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EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HONG KONG 24 August 2001

EDB Circular No. 30/2001

(Formerly referred as EMB Circular No. 30/2001)

(Formerly referred as Administration Circular No.30/2001)

Provision of Teacher-Librarians in Aided Primary Schools

[Note: This circular should be read by --

- (a) Supervisors/Heads of aided primary ordinary schools for necessary action; and
- (b) Heads of sections, aided primary special and government primary schools and primary schools under the Direct Subsidy Scheme – for information]

Summary

This circular announces the full implementation of the provision of an additional teaching post in aided primary ordinary schools for undertaking the duties of a teacher-librarian effective from the 2001/02 school year.

Details

(a) Provision

- 2. To enhance library service in primary schools, this Department has been providing aided primary ordinary schools by phases with an additional teaching post in the rank of Certificated Master/Mistress (CM) since September 1998. The provision aims to support school library service and to co-ordinate reading schemes. Full implementation of the provision will take place in the 2001/02 school year. Effective from 1 September 2001, an aided primary ordinary school meeting one of the following conditions is entitled to the provision of one additional CM post for undertaking the duties of a teacher-librarian -
 - each whole-day primary school with three or more ordinary classes
 - each bi-sessional primary school with 12 or more ordinary classes
 - two bi-sessional primary schools housed in the same premises with a total of 12 or more ordinary classes (i.e. the number of a.m. ordinary classes plus the number of p.m. ordinary classes)

Schools are requested to note that this teacher-librarian post is a regular post in addition to the normal teaching establishment of a school and that the service of a teacher-librarian is counted as teaching experience for promotion purposes in aided primary schools.

(b) Appointment

- 3. For appointment as a teacher-librarian, a teacher should have a minimum of two years' teaching experience and preferably the relevant professional qualification in librarianship. Upon appointment, he/she is required, where appropriate, to complete a part-time day-release training course or other professional training course organised by the Education Department. Schools are requested to release teacher-librarians for this training.
- 4. The School Management Committee of an aided primary school, upon the provision of an additional teacher to undertake the duties of a teacher-librarian, may deploy a teacher at the AM/PSM rank to fill the teacher-librarian post in accordance with paragraph 5 of Administration Circular No. 30/2000 dated 23 June 2000.

(c) Duties

- 5. Under the general supervision of the school head, a teacher-librarian is required to perform the following duties -
 - (i) To plan, co-ordinate and manage all matters relating to library resources such as:
 - supporting the implementation of all sorts of reading schemes and organizing library programmes to support and enrich the school curriculum
 - supporting and developing resource-based learning and teaching activities of the school curriculum in collaboration with teachers
 - coordinating library periods and other related activities to stimulate students' interest in reading and enhance students' self-learning ability and attitude in project learning
 - developing and managing reading and learning materials
 - supporting school on the development of curriculum, teaching and learning resources
 - advising the school head and other teachers on matters concerning the development of the school library

and

- (ii) Any other appropriate duties as required by the school head
- 6. Relevant parts of the Code of Aid for Primary Schools will be amended in due course.

Enquiry

7. Enquiries relating to this circular should be directed to the respective Senior School Development Officers.

M Y CHENG for Director of Education