorded the **first priority** and to ensure teachers' entitlement to the financial support.
5. Principals and teachers serving in private independent KGs joining PEVS or KGs not joining PEVS may claim reimbursement for up to 50% of the fees for an approved C(ECE) or degree course in ECE and the certification course for principals, capped at \$60,000, before the end of 2011/12 school year.

16 June 2009