

# Enriching Our Language Environment Realising Our Vision

## Fine-tuning of Medium of Instruction for Secondary Schools



### Our Vision

"We are entering a new era as globalisation has taken hold. In line with the policy goal of upholding mother-tongue teaching while enhancing students' proficiency in both Chinese and English, the fine-tuning of Medium of Instruction (MOI) for secondary schools will enhance our students' exposure to English and its use at junior secondary levels. By enhancing students' ability to learn in English, we can prepare them to embrace new challenges and enhance Hong Kong's status as an international city."

Michael MY Suen  
Secretary for Education

### Changes under Fine-tuning Arrangements

- Under the existing MOI arrangements at junior secondary levels, schools are classified into those using Chinese as the MOI (CMI schools) or schools using English as the MOI (EMI schools). In CMI schools, all subjects except English Language are taught in Chinese; while EMI schools teach all subjects in English except for Chinese Language. As a result, students in CMI schools have less exposure to English. EMI schools, on the other hand, do not have discretion to offer mother-tongue teaching in some subjects.
- Starting with Secondary One level from the 2010/11 academic year onwards, secondary schools can enrich their English learning environment by introducing different MOI arrangements to suit different needs of their students. The ultimate aim is to increase students' opportunities to be exposed to, and use, English.

### Diversified MOI Arrangements

- Under the diversified fine-tuning arrangements, secondary schools may, in the light of teachers' readiness to teach in English, choose to supplement mother-tongue teaching with the adoption of English as the MOI in up to 25% of total lesson time (excluding the lesson time of English Language subject) across subjects. Schools may alternatively allocate the relevant lesson time to the teaching of one or two non-language subjects in English.
- Having regard to the students' ability to learn in English, the teachers' readiness to teach in English and associated support measures, secondary schools may also opt to teach some or all non-language subjects in English at junior secondary levels - provided they meet the prescribed criteria.

### Parents' Choices

- The fine-tuning will provide schools greater room for development so that they can adopt appropriate MOI arrangements for students at junior secondary levels. Apart from considering the MOI a school offers, parents can take into account the school's vision and mission, characteristics and teaching strategies in selecting one that best suits the abilities and interests of their children.
- To facilitate parents to make school choices, schools must clearly spell out their MOI arrangements for each non-language subject. This information should be included in the School Profile published annually for parents' reference.
- Each school should also state and explain its specific MOI arrangements in its School Development Plan.

### Facilitation and Support

#### Provision of Support for Secondary Schools

- The Education Bureau (EDB) will introduce a series of support measures for secondary schools to ensure effective implementation of school-specific MOI policies. These include:
  - Provision of training courses and professional support services to non-language subject teachers in secondary schools.
  - Facilitation of best practice sharing sessions between schools and teachers at half-yearly intervals.
  - Commissioning of a study on promoting English across the curriculum and teaching non-language subjects in English to develop effective teaching resources and assess effectiveness.



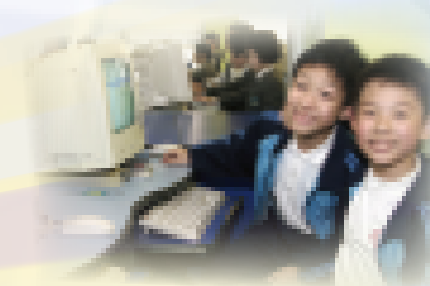
#### Improvement of English Teaching and Learning in Primary Schools

- To build a solid English language foundation for primary school students, and to complement the fine-tuning arrangements, the EDB will further enhance the teaching and learning of English in primary schools. Specific measures include the establishment of a scholarship aimed at attracting young talent to pursue a career in education. The EDB also plans to strengthen school-based support services, provide professional training for teachers and enhance the English learning environment in primary schools.

### Objectives and Ideals

- We believe that education is about teaching students in accordance with their aptitude. The interests and needs of students remain our prime consideration. By introducing more flexibility in the MOI arrangements while maintaining teaching and learning effectiveness, we hope that each and every student will have a better chance to realise their full potential.
- Under the fine-tuning arrangements, junior secondary students will be given more opportunities to be exposed to, and use, English through listening, speaking, reading and writing, all of which should help enhance students' confidence and motivation in learning English.
- The success of fine-tuning hinges upon schools' professional judgment as well as the support of parents and various sectors of the community. We appeal to everyone to make a concerted effort to enhance students' interest in learning and nurture them to become proficient in both Chinese and English.

*For further information on the MOI fine-tuning arrangements, please visit the EDB website [www.edb.gov.hk](http://www.edb.gov.hk).*



## Enriching Our Language Environment Enhancing Our Global Status



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