Guidelines on Conducting Practical Activities for Home Economics/Technology and Living for the Prevention of Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

(This guideline will be timely updated in response to the latest recommendations of the Centre for Health Protection and released via the web page (What's New) of Technology Education Key Learning Area of the EDB)

Schools should take the following measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 on campus when conducting learning and teaching activities in the Home Economics / Technology and Living special rooms. The guidelines are written with reference to the Health Advice to schools from the Centre for Health Protection and the Teaching Technology and Living / Home Economics in Secondary Schools Safety Booklet.

1. Precautionary measures
   1.1 Ventilation in the special rooms must be maintained.
   1.2 All windows of special rooms should be opened during lessons. Use of fans (e.g. wall, circulating or exhaust fan) should be accompanied by means to increase outdoor air changes (e.g. maximising fresh air intake of air conditioners) at the same time. Minimise air blowing directly from one person (or group of people) to another. If the air-conditioning system is used, ensure there is sufficient fresh air supply.
   1.3 Schools should make effective use of space in the special rooms to maintain a proper physical distance between students. For example, keep the work tables as far apart as possible, make good use of the work tables near the walls / windows, and arrange students to sit in a “face-to-back” setting so as to ensure that students maintain social distancing.
   1.4 Remind students to keep a proper physical distance from each other when entering or leaving the special rooms or when waiting in line to minimise the risks involved with crowd gathering.
   1.5 Teachers and students must wear masks at all times throughout lessons.
   1.6 Display a poster in the special room on the proper ways in cleaning hands.
   1.7 Clean / disinfect special room after class.
   1.8 If students are found to have fever, respiratory symptoms or sudden loss of taste or smell, teacher should stop them from participating in learning activities. Schools should inform their parents or guardians as soon as possible, and remind the students to seek medical treatment at once.

2. Recommendations for learning and teaching
   2.1 Learning and teaching principles
      2.1.1 Teachers may consider using "Prevention of Coronavirus Disease 2019" as a topic to enhance students' understanding of how to establish a healthy lifestyle and of food safety and hygiene, with emphasis on the related scientific principles and applications, as well as to develop students’ personal hygiene practices and good working habits.
2.1.2 Avoid arranging practical activities in which all students in a class need to share the same equipment.

2.1.3 Avoid arranging group discussions and presentations.

2.2 Conducting learning activities

2.2.1 Teachers should keep a proper physical distance from students when conducting demonstrations. Students can be arranged to observe in groups, and the demonstration process can be projected on the screen for students to watch in their own seats.

2.2.2 Teachers should keep a proper physical distance from students when offering individual supervision.

2.2.3 Wash hands before handling and cooking food.

2.2.4 Food tasting and sensory evaluation should be avoided.

3. Related websites

3.1 Health Advice to Schools for the Prevention of COVID-19:

3.2 Poster for proper ways in cleaning hands:


Technology Education Section
Curriculum Development Institute
February 2021