

29 May 2025

Education Bureau Circular No. 7/2025

Updates to the Curriculum Framework of National Security Education in Hong Kong

[Note: This circular should be read by—

- (a) Supervisors and Heads of All Primary and Secondary Schools (including Special Schools)—
for action; and
- (b) Heads of Sections— for information.]

Summary

This is to announce the updates to the *Curriculum Framework of National Security Education in Hong Kong* and the Curriculum Framework of National Security Education for subjects. It supersedes Education Bureau Circulars No.2/2021, No. 4/2021, and No. 6/2021 issued on 4 February 2021, 22 April 2021, and 26 May 2021 respectively.

Background

2. It is the constitutional duty of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) to safeguard national security. The Education Bureau (EDB) has been actively promoting national security education (NSE) to enhance students' awareness of safeguarding national security and law-abidingness. In 2021, the EDB released the *Curriculum Framework of National Security Education in Hong Kong* (Curriculum Framework) and the curriculum frameworks of National Security Education for 15 subjects (Subject Curriculum Frameworks) for schools' reference in overall planning. The EDB has also been adopting diversified measures all along to support schools in implementing NSE through “organic integration”, “natural connection”, “diversified strategies”, “mutual co-ordination”, “learning within and beyond the classroom”, and “whole-school participation”.

3. The Chief Executive announced in the 2024 Policy Address the updating of the Curriculum Framework and Subject Curriculum Frameworks. In response to the ongoing

optimisation and renewal of primary and secondary school curricula, the EDB has updated the Curriculum Framework and Subject Curriculum Frameworks to keep NSE abreast of the times, providing teachers with clearer and more comprehensive guidelines, and helping schools further promote NSE on the existing solid foundation.

Details

4. The key enhancements to the Curriculum Framework are as follows:

- **Strengthening the Learning of a Holistic Approach to National Security¹:**

The Curriculum Framework emphasises the learning of a holistic approach to national security, for a comprehensive understanding and practice of national security from a macro perspective. It highlights the concept of “mega security”, which encompasses 20 major interconnected fields. Students should accurately grasp the holistic approach to national security, understand the significance and importance of safeguarding national security. The students should also recognise the equal importance of development and security, and build self-awareness as well as a sense of responsibility in safeguarding national security.

- **Aligning with the Implementation of Patriotic Education:**

NSE is a component of patriotic education. It incorporates elements and spirit of patriotic education. The EDB emphasises the implementation of NSE through a total mobilisation approach, connecting the elements of NSE with the school curricula and dovetailing with the Patriotic Education Law of the People’s Republic of China.

- **Outlining the Key Learning Focuses of NSE across Four Key Stages of Primary and Secondary Education:**

The Curriculum Framework tabulates the relevant key learning focuses of NSE by four key stages, enabling teachers to better grasp NSE in primary and secondary education. The learning elements in each key stage are organised in four categories, which are more concise and systematic compared to previous classifications, facilitating schools in reviewing and planning their curricula.

¹ For information on a Holistic Approach to National Security, please refer to the National Security Education Day website: https://www.nsed.gov.hk/national_security/index.php?l=en&a=safety

- **Facilitating Students’ Learning of Relevant Content in a Spiral and Progressive Manner:**

Based on the knowledge and skills required at various key stages, appropriate learning content is developed to deepen and broaden students’ understanding of national security, gradually fostering their patriotic sentiments and sense of national identity.

- **Encompassing the Subject Curriculum Frameworks of Eight Key Learning Areas (KLAs) and Citizenship and Social Development:**

The Subject Curriculum Frameworks include KLAs/subjects not provided in 2021, covering eight KLAs and the senior secondary Citizenship and Social Development. They offer clear subject-based guidelines for teachers and facilitate schools’ participation in advancing national security education.

5. This circular also announces six Subject Curriculum Frameworks from five KLAs, including Chinese Language Education KLA, English Language Education KLA, Mathematics Education KLA, Music and Visual Arts under Arts Education KLA, and Physical Education KLA. The above-mentioned Subject Curriculum Frameworks have been uploaded to the EDB website. For details, please refer to the **Annex**. The EDB will announce the release of the remaining Subject Curriculum Frameworks in due course.

6. To support schools’ better implementation of the Curriculum Framework and Subject Curriculum Frameworks, the EDB will organise briefing sessions and teacher training programmes. For details, please refer to the announcements in the Training Calendar.

7. The EDB will continue to disseminate learning and teaching resources related to Constitution, Basic Law and NSE through the web-based resource platform “National Education One-stop Portal” (www.edb.gov.hk/en/neosp) and “National Security Education Resource Webpage” (www.edb.gov.hk/en/nser) to help schools promote national education and NSE, strengthen teachers’ and students’ awareness of safeguarding national security, and create a conducive atmosphere on school campuses.



Enquiry

8. For enquiries, please contact Mr NG Chun-yip (tel.: 2892 5805) or Mr KEUNG Ho-sang (tel.: 2892 5480) of the Moral, Civic and National Education Section of the Curriculum Development Institute, the EDB.

Yvonne LAM
for Secretary for Education

The Curriculum Framework and the Subject Curriculum Frameworks mentioned in this circular can be viewed with the following URLs or QR codes on the right.

Curriculum Document	QR Code
<p>Curriculum Framework of National Security Education in Hong Kong (2025) (Chinese version)</p> <p>https://www.edb.gov.hk/attachment/tc/curriculum-development/4-key-tasks/moral-civic/nse/nse2025_framework.pdf</p>	
<p>Chinese Language Education Key Learning Area Curriculum Framework of National Security Education (2025) (Chinese version only)</p> <p>https://www.edb.gov.hk/attachment/tc/curriculum-development/4-key-tasks/moral-civic/nse/nse2025_subject_framework_cle.pdf</p>	
<p>English Language Education Key Learning Area Curriculum Framework of National Security Education (2025)</p> <p>https://www.edb.gov.hk/attachment/tc/curriculum-development/4-key-tasks/moral-civic/nse/nse2025_subject_framework_ele.pdf</p>	
<p>Mathematics Education Key Learning Area Curriculum Framework of National Security Education (2025) (Chinese version)</p> <p>https://www.edb.gov.hk/attachment/tc/curriculum-development/4-key-tasks/moral-civic/nse/nse2025_subject_framework_me.pdf</p>	
<p>Arts Education Key Learning Area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music Curriculum Framework of National Security Education (2025) (Chinese version) <p>https://www.edb.gov.hk/attachment/tc/curriculum-development/4-key-tasks/moral-civic/nse/nse2025_subject_framework_aem.pdf</p>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Visual Arts Curriculum Framework of National Security Education (2025) (Chinese version) <p>https://www.edb.gov.hk/attachment/tc/curriculum-development/4-key-tasks/moral-civic/nse/nse2025_subject_framework_aeva.pdf</p>	
<p>Physical Education Key Learning Area Curriculum Framework of National Security Education (2025) (Chinese version)</p> <p>https://www.edb.gov.hk/attachment/tc/curriculum-development/4-key-tasks/moral-civic/nse/nse2025_subject_framework_pe.pdf</p>	