

22 March 2024

Education Bureau Circular No. 9/2024
Primary Humanities Curriculum Framework (Final Draft)
and Support Measures

[Note: This circular should be read by-

- (a) Supervisors/Heads of all Government Schools, Aided Schools (including Special Schools), Caput Schools, Private Schools, and Schools under the Direct Subsidy Schemes – for action; and
- (b) Heads of Sections – for information.]

Summary

The purpose of this circular is to announce the Primary Humanities Curriculum Framework (Final Draft) published by the Curriculum Development Council (CDC) and support measures.

Background

2. To follow up on the “Chief Executive’s 2023 Policy Address” announcing the introduction of Primary Humanities, the Education Bureau (EDB) released the EDBC No. 20/2023 on 23 November 2023 for the introduction of Primary Humanities, the Primary Humanities Curriculum Framework (Provisional Draft) and relevant support measures.

3. The Primary Humanities curriculum which will be implemented is based on the current General Studies curriculum. Most of the content is reorganised according to the existing topics of General Studies and enriched with elements of Chinese culture, national history and national geography. The enrichment aims to keep pace with the times and systematically cultivate students’ sense of belonging to our country, national sentiments and sense of national identity for the implementation of Patriotic Education¹.

4. To facilitate schools in preparation for the implementation of the curriculum, the EDB has been carrying out relevant work. For example, seven curriculum briefing

¹National education and national security education of Hong Kong has incorporated elements and spirit of patriotic education. To tie in with patriotic education, the curriculum content of “Primary Humanities Curriculum Framework” includes the learning elements related to national education, Constitution and Basic Law education, national security education and law-abiding education, so as to deepen students’ understanding of our country and national affairs, cultivate their proper values and attitudes, strengthen their cultural confidence, sense of national identity and patriotism.

sessions were conducted from November to December 2023 to interpret the content of the Primary Humanities Curriculum Framework (Provisional Draft) for schools; and the views of the sector and schools are collected through various channels, including school visits, focus group interviews, school questionnaire survey, etc., so as to further optimise the curriculum. From the data collected, schools generally concurred with the curriculum rationale and aims of Primary Humanities and opined that the curriculum is in line with the approach of the latest education development.

Details

The Primary Humanities Curriculum Framework (Final Draft)

5. The Ad Hoc Committee on Primary Humanities Curriculum (AHC) took into consideration the positive responses of the sector to the content of Primary Humanities Curriculum and concurred that the content of the Primary Humanities Curriculum Framework (Provisional Draft) is appropriate. The Primary Humanities Curriculum Framework (Final Draft) was submitted to the Curriculum Development Council Committee on Personal, Social and Humanities Education and endorsed in January 2024; then it was accepted by the Curriculum Development Council in February 2024. The relevant document has been uploaded to the Primary Humanities webpage of the Kindergarten and Primary Section, EDB (<https://www.edb.gov.hk/ph>) (Annex 1). The AHC will prepare relevant curriculum guide to facilitate the implementation of Primary Humanities.

6. Primary Humanities will be implemented in phases. The EDB recommends that schools, with due regard to the school context and readiness, pilot the new curriculum according to the Primary Humanities Curriculum Framework in the 2024/25 school year at the earliest. Starting from the 2025/26 school year, all primary schools in Hong Kong are required to implement Primary Humanities (starting from P1 and P4) and extend to all year levels in the 2027/28 school year. With regard to Primary Humanities and Primary Science, the EDB is now conducting a holistic review on the weighing of “Internal Assessments” (i.e. “the school-based assessments in primary schools participating in the Secondary School Places Allocation for determining the order of merit of their students”), and collecting views of stakeholders for thoughtful consideration. Details of “Internal Assessments” will be announced in due course.

Professional Training for In-service Teachers and Curriculum Resources

7. The EDB continuously provides support to schools for the implementation of the new curriculum in various ways, including the provision of approximately 4 000 training places every year and relevant learning and teaching resources. In the 2023/24 school year, the EDB has conducted curriculum briefing sessions and courses related to national history and Chinese culture, the latest development of our country, national security education for teachers to deepen their understanding of national affairs


and help them to be committed to cultivating the younger generation with affection for our country and Hong Kong. Besides, courses related to curriculum interpretation and management, financial education, anti-drug education, sustainable development education, sex education, life education, etc. have been organised. Relevant professional training courses for the 2023/24 school year have been uploaded to the EDB website (<https://www.edb.gov.hk/ph>) (Annex 2). The training related to humanities education provided for General Studies teachers in recent years is still applicable to Primary Humanities. The EDB has launched Primary Humanities Learning Circle to organise experience exchange and open lessons for the participating schools. Experience sharing sessions will also be conducted to strengthen professional exchange among Primary Humanities teachers, broaden their professional horizons, as well as disseminate good practices.

8. In tandem with the implementation of the Primary Humanities curriculum, the EDB has been providing more diversified learning and teaching resources from the 2023/24 school year, including the new series of resources recently launched (Annex 3), e.g. “Little Seedling Tells You” Series, “Chinese Traditional Virtues” Series and “Learning and Teaching Tips in Primary Humanities”, etc. Besides, the “Overview of Primary Humanities Learning Foci” which lists the learning and enquiry foci, as well as the knowledge, skills, values and attitudes covered for each year level have been produced to enhance teachers’ professional capacity in teaching Primary Humanities. The learning and teaching resources provided for General Studies teachers in recent years are still applicable to Primary Humanities and teachers can continue to use them as references. The above resources have been uploaded onto the EDB webpage (<https://www.edb.gov.hk/ph/resource>).

Enquiry

9. For enquiries, please contact Ms Katy HSIEN of the Kindergarten and Primary Section, Curriculum Development Institute, EDB at 2892 5857.

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for Secretary for Education

Primary Humanities Curriculum Framework (Final Draft)	
https://www.edb.gov.hk/en/curriculum-development/cross-kla-studies/ph-primary/index.html	



Personal, Social & Humanities Education
Key Learning Area

Primary Humanities
Curriculum Framework (Final Draft)

Curriculum Development Council
March 2024



2023/24 school year
General Studies / Primary Humanities
Teachers' Professional Training Courses (To be continuously updated)

The following courses are tentative information as at March 2024. The information displayed on the Training Calendar System shall prevail.

	Date (Tentative)	Course Title	Mode
1.	16 & 23 Mar 2024	Chinese History and Chinese Culture Series for General Studies / Primary Humanities: Study Tour of Hong Kong Sha Tau Kok Anti-Japanese War Memorial Hall and Lung Yeuk Tau Heritage Trail (New)	Guided Tour
2.	11 Mar to 30 Apr 2024	Briefing Sessions on Primary Humanities Curriculum (Online Course – Recorded Sessions for Revisiting) (New)	Online Self-learning Course
3.	21 Mar to 10 May 2024	Chinese History and Chinese Culture Series for General Studies / Primary Humanities: “Geography of Our Country and Stories of Chinese Historical Figures” (Online Course – Recorded Sessions for Revisiting) (New)	Online Self-learning Course
4.	15 Apr 2024	Implementation of Values Education in General Studies / Primary Humanities – Anti-drug and Law Abidingness Related (Refreshed)	Seminar
5.	17 Apr 2024	Curriculum Planning and Management in Primary Humanities – Workshop (New)	Workshop
6.	19 Apr 2024	Knowledge Enrichment for General Studies / Primary Humanities: Promoting Education for Sustainable Development – Online Seminar (New)	Seminar
7.	24 Apr 2024	General Studies / Primary Humanities: Promoting Cross-curricular Learning Related to National History and Chinese Culture and Sharing of School Experience – Online Seminar (New)	Seminar

	Date (Tentative)	Course Title	Mode
8.	Apr to May 2024	Chinese History and Chinese Culture Series for General Studies / Primary Humanities: “The Development of China's Modern History” – Seminar (Online Course - Recorded Sessions for Revisiting) (New)	Online Self-learning Course
9.	17 May 2024	Building Healthy Eating Habits – Salt and Sugar Reduction (Re-run)	Seminar
10.	May 2024	Chinese History and Chinese Culture Series for General Studies / Primary Humanities: “The Development of China’s Modern History” – Historical Theatre Workshop (Refreshed)	Workshop
11.	May 2024	Financial Education and Activity Experience Sharing (New)	Seminar
12.	May 2024	Promoting Reading Across the Curriculum in General Studies / Primary Humanities – Online Seminar (New)	Seminar
13.	May to Jun 2024	How to Lead a Healthy Lifestyle (New)	Seminar
14.	Jun 2024	Workshop on Implementation of National Security Education in General Studies (Re-run)	Workshop
15.	Jun to Jul 2024	Chinese History and Chinese Culture Series for General Studies / Primary Humanities: “Cultural Heritage” – Monuments and Intangible Cultural Heritage Workshop (Refreshed)	Workshop
16.	Jun to Aug 2024	Chinese History and Chinese Culture Series for General Studies / Primary Humanities: "Cultural Heritage" – Seminar (Online Course – Recorded Sessions for Revisiting) (New)	Online Self-learning Course
17.	Jun to Aug 2024	Chinese History and Chinese Culture Series for General Studies / Primary Humanities: “History of Hong Kong”	Online Self-learning Course

	Date (Tentative)	Course Title	Mode
		Seminar (Online Course – Recorded Sessions for Revisiting) (New)	
18.	Jun to Aug 2024	Constitution and Basic Law Knowledge Enrichment Online Course for Primary School Teachers (Phase 9) (Re-run)	Online Self-learning Course

Courses conducted :

	Date	Course Title	Mode
1.	27 Oct 2023 to 8 Jan 2024	Constitution and Basic Law Knowledge Enrichment Online Course for Primary School Teachers (Phase 7) (Re-run)	Online Self-learning Course
2.	28 Oct 2023	Chinese History and Chinese Culture Series for General Studies: “History of Hong Kong” Seminar (New)	Seminar
3.	2 Nov 2023	Fun to Learn Antiquities in General Studies – Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre Thematic Seminar cum Exhibition Visit (New)	Seminar and Guided Tour
4.	25 Nov & 2 Dec 2023	Chinese History and Chinese Culture Series for General Studies: Study Tour of Ping Shan Heritage Trail (New)	Guided Tour
5.	27 Nov, 1, 8 & 12 Dec 2023	Briefing Sessions on Primary Science Curriculum and Primary Humanities Curriculum (New)	Seminar
6.	13, 15 & 18 Dec 2023	Briefing Sessions on Primary Humanities Curriculum (New)	Seminar
7.	14 Dec 2024	Workshop on Implementation of National Security Education in General Studies (New)	Workshop
8.	18 & 31 Jan 2024	Chinese History and Chinese Culture Series for General Studies / Primary Humanities: “Stories of Chinese Historical	Workshop

	Date	Course Title	Mode
		Figures and Geography of Our Country ” – Workshop (New)	
9.	27 Feb 2024	Chinese History and Chinese Culture Series for General Studies / Primary Humanities: “The Latest Development of Our Country” – Seminar (New)	Seminar
10.	8 Feb to 8 Apr 2024	Constitution and Basic Law Knowledge Enrichment Online Course for Primary School Teachers (Phase 8) (Re-run)	Online Self-learning Course

2023/24 school year
Latest Learning and Teaching Resources of Primary Humanities
(To be continuously updated)

Learning and Teaching Resources (Chinese version only)	
1.	<p>Little Seedling Tells You Series:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial Education (Action): To Save before Spending Sex Education: Resistance to Temptations Environmental Education (Action): Learning of 4Rs National Geography: Famous World Heritage of Our Country Chinese History: “Who Knows Me Best?” Chinese Historical Figures Quiz
2.	“Chinese Traditional Virtues” Series: “臥冰求鯉” and “孔融讓梨”
3.	Learning and Teaching Tips in Primary Humanities: Enquiry Learning
4.	Learning and Teaching Resources of “I am Growing Up” and “My Home Country”
5.	“Overview of Primary Humanities Learning Foci”

