

Education Bureau Circular Memorandum No. 159/2026

From:	Secretary for Education	To:	Heads of Secondary Schools
Ref.:	0001-0125-8060-9100-0010-0001-P001		(excluding ESF schools and
Date:	21 September 2026		international schools)

Professional Certificate Course for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers

Summary

The purpose of this circular memorandum (CM) is to inform heads of secondary schools about the **“Professional Certificate Course for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers (30 hours)”**, which will be organised by the Curriculum Development Institute of the Education Bureau (EDB) from the 2026/27 school year. Schools should circulate this CM to Geography Panel Heads and teachers for their perusal and encourage them to enrol actively.

Background

2. The EDB issued Circular No. 2/2026 in March 2026 to schools, announcing the revised Geography (S1-S3) curriculum framework. The revised curriculum incorporates more learning elements of national geography, enhances learning and teaching strategies by strengthening fieldwork activities, and encourages schools to make effective use of digital tools to support enquiry-based learning. The revised curriculum will be implemented from Secondary 1 in the 2027/28 school year and will progressively extend to all junior secondary levels in subsequent years.
3. A questionnaire survey was conducted by the EDB between March and April 2026. The results indicated that teachers responded positively to the revised curriculum, and their views on training needs were also collected. To facilitate the smooth implementation of the revised curriculum, the EDB will provide an array of support measures, including a brand-new set of learning and teaching resources entitled “Learning and Teaching Resources for Supporting the Revised Curriculum: Secondary 1-3”, systematic professional development programmes for teachers, and the enhancement of the learning circle for Geography teachers.
4. In tandem with the implementation of the revised Geography (S1-S3) curriculum, the EDB will systematically organise relevant professional training programmes for serving secondary school teachers. These include the newly launched **“Professional Certificate Course for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers (30 hours)”**, which aims to enhance

teachers' professional capacity, improve learning and teaching effectiveness, and prepare them for the implementation of the revised Geography curriculum.

5. Schools and subject panel heads are required to review the composition and teaching needs of their Geography teaching team, make appropriate human resources deployments, and arrange for in-service or prospective Geography teachers to attend the aforementioned Professional Certificate Course on a voluntary basis. This will help develop teaching staff with professional competence, thereby consolidating and building a stable Geography teaching team. Teachers should also proactively equip themselves, keep abreast of the latest developments, and actively participate in the “Professional Certificate Course for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers” to strengthen their professional capabilities.

Details

6. The “Professional Certificate Course for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers” comprises a series of courses across various areas, targeting in-service or prospective secondary school Geography teachers. The contents include—

- (A) courses on curriculum leadership and planning, curriculum interpretation, and learning and teaching strategies (including the use of artificial intelligence to facilitate learning and teaching in Geography);
- (B) fieldwork seminars;
- (C) fieldwork workshops;
- (D) knowledge enrichment series; and
- (E) professional training series on outdoor learning.

For details of the courses, please refer to the **Annex**.

7. Over the four school years from the 2026/27 school year onwards, serving or prospective secondary school Geography teachers who have participated in designated professional training courses for teachers provided by the EDB, including at least one course from each of sections A, B, D and E, with a cumulative training duration of no less than 30 hours, will be awarded the “Certificate in Professional Training for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers (30 hours)”. Repeated participation in the same course will be counted once only. The aforementioned professional certificate course is of an encouraging nature and does not constitute a requirement for teaching junior secondary Geography. Teachers may select different training courses based on their individual professional development needs.

8. To enhance teachers' ability to conduct enquiry-based fieldwork, the EDB, in collaboration with tertiary institutions, will organise fieldwork seminars and workshops for junior secondary Geography teachers. To be eligible for admission to the series of enquiry-based fieldwork workshops (C1–3), teachers must first complete the fieldwork seminars (B1–

3) to acquire the relevant prerequisite knowledge. Teachers who have completed all six courses (B1–3 and C1–3) will be awarded an additional “Certificate in Professional Training on Fieldwork for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers (24 hours)” jointly issued by the relevant training provider and the EDB. This additional certificate in professional training on fieldwork is intended to encourage teachers’ active participation and does not constitute a requirement for teaching junior secondary Geography.

9. The “Professional Certificate Course for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers” will be launched in October 2026. The EDB will provide training information through the Training Calendar System (<https://tcs.edb.gov.hk>) for teacher enrolment. The EDB will also continuously upload and update details relating to the “Professional Certificate Course for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers”, as well as the application procedures for obtaining the certificate, on the webpage for the “Revised Geography Curriculum (S1-3)”.

Webpage for the “Revised Geography Curriculum (S1-3)” Professional Certificate Course for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers	
Online Links	https://www.edb.gov.hk/en/curriculum-development/kla/pshe/js_geog.html
QR Code	

Enquiry

10. For enquiries, please contact Ms CHAN Hiu-ying, Sarah (Tel.: 2892 6654) or Dr CHAU Yuk-lin (Tel.: 2892 5866) of the Personal, Social and Humanities Education Section, Curriculum Development Institute, Education Bureau.

KONG Siu-cheuk, Edward
for Secretary for Education

c.c. Heads of sections – for information

**Contents of the “Professional Certificate Course for
Junior Secondary Geography Teachers (30 hours)” (Tentative)**
[The following training information is preliminary and subject to the details
published in the Training Calendar.]

	Course Title	Duration (Hours)	No. of Events	Mode	Max. No. of Participants	Date(s) of Event
A1	Professional Development Series for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers: Curriculum Leadership and Planning	3	1	Face-to-face	100	21/10/2026
		3	1	Online course	350	12/2026-2/2027
A2	Professional Development Series for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers: Curriculum Interpretation	3	1	Hybrid	300	11/11/2026
		3	1	Online course	350	5-7/2027
		3	1	Online course	350	10-12/2027
A3	Professional Development Series for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers: Learning and Teaching Strategies	3	1	Face-to-face	100	4/2027
		3	1	Face-to-face	100	6/2028
		3	1	Face-to-face	100	6/2029
A4	Professional Development Series for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers: Workshop on Leveraging Artificial Intelligence (AI) to Empower Learning and Teaching in Geography (Basic Level)	3	2	Face-to-face	60	12/2026
A5	Professional Development Series for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers: Workshop on Leveraging Artificial Intelligence (AI) to Empower Learning and Teaching in Geography (Advanced Level)	3	2	Face-to-face	60	3/2027
B1	Professional Training Series on Fieldwork for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers: Seminar (1) – Theory of Enquiry-based Fieldwork	3	1	Face-to-face	300	12/2026
		3	1	Online course	300	2-3/2027
		3	1	Online course	300	11-12/2027

	Course Title	Duration (Hours)	No. of Events	Mode	Max. No. of Participants	Date(s) of Event
B2	Professional Training Series on Fieldwork for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers: Seminar (2) – Planning Enquiry-based Fieldwork	3	1	Face-to-face	300	1/2027
		3	1	Online course	300	2-3/2027
		3	1	Online course	300	11-12/2027
B3	Professional Training Series on Fieldwork for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers: Seminar (3) – Pedagogy of Enquiry-based Fieldwork	3	1	Face-to-face	300	1/2027
		3	1	Online course	300	2-3/2027
		3	1	Online course	300	11-12/2027
C1	Professional Training Series on Fieldwork for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers: Workshop (1) – Practical Skills in Enquiry-based Fieldwork	3	2	Face-to-face	60	6/2027
		3	2	Face-to-face	60	2/2028
C2	Professional Training Series on Fieldwork for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers: Workshop (2) – Assessment Design of the Learning Tasks for Enquiry-based Fieldwork	4	2	Face-to-face	60	6/2027
		4	2	Face-to-face	60	3/2028
C3	Professional Training Series on Fieldwork for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers: Workshop (3) – Teaching Practicum for Enquiry-based Fieldwork	8	2	Face-to-face	60	6/2027
		8	2	Face-to-face	60	3/2028
D1	Knowledge Enrichment Professional Training Series for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers: Module 1.1 Location and Territory Module 1.3 Urban Development	3	1	Face-to-face	300	4/2027
		3	1	Online course	300	5-7/2027
		3	1	Online course	300	4-6/2028
D2	Knowledge Enrichment Professional Training Series for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers: Module 1.2 Natural Environment	3	1	Face-to-face	300	4/2027
		3	1	Online course	300	5-7/2027
		3	1	Online course	300	5-7/2028

	Course Title	Duration (Hours)	No. of Events	Mode	Max. No. of Participants	Date(s) of Event
D3	Knowledge Enrichment Professional Training Series for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers: Module 2.1 Natural Hazards Module 2.2 Water Resources	3	1	Face-to-face	300	12/2027
		3	1	Online course	300	5-7/2028
		3	1	Online course	300	5-7/2029
D4	Knowledge Enrichment Professional Training Series for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers: Module 2.3 Agricultural Development Module 3.1 Industrial Development	3	1	Face-to-face	300	4/2028
		3	1	Online course	300	10-12/2028
		3	1	Online course	300	5-7/2029
D5	Knowledge Enrichment Professional Training Series for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers: Module 3.2 Ecological Conservation Module 3.3 Climate Change	3	1	Face-to-face	300	5/2028
		3	1	Online course	300	12/2028-2/2029
		3	1	Online course	300	5-7/2029
E1	Professional Training Series on Outdoor Learning for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers: Visit to Hong Kong Park and Fieldwork Demonstration	4	1	Face-to-face	40	3/2028
E2	Professional Training Series on Outdoor Learning for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers: Visit to Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden and Fieldwork Demonstration	4	1	Face-to-face	40	12/2028
E3	Professional Training Series on Outdoor Learning for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers: Visit to the AFCD Lions Nature Education Centre and Fieldwork Demonstration	4	1	Face-to-face	40	12/2028

	Course Title	Duration (Hours)	No. of Events	Mode	Max. No. of Participants	Date(s) of Event
E4	Professional Training Series on Outdoor Learning for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers: Visit to Long Valley Nature Park and Fieldwork Demonstration	4	1	Face-to-face	40	2/2029
E5	Professional Training Series on Outdoor Learning for Junior Secondary Geography Teachers: Visit to Tai Mo Shan Country Park Visitor Centre (with the theme of climate change) and Fieldwork Demonstration	4	1	Face-to-face	40	4/2029