

Life and Society (S1 - S3) Curriculum Framework of National Security Education**1. General teaching foci**

- 1.1. Life and Society helps students understand the current situation and development direction of our country, the Constitution and the Basic Law together forming the constitutional basis of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), as well as the relationship between the Central Authorities and the HKSAR. Accordingly, they will understand the related content and importance of homeland security, political security, economic security, resource security, military security and overseas interests security.
- 1.2. By studying the two strands of “Resources and Economic Activities” and “Social Systems and Citizenship”, students can understand the meaning of national security, the content of related national security domains, as well as the importance of safeguarding national security from social, political and economic perspectives. Related topics include “Rights, Responsibilities and the Rule of Law”, “The relationship between the Central Authorities and the HKSAR” and “Ups and Downs of the Hong Kong Economy” in the socio-political system and economy of Hong Kong; “Functions and Powers of State Organs”, “Participation in International Affairs” and “Economic Planning and Regulation of the Chinese Government” in the socio-political system and economy of our country; and “An Overview of World Order” and “Trade: Conditions, Gains and Disputes” in the socio-political system and economy of the world.
- 1.3. Life and Society enables students to become informed and responsible citizens with a sense of national identity and global perspective, who respect the rule of law and are willing to contribute to safeguarding national security.

2. Learning foci

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Chapter / Topic	Learning Elements	Strand	Learning Elements
Core Module (21): Rights and Responsibilities of Citizens Rights, Responsibilities and the Rule of Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand that the rights and duties of Hong Kong residents are regulated by the Basic Law, that the principles of the rule of law protect Hong Kong residents, and that enjoying rights and freedoms comes with responsibilities ➤ When teaching the rights and duties stipulated in the Basic Law, use the maintenance of public order and public health as examples to help students understand that enjoying rights and freedoms comes with responsibilities. Accordingly, students will understand the relationship between protecting human rights and freedoms and safeguarding national security, and recognise the importance of safeguarding national security. ➤ When teaching “everyone must act in accordance with the law” as a principle of the rule of law, briefly introduce the four categories of offences that endanger national security as stipulated in the Law of the People’s Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (NSL). This will enable students to understand how relevant laws help maintain social stability, and the importance of these laws to safeguarding national security. 	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the main principles of the rule of law and how the Constitution and the Basic Law protect the rights of Hong Kong residents and regulate their obligations • Understand that no rights and freedoms are without limits, and that enjoying rights and freedoms also comes with responsibilities • Understand how the Constitution and the Basic Law regulate the duty of safeguarding national security
		6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the specific provisions related to the offences of “secession”, “subversion”, “terrorist activities” and “collusion with a foreign country or with external elements to endanger national security”, and the importance of these provisions in safeguarding national security

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Core Module (22): Hong Kong Government and I The relationship between the Central Authorities and the HKSAR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the principle of “One Country, Two Systems”, the Constitution and the Basic Law together forming the constitutional basis of the HKSAR, as well as the relationship between the Central Authorities and the HKSAR ➤ When teaching the principle of “One Country, Two Systems”, and the idea that the Constitution and the Basic Law together form the constitutional basis of the HKSAR, teachers should let students know the provisions of the Constitution and the Basic Law are related to safeguarding national security. Students will then understand that national security is a matter within the purview of the Central Authorities, and that the HKSAR has the constitutional duty to safeguard national security. ➤ When teaching the relationship between the Central Authorities and the HKSAR, teachers should use the duties and the government bodies of the HKSAR for safeguarding national security as stipulated by the NSL as examples, so that students will understand that the Central People’s Government has an overarching responsibility for national security affairs relating to the HKSAR, and the HKSAR has the constitutional duty to safeguard national security. Teachers should also introduce the specific content related 	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the definition of national security and the 13 domains of national security (e.g., homeland security, political security)
		2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the status of the Constitution and its relationship with the Basic Law, and that the NSL does not infringe the rights and freedoms of Hong Kong residents • Understand the “One Country, Two Systems” policy, as well as the relationship between the Central Authorities and the HKSAR as stipulated in the Basic Law, including provisions on the responsibilities of the Central Authorities and the HKSAR in safeguarding national security • Understand that national security falls solely within the purview of the Central Authorities, and that under the Constitution and the Basic Law, the Central Authorities has the authority to directly handle matters

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	to the four categories of offences that endanger national security as stipulated by the NSL, so that students will understand their importance to homeland security and political security.		concerning the safeguarding of Hong Kong's national security, and that the HKSAR still has the constitutional duty to enact legislation on Article 23 of the Basic Law
		4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the bodies for safeguarding national security in the HKSAR and their duties and functions, and that both the Government and all citizens have the constitutional duty to safeguard national security
		6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the specific provisions related to the offences of “secession”, “subversion”, “terrorist activities” and “collusion with a foreign country or with external elements to endanger national security”, and the importance of these provisions in safeguarding national security
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the functions and powers of state organs 	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the powers and functions of our country's important institutions, as well as

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Core Module (25): Chinese Political System Functions and Powers of State Organs	<p>➤ Take the enactment and promulgation of the NSL as an example, teachers should explain the functions and powers exercised by the National People’s Congress (NPC), its Standing Committee and the President. Based on relevant provisions of the NSL, teachers should explain the relevant powers and functions of the Central People’s Government (CPG), the NPC Standing Committee, the Supreme People’s Court and the Supreme People’s Procuratorate, so that students will understand the Central Authorities’ responsibility to safeguard national security.</p>		characteristics of our country’s political system
		3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the role of the Central Government in different fields, such as development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and safeguarding of national security
		5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the basic characteristics of the PRC political system, the role of the Central Government, and the Central Authorities’ responsibility to safeguard national security Understand the powers of state institutions and CPG offices in Hong Kong (e.g. the Liaison Office of the CPG in the Hong Kong SAR, and the Office for Safeguarding National Security of the Central People’s Government of the People’s Republic of China in the Hong Kong SAR)

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<p>Core Module (13): Economic Performance of Hong Kong</p> <p>Ups and Downs of the Hong Kong Economy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand that Hong Kong is a highly externally oriented and open economy, and therefore Hong Kong's economic fluctuations are closely tied to events happening on the Mainland and overseas; as well as the role of Hong Kong Government in stabilising and developing the economy ➤ Take the Asian Financial Crisis as an example, teachers should briefly describe the impact of the incident on Hong Kong's financial market and mention that defensive measures were implemented by the HKSAR Government at that time. Teachers should help students understand that stabilising Hong Kong's economy is related to safeguarding economic security, and the Government plays an important role in that regard. 	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the definition of national security and the 13 domains of national security (e.g., economic security)
<p>Core Module (16): Role of Chinese Government in the Economy</p> <p>Economic Planning and Regulation of the</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the ministries, commissions and organisations responsible for making major economic policies, as well as ways of regulating the economy by the Chinese Government ➤ When teaching the economic planning and regulation of the Chinese Government, teachers should cite examples of how our country focuses on innovation and technological self-reliance during the 14th Five-Year Plan period. As a result, students will understand how our country promotes sustainable economic development and ensure 	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the definition of national security and the 13 domains of national security (e.g., economic security)

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Chinese Government	economic security through industrial innovation. They will also understand that the Government plays an important role in safeguarding economic security.		
Core Module (19): World Trade Trade: Conditions, Gains and Disputes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand common trade protection policies and ways to deal with them, as well as challenges faced by our country in external trade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Cite examples of China’s trade conflicts with other countries to help students understand the serious impact on national interest and people’s livelihood when important sectors and key domains related to lifelines of the national economy are subject to external economic shocks. They will then understand the importance of safeguarding economic security. 	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the definition of national security and the 13 domains of national security (e.g., economic security)
Core Module (26): China’s Step Forward to the World Participating in International Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the opportunities and challenges brought by the strategies and progress of our country’s participation in international affairs, foreign investment, etc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ When introducing our country’s participation in international affairs, teachers should use the “Belt and Road” initiative as an example to enable students to understand that the “Silk Road Economic Belt” will help improve our country’s capacity of land-based transport channels and reduce the excessive dependence on maritime transport 	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the definition of national security and the 13 domains of national security (e.g., resource security) Have a basic understanding of national and world history and issues (e.g., colonial expansion, regional warfare, terrorism), through which to understand the importance of national security

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	channels as in previous years. Accordingly, they will understand how the “Belt and Road” initiative can enhance resource security ¹ .		
Core Module (28): International Politics An Overview of World Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the current world order <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ When teaching the current international situation facing our country, teachers should use the examples that our country has taken part in the United Nations peacekeeping operations since 1990 and has conducted Gulf of Aden escort missions since 2008, so that students will understand our country’s contribution to maintaining world peace as well as how our country protects its business and trade interests along overseas sea routes. Accordingly, they will understand the relevant key points of military security² and overseas interests security³. 	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the definition of national security and the 13 domains of national security (e.g., military security, overseas interests security)
		7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand how the country participates in international affairs and the current global order, so as to understand the importance of political security, military security and overseas interests security

¹According to Article 21 of the National Security Law of the People’s Republic of China, resource security includes efforts to “improve the construction of strategic resource and energy transport channels and security protection measures, strengthen cooperation in international resources and energies, and comprehensively enhance emergency safeguard capability”.

²According to Article 18 of the National Security Law of the People’s Republic of China, military security includes efforts to “conduct international military security cooperation, conduct peace-keeping operations of the United Nations, international rescue, maritime escort operations, and military actions that protect the state’s overseas interests”.

³According to Article 33 of the National Security Law of the People’s Republic of China, overseas interests security includes measures to “protect the security and legitimate rights and interests of overseas Chinese citizens, organisations and institutions, and ensure the nation’s overseas interests are not threatened or encroached upon”.

3. Suggested learning and teaching activities (examples)

✧ **Project learning**

- **【Link to Core Module (25): Chinese Political System, Core Module (26): China’s Step Forward to the World and Core Module (28): International Politics】** Form groups to study our country’s foreign policies and their background stories in different periods, the latest diplomatic developments, as well as the domains of national security involved, including military security and overseas interests security.

✧ **Mainland exchange activities and study tours**

- **【Link to Core Module (15): An Overview of the Chinese Economy, Core Module (17): Regional Economic Development of the Mainland, Core Module (19): World Trade and Core Module (20): International Interdependence】** Arrange for students to visit the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, so that they will learn about and understand the latest developments in high-level technological innovation and the globally competitive modern industrial system. They will also understand the domains of national security involved, including economic security and resource security.

✧ **Cross-curricular collaboration**

- Cooperate with the subject panels of Chinese History and History to organise a role-play competition featuring contemporary and historical figures, aimed at enabling students to understand their profound influence on and contribution to the state and the nation, including that of safeguarding national security.

✧ **Local visits**

- **【Link to Core Module (21): Rights and Responsibilities of Citizens, Core Module (22): Hong Kong Government and I and Core Module (25): Chinese Political System】** Arrange for student to visit venues related to the history of the Basic Law and constitutional arrangements (including

the Legislative Council Complex, the Chinese People's Liberation Army Forces Hong Kong Building, the Court of Final Appeal, etc.). Invite experts to explain the principle of "One Country, Two Systems", the Constitution and the Basic Law together forming the constitutional basis of the HKSAR, as well as characteristics of the political system of the HKSAR. Accordingly, students should have a deep understanding of the meaning of the rule of law and Hong Kong's political structure, as well as the HKSAR's constitutional duty in safeguarding national security.

✧ **Online and self-directed learning activities**

- Through the Constitution and Basic Law Online Course for Secondary School Students' Self-directed Learning, students can acquire the basic knowledge related to the Constitution and the Basic Law, including the constitutional duty of the HKSAR to safeguard national security.
- Design appropriate self-learning activities in line with the curriculum aims and objectives, so that students will understand the attention and importance attached by other countries to issues related to homeland security, political security, economic security, resource security, military security and overseas interests security, etc.