

Introduction to English-related Applied Learning Courses

(2024-26 Cohort; 2026 HKDSE) (S5 in 2024/25 s.y.)

(2025-27 Cohort; 2027 HKDSE) (S4 in 2024/25 s.y.)

2 February 2024

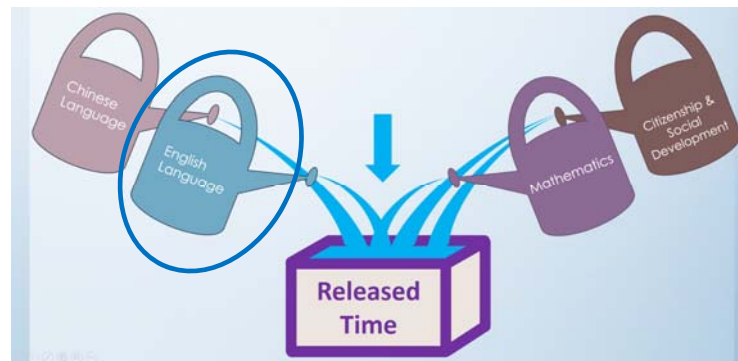
Rundown

Time	Session
2:20 – 2:30 p.m.	Online Registration
2:30 – 2:40 p.m.	Overview of English-related Applied Learning Courses
2:40 – 2:55 p.m.	Course Introduction – Translation Studies Practical Translation (CHI-ENG) – LIFE
2:55 – 3:10 p.m.	Course Introduction – English for Creative Communication Creative English – Biz and Media - HKCT
3:10 – 3:25 p.m.	Course Introduction – ApL (VocE) English for Business Services – HKCT
3:25 – 3:35 p.m.	Break
3:35 – 4:05 p.m.	Course Introduction – ApL (VocE) English Communication – VTC English for Service Professionals – HKU (SPACE)
4:05 – 4:25 p.m.	Experience Sharing by Kwun Tong Kung Lok Government Secondary School
4:25 – 4:45 p.m.	Important Dates & Things to Note + Q&A

Task Force on Review of School Curriculum



Optimising the Four Senior Secondary Core Subjects, including English Language



Providing a wider range of ApL courses to cater for learner diversity



Providing English-related ApL to widen students' subject choice

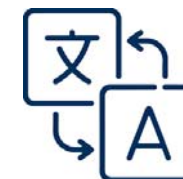
Vocational English



English for Creative Communication

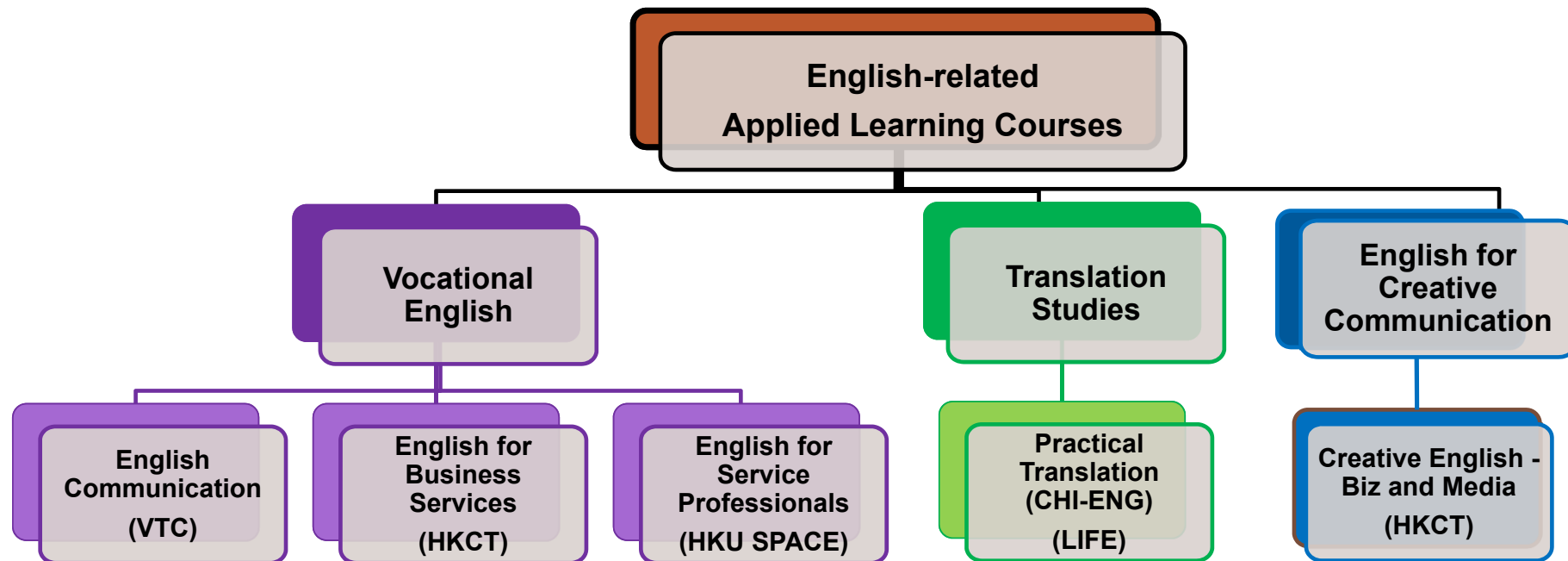


Translation Studies



English-related Applied Learning

2024 - 26 Cohort; 2026 HKDSE





Vocational English

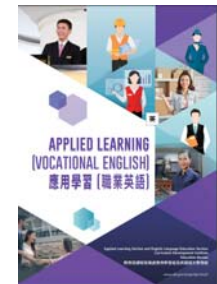
MOI: English



Link to ApL(VocE): https://www.edb.gov.hk/en/curriculum-development/kla/eng-edu/VocE_info.html



Video on ApL(VocE)



Leaflet on ApL(VocE)

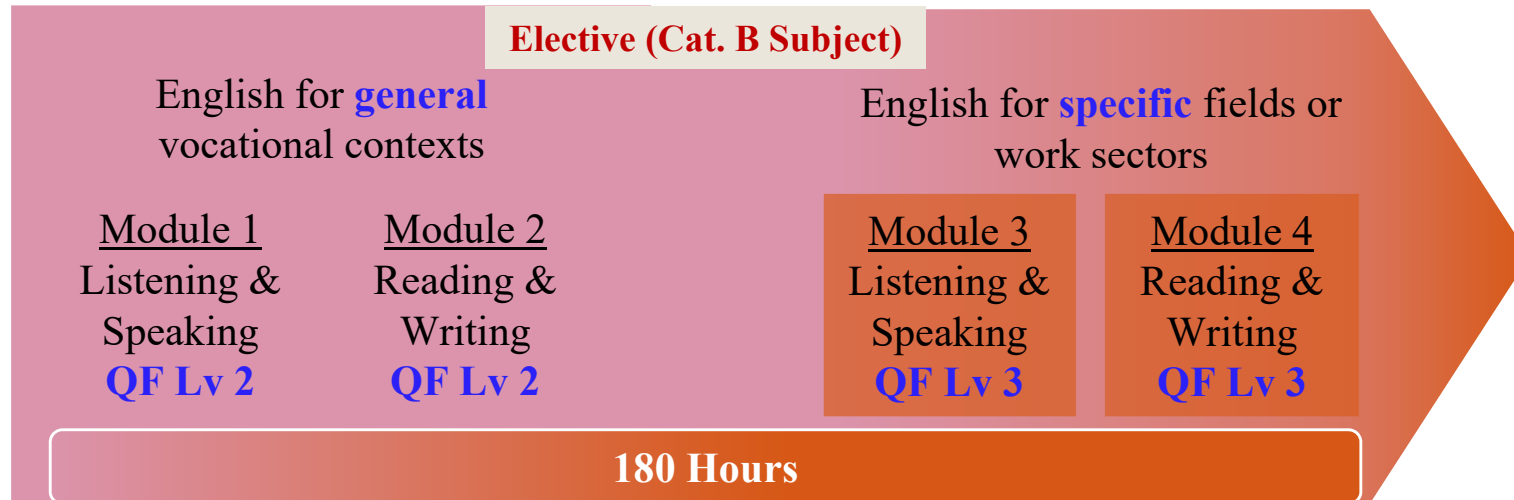
Curriculum Aims

ApL(VocE) aims to:

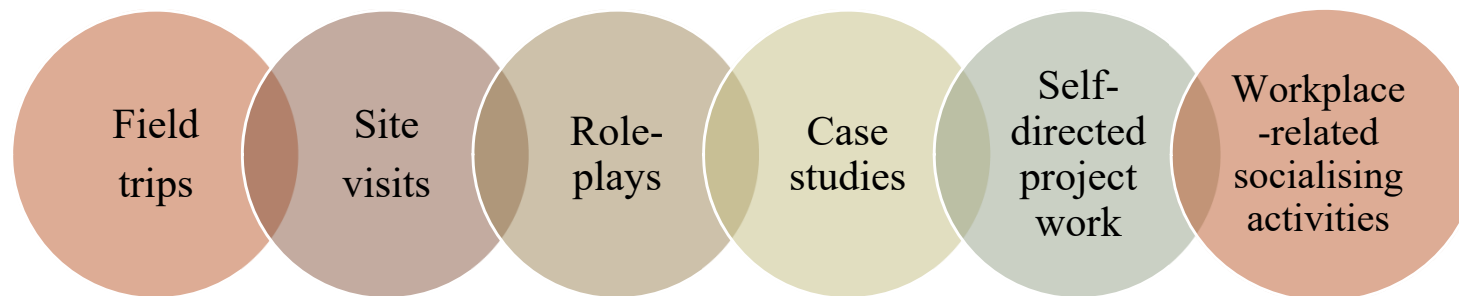
- develop students' English proficiency and generic skills **through application and practice** in simulated or near authentic vocational contexts
- enhance students' awareness of the **role of English** in authentic work environments
- develop students' **career-related competencies**, foundation skills (notably **communication skills**), **thinking skills** and **people skills** as well as to nurture their **positive values and attitudes** as in ApL curriculum pillars
- enable students to lay a **good English foundation** for further studies or career pursuits

Applied Learning (Vocational English)

Curriculum Structure & Features







Examples of Learning & Teaching Activities



Applied Learning (Vocational English)

Recognition

 香港中學文憑 HKDSE HONG KONG DIPLOMA OF SECONDARY EDUCATION	 資歷架構 Qualifications Framework	
HKDSE Elective Subject*	Qualifications Framework	
Attained with distinction (II)	<u>Terminal Exit</u> QF Lv 3 certificate upon satisfactory completion of the whole course	<u>Intermediate Exit</u> Module certificates upon satisfactory completion of individual modules
Attained with distinction (I)	or	
Attained		
Unattained (will not be shown on the diploma)		

*The result in ApL(VocE) is **not** equivalent to any level in the HKDSE English Language Examination, nor can it be used as an alternative qualification for English Language.

English for Creative Communication

MOI: English

Course Aims

To lay in students a foundation in the **basic skills and knowledge in creative use of English** through applied learning contexts related to professional and vocational fields

To develop in students a set of **writing, presentation, critical analysis and cultural literacy skills** essential for **effective communication in different genres, forms/modes and contexts**

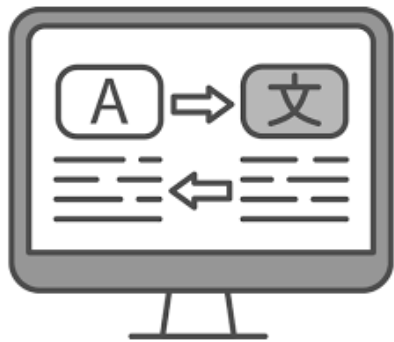
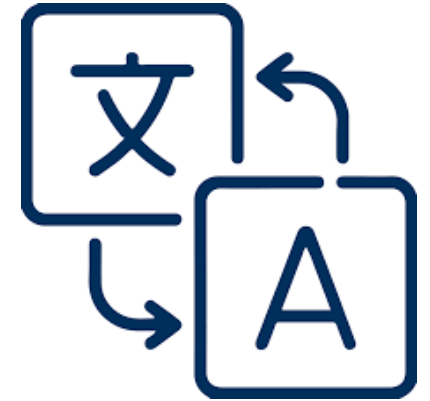
To develop in students essential **language knowledge and skills for further studies and career pursuits** in a range of professions requiring strong language and communication skills

To develop students' **career-related competencies**, foundation skills, thinking skills and people skills as well as nurture students' **generic skills, positive values and attitudes** as in Applied Learning curriculum pillars through **application and practice**

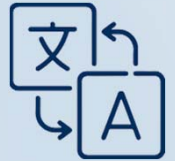
Translation Studies

翻譯學

MOI: Chinese and English



Translation Studies – Course Aims



Course Aims:

to lay in students a **foundation in the basic principles and practice of translation through applied learning contexts related to professional and vocational fields**

to develop in students **fundamental language and cultural awareness of a variety of texts in Chinese and English**

to develop in students **essential language knowledge and skills for further studies and a range of professions requiring bilingual competency**

to develop students' **career-related competencies, foundation skills, thinking skills and people skills as well as nurture students' generic skills, positive values and attitudes in ApL curriculum pillars through application and practice**

Comparison of the Three English-related ApL Courses

Vocational English

- Common text types across different businesses and industries
- Formulaic in nature

Translation Studies

- Language and cultural awareness in English and Chinese
- Contrastive linguistic approach

English for Creative Communication

- Language and cultural awareness
- Creative use of English
- Creating impacts through the use of different language techniques

Translation Studies – Course & Course Provider



Translation Studies



**Practical Translation
(CHI-ENG)**

實用翻譯（漢英）

(LIFE)

嶺南大學持續進修學院

Applied Learning – Translation Studies



Practical Translation (CHI-ENG)

實用翻譯（漢英）

(LIFE)

嶺南大學持續進修學院

Speaker: Mr Honcin CHOW

Subject Leader (ApL)

English for Creative Communication –
**Creative English –
Biz and Media**

Speaker: Ms Sofia LEE
Assistant Lecturer

Applied Learning (Vocational English) –

English for Business Services

Speaker: Ms Mavis CHAN
Assistant Lecturer

Break



ApL(VocE) – Courses & Course Providers

Applied Learning (Vocational English)



**English
Communication
(VTC)**



**English for
Business Services
(HKCT)**



**English for Service
Professionals
(HKU SPACE)**

Applied Learning (Vocational English) –



English Communication

Speaker: Ms Sylvian CHAN
Acting Senior Project Officer

Applied Learning (Vocational English) –



English for Service Professionals

Speaker: Mr Raymond CHEUNG
College Lecturer

Experience Sharing

by Ms. Teresa Ho

**Kwun Tong Kung Lok Government
Secondary School**

觀塘功樂官立中學



School-level Planning for English-related ApL Courses

Considerations

- To **cater for learner diversity** through diversifying learning opportunities to develop students' career-related competence and English proficiency

What to consider

Students' interests, needs and aspirations

School support
(e.g. time-tabling, admin support)

Capacity of course providers

What to offer

For each individual course

- **1 class per course**
- More than 1 class **ONLY IF**
 - justification is provided (applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis)
 - places are available

Consider offering other English-related ApL courses

ApL Poster (2024-26 Cohort)



ApL

Applied Learning Courses (2024-26 Cohort)
Applied Learning Section
Curriculum Development Institute,
Education Bureau



ApL is a valued senior secondary elective subject which complements other senior secondary subjects to form a flexible subject combination that helps enrich students' subject choices and cater for learner diversity, providing broad and balanced learning experiences for students. The courses focus on practical learning elements linked to broad professional and vocational fields with dual emphasis on theory and practice. It develops students' knowledge, generic skills, proper values and attitudes through providing simulated or authentic contexts, as well as enhances students' understanding of vocational and professional education and training (VPET), preparing them for further studies and work in future.

In the 2024-26 Cohort (i.e. the cohort of students sitting the 2026 Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE)), there are a total of 60 ApL courses, covering six Areas of Studies, namely Creative Studies; Media and Communication; Business, Management and Law; Services; Applied Science; and Engineering and Production. In addition, Applied Learning Chinese (for non-Chinese speaking students) (ApL(C)) is provided exclusively for non-Chinese speaking (NCS) students meeting specified circumstances¹. The duration of each ApL course (except ApL(C)) is 180 contact hours, generally spanning two school years at the senior secondary level, commencing either at Secondary 4 (S4) (complete at Secondary 5 (S5) or S5 (complete at Secondary 6 (S6)). The duration of each ApL(C) course is 270 contact hours, spanning S4 to S6.








Six Areas of Studies



Creative Studies



Media and Communication



Business, Management and Law



Services



Applied Science



Engineering and Production

Application for ApL Courses

All students **MUST** apply through their schools. Generally, each student can take a maximum of two ApL courses as elective subjects throughout his/her studies at the senior secondary level (NCS students meeting specified circumstances can also take one ApL(C) course). EDB will fully subsidise eligible schools² to pay the course fees.

Application Period 23 February to 2 April 2024³

Course Providers






















¹ Students who have learned Chinese Language for less than six years while receiving primary and secondary education or students who have learned Chinese Language for six years or more in schools, but have learnt English as a second language and cannot apply for the exemption of students at a local school.

² Students in all government and non-government schools under the Direct Subsidy Scheme and special schools with non-secondary schools including non-secondary curriculum prepared by the Curriculum Development Council and published for use in schools by EDB will be fully subsidised by EDB to take ApL courses.

³ Students intending to take ApL courses in the 2024-26 cohort (i.e. cohort of students sitting the 2026 HKDSE), they can commence at S4 in the 2022/23 school year (Schools' Release application procedures have been completed and the courses will be implemented in September/October 2023), or at S5 in the 2023/24 school year (Students should apply through their schools from 23 February 2024 to 2 April 2024).



Education Bureau
The Government of
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
of the People's Republic of China

ApL

Applied Learning Courses (2024-26 Cohort)
Applied Learning Section
Curriculum Development Institute,
Education Bureau



Recognition

ApL courses (2024-26 Cohort) are **Category B** subjects of the 2026 Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (HKDSE). Reporting of students' performance in ApL subjects (except ApL(C)):

Attained with Distinction (II)

↑

Attained with Distinction (I)

↑

Attained






Performance of "Attained with Distinction (I)" is deemed comparable to Level 3 of Category A subjects of the HKDSE; and "Attained with Distinction (II)" is deemed comparable to Level 4 or above of Category A subjects of the HKDSE. As for ApL(C), students' performance is reported as "Attained" and "Attained with Distinction".

In addition to the HKDSE qualification, students who have successfully completed ApL courses that are registered in the Qualifications Register (as certificate programmes at Qualifications Framework (QF) Level 3), will obtain a QF certificate issued by the course providers. Details are available on the Qualifications Register website (www.hkqr.gov.hk).

For further studies

Undergraduate Programmes: All along, student admission in tertiary institutions has followed the principle of institutional autonomy. For further studies in undergraduate programmes, tertiary institutions value the learning experiences that students acquire in ApL. ApL subjects are recognised as elective subjects, or considered for award of extra bonus or additional information, varying by individual institutions, faculties or programmes.

Sub-degree Programmes: Students with level 2 or above in five HKDSE subjects (including Chinese Language and English Language) are eligible to apply for admission to Associate Degree or Higher Diploma Programmes. In general, each student is allowed to use up to a maximum of two ApL subjects in the application.

Currently, University Grants Committee-funded universities and most post-secondary Institutions accept ApL(C) as an alternative qualification in Chinese Language for the admission of NCS students with "Attained" as the minimum grade required.

For details, please refer to the relevant websites of individual institutions or the EDB website (www.edb.gov.hk/apl/en/quality-assurance-and-recognition).

For employment

The Civil Service Bureau (CSB) accepts students' ApL results in the HKDSE (including "Attained" and "Attained with Distinction", up to a maximum of 2 ApL subjects) in civil service appointments. For details, please refer to the website of CSB (www.csb.gov.hk/english/info/2170.html).

The CSB also accepts "Attained" and "Attained with Distinction" in ApL(C) as meeting the Chinese language proficiency requirements of relevant civil service ranks. For details, please also refer to the website of CSB (www.csb.gov.hk/english/admin/appoint/35.html).

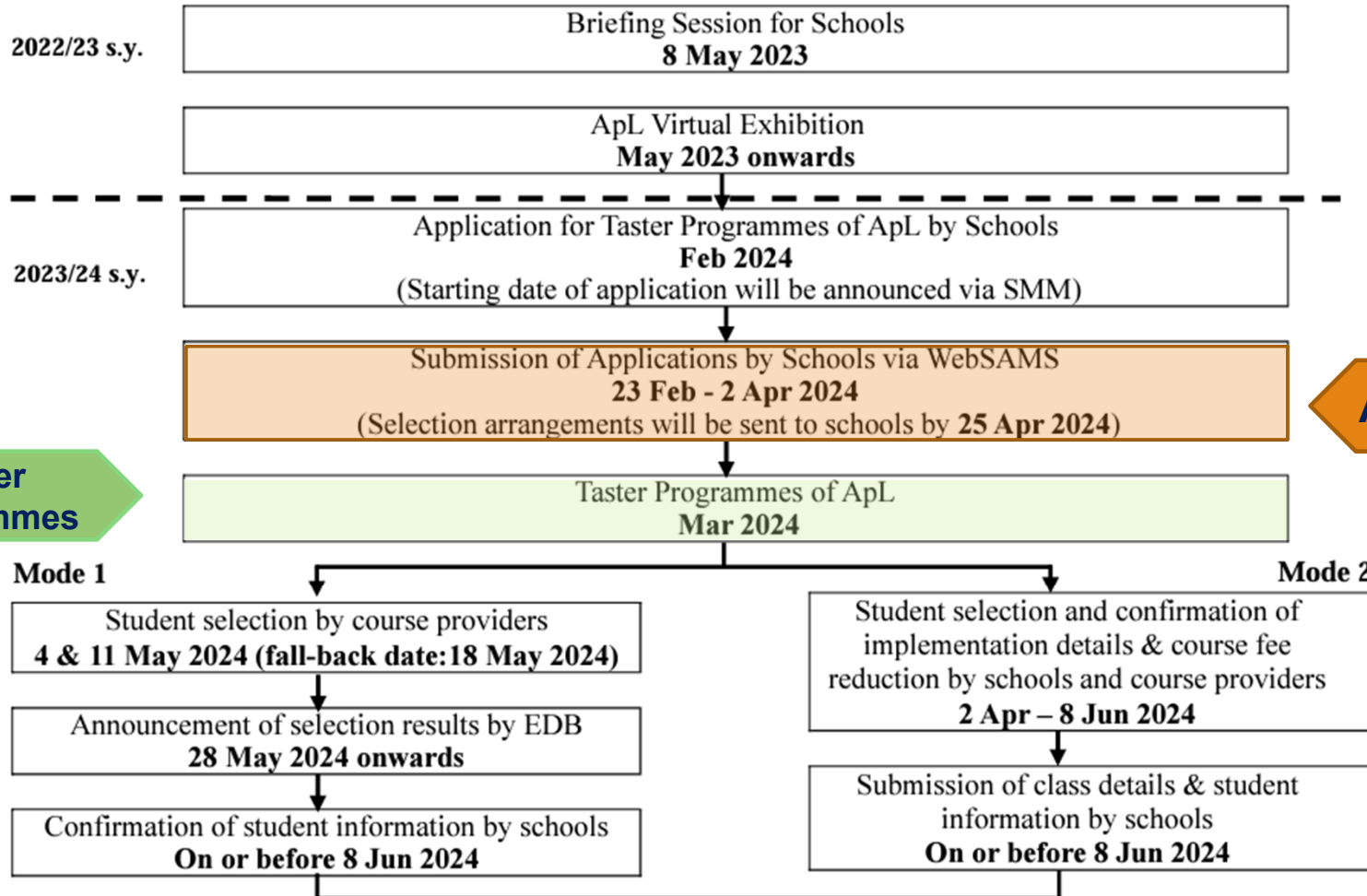


Education Bureau
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Please scan the QR code for the latest information on ApL courses.



Important Dates for Course Commencement at Secondary 5 in the 2024/25 school year



EDBCM No.
23/2023
(for current S4)

Application

Taster Programmes

For current S4

Q&A Session