

Preamble

A series of eight Key Learning Area (KLA) Curriculum Guides (Primary 1 to Secondary 3) and the General Studies (GS) for Primary Schools Curriculum Guide (Primary 1-6) have been developed by the Curriculum Development Council (CDC) to support the *Basic Education Curriculum Guide – Building on Strengths* (2002) and to help realize the recommendations made in the CDC Report on *Learning to Learn – The Way Forward in Curriculum Development* (2001) and in the Education Commission's (EC's) education reform final report, *Learning for Life, Learning through Life* (2000).

The CDC is an advisory body giving recommendations to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government on all matters relating to curriculum development for the school system from kindergarten to sixth form. Its membership includes heads of schools, teachers, parents, employers, academics from tertiary institutions, professionals from related fields or related bodies and representatives from the Hong Kong Examinations Authority, as well as officers from the Education Department.

The KLA and GS Curriculum Guides are based on the *Learning to Learn* consultation documents of the respective KLAs and GS published in November 2000. Relevant KLA committees under the CDC have taken into consideration the concerns, needs and interests of schools, teachers and students as well as societal expectations expressed during the consultation period when developing these Guides.

The KLA and GS Curriculum Guides aim to present curriculum frameworks, which specify the KLAs' or GS's curriculum aims, learning targets and objectives, and provide suggestions regarding curriculum planning, learning and teaching strategies, assessment and resources. In addition, each Curriculum Guide provides exemplars of effective learning, teaching and assessment practices. Schools are encouraged to adopt the recommendations in the Curriculum Guides and to achieve the learning goals of the school curriculum (CDC Report, 2001) and aims of education (EC Report, 2000), taking into consideration their contexts, needs and strengths.

Schools are also encouraged to make cross-reference to the *Basic Education Curriculum Guide – Building on Strengths* (2002) and the related subject guides as often as possible. This will ensure that there is a coherent understanding of curriculum planning at school, KLA and subject levels.

As curriculum development is a collaborative and on-going enhancement process, the KLA and GS Curriculum Guides as well as their related subject guides will be updated and improved from time to time to meet new needs of students and society.

Ideas and suggestions on the development of the Mathematics Education KLA Curriculum are always welcome and may be sent to

Chief Curriculum Development Officer (Mathematics Education)
Curriculum Development Institute
Education Department
12/F, Wu Chung House
213 Queen's Road East
Wan Chai
Hong Kong
(e-mail address: *math@ed.gov.hk*)