

**Personal, Social and Humanities Education Key Learning Area:
Optimisation Recommendations of Ethics and Religious Studies (Secondary 4-6)
School Questionnaire Survey**

Purpose

The purpose of this questionnaire is to collect schools' views on the optimisation recommendations of the Ethics and Religious Studies (Secondary 4-6) (ERS) curriculum. Schools offering this elective subject in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (DSE) are invited to fill in the questionnaire.

Background

ERS is a senior secondary DSE elective subject of the Personal, Social, and Humanities Education Key Learning Area. The learning contents of ERS include normative ethics, applied ethics, religious traditions and religious experiences.

In response to the recommendations of the Task Force on Review of School Curriculum, the Curriculum Development Council — Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority Committee on Ethics and Religious Studies (referred to as the Committee hereafter) agreed that there is a need to create space to promote the whole person development of students and to revise the curriculum for more focused learning content in response to social development. After in-depth discussions, the Committee put forward the recommendations on optimisation, including reducing the contents related to the historical development of religions in their respective religious traditions and their respective social backgrounds, focusing on some of the contents for enhancing learning effectiveness, as well as updating the contents to keep abreast of the times.

The above recommendations on optimisation have been received and endorsed by the Curriculum Development Council.

Questionnaire and Curriculum Document

This questionnaire and the attached “Ethics and Religious Studies (Secondary 4-6) Curriculum Framework (2023)” (Appendix 1) can be downloaded from the following website of the PSHE Section, Education Bureau:

<http://www.edb.gov.hk/en/curriculum-development/kla/pshe/whats-new.html>

Completion of the Questionnaire

Each school which offers ERS in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination should return **ONE** completed questionnaire only.

Deadline

Schools should return the completed questionnaire by post to the following address **on or before 8 January 2024**:

Senior Curriculum Development Officer (PSHE)1 Personal, Social and Humanities Education Section, Curriculum Development Institute, Education Bureau, Room 1319, 13/F, Wu Chung House, 213 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong

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Before responding to the questions, please read the attached document “Ethics and Religious Studies (Secondary 4-6) Curriculum Framework (2023)” (Appendix 1).

Please answer the following questions to express school views on the recommendations on optimisation of the Ethics and Religious Studies (Secondary 4-6) curriculum.

Please blacken the appropriate circle “○” and provide other opinions in the spaces provided.

*(SA=Strongly Agree; A=Agree;
D=Disagree; N=No Comment)*

- | | <i>SA</i> | <i>A</i> | <i>D</i> | <i>N</i> |
|---|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <p>1. <u>Optimisation recommendation (1): Reduce to create space</u></p> <p>It is recommended to reduce some contents in Religious Traditions, including in Module 1: Buddhism: “Reasons behind the Collecting Buddhist Canon; The rise of various Mahayana schools (Prajnaparamita, Madhyamaka, Yogacara, Tathagatagarbha and Esoteric Buddhism); Development of Buddhism in South Asia, East Asia and Western Countries; Western Buddhism; Comparison of the Brahmanic and the Buddhist notions of karma; Three Marks of Existence; Practising the four immeasurable minds”; and in Module 2: Christianity: “History between the two Testaments; Palestine in the First Century A.D. (To show the situation of the people and their background); A woman’s faith; Jesus heals a blind man in Bethsaida; the Kingdom of God is come – the End of Days; A question about the Messiah; To show the work done by the church in Antioch”.</p> | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| <p>2. <u>Optimisation recommendation (2): Focus to enhance effectiveness</u></p> <p>It is recommended to learn human rights concepts from the specific perspective of “Children’s Rights / Women’s Rights / Rights of Freedom from Racial Discrimination”; to include “relationship between human rights and development of history” and “the impacts of pluralism” when studying the nature of rights; to revise “Self-determination” as “Autonomy”.</p> | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |

3. **Optimisation recommendation (3): Renew to keep abreast of the times** *SA* *A* *D* *N*

It is recommended to add “the changes and concerns brought by the rise of new media (including fake news, online public trials, and privacy)” to the part on Media Ethics in the current curriculum; to replace “stand for” justice with “promote” justice and to add “legal, moral and professional values considerations” when introducing the role and mission of media professions.

4. **What difficulties does your school anticipate when implementing the revised curriculum?**

- Nil
- The school does not allocate sufficient lesson time to the curriculum
- The school does not have enough teachers who possess subject matter knowledge relevant to this curriculum
- Teachers do not clearly understand the learning points of each topic of the curriculum
- Teachers do not clearly understand the depth and breadth of the curriculum contents
- There are not sufficient learning and teaching materials
- Others (please specify): _____

5. **What types of teacher training programmes are mostly needed by teachers? (may choose more than one)**

- Curriculum interpretation
- Assessment and feedback for learning
- Learning and teaching strategies
- Knowledge enrichment

6. How many teachers in your school will attend the professional development programmes for the revised curriculum organised by the EDB?

Number of teacher(s): _____

7. Other opinions (if any):

[School Information]

The religion of the school's sponsoring body is:

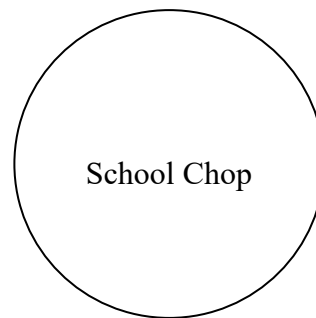
Buddhism	Christianity: Catholic	Christianity: Protestant / Anglican
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Name of School : _____

Name of School Principal : _____

Signature of School Principal : _____

Date : _____



- The End -
☞ Thank you for your opinions ☞