

Arts Education

Key Learning Area

**Learning and Teaching of the National Anthem:
Supplement to the Music Curriculum Guide
(Primary 1 – Secondary 3)**

Prepared by
The Curriculum Development Council

Recommended for use in schools by
**The Education Bureau
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(1) Preamble

This document supplements the *Arts Education Key Learning Area Music Curriculum Guide (Primary 1 – Secondary 3)* (2003) so as to support the learning and teaching of the national anthem in the Music curriculum.

At present, playing and singing of the national anthem is common in schools. Schools would hold flag raising ceremony, play and sing the national anthem during the celebration of important days and special occasions, e.g. the National Day, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Establishment Day, graduation ceremony and sport event, while students learn to sing the national anthem in music lesson.

In order to enhance the learning effectiveness in Music, when arranging learning and teaching activities of the national anthem, teachers are advised to make reference to the Learning Objectives and suggested learning activities in the above-mentioned curriculum guide, thereby achieving the Learning Targets of Music.

Views and suggestions on this Supplement may be sent to:

Arts Education Section
Curriculum Development Institute
Education Bureau
W325, West Block
EDB Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre
19 Suffolk Road, Kowloon
E-mail: arts@edb.gov.hk

(2) Learning and Teaching

The learning and teaching of the national anthem¹ can help students enhance singing skills and understand the context of music, including historical background and original ideas, so as to cultivate their music appreciation ability. It also helps students learn to observe the etiquette when schools play and sing the national anthem during special occasions.

For implementing the learning and teaching of the national anthem in primary and secondary schools, emphases are as follows.

Key Stage 1 (Primary 1 to 3)

- Students listen to and sing the national anthem with teachers' guidance, so as to familiarise themselves with the melody and lyrics.
- Learn to sing the national anthem solemnly and to understand the national anthem as the symbol of the country, and to promote the attitude of respecting the national anthem.

Key Stage 2 (Primary 4 to 6)

- Students sing the national anthem according to the expression markings. Teachers help students enhance singing skills, and to sing the national anthem solemnly with etiquette.
- To know the composer and lyrics writer, and understand the compositional background of the national anthem.

Key Stage 3 (Secondary 1 to 3)

- To appreciate the musical features of the national anthem, discuss about the lyrics setting, consolidate singing skills and realise the spirit behind.
- Students discuss and explore topics of the national anthem from different perspectives of music through diverse learning strategies, e.g. listening, discussion and searching of information.

Subsequent to Key Stage 3, senior secondary students continue to participate in Other Learning Experiences and life-wide learning activities, e.g. flag raising ceremony, national anthem playing and singing during the celebration of important days and special occasions, for sustaining the learning experience of the national anthem.

(3) Reference

“Topical Issues: National Anthem” webpage of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (including standard score and recording)

www.cmab.gov.hk/en/issues/national_anthem.htm

“Getting to Know the National Flag, National Anthem and Regional Flag” webpage of Moral, Civic and National Education website of the Education Bureau

www.edb.gov.hk/en/flag-raising

¹ For the score of the national anthem, please refer to the webpage of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (www.cmab.gov.hk/en/issues/national_anthem_introduction.htm)

