**Objective**

Basic Competencies, which are essential knowledge that students should acquire, are part of the curriculum and covered in daily teaching.

**Design**

**A low-stake assessment**

For students: Not providing assessment results of individual students. No implications on Secondary School Places Allocation.

For schools: Not used to evaluate schools. (Removed from External School Review; not affecting promotion to a higher level or Secondary School Places Allocation; not for school ranking, assessing the performance of schools and teachers or closing down schools)

**Support for TSA**

- Online assessment item bank
  Student Assessment Repository (STAR) ([http://star.hkedcity.net](http://star.hkedcity.net))

- Ready-made teaching materials
  Web-based Learning and Teaching Support (WLTS) ([http://wlts.edb.hkedcity.net](http://wlts.edb.hkedcity.net))

**Myths about TSA**

**Myth1**

Does TSA affect the allocation of Secondary 1 school places or school ranking?

TSA is not an assessment for individuals. It does not provide assessment results of individual students. It does not affect promotion to a higher level or Secondary School Places Allocation. TSA is not for school ranking, assessing the performance of schools and teachers or closing down schools.

**Myth2**

Why is it necessary to conduct TSA while schools have internal examinations?

While school examinations help schools understand students’ performance in various subjects, these alone do not suffice because levels of difficulty in school examinations vary among schools and students’ standards are not fully reflected. TSA serves as an objective reference tool that enables schools to know the overall performance of students and take timely follow-up actions.

**Myth3**

Are TSA questions tricky and difficult?

- A comprehensive review was conducted in 2016. Assessment papers and question design have been improved. The questions are now more straightforward and relevant to students’ learning experience.

- TSA past papers are available at the HKEAA website for public’s free browsing and downloading.

**Myth4**

How should schools/parents prepare for TSA?

The scope of TSA is part of the curriculum and covered in daily teaching. Extra preparation or supplementary exercises are not required.