EDUCATION BUREAU CIRCULAR MEMORANDUM NO. 99/2021

From : Secretary for Education

Ref. : EDB/CDI/TE/08-05-24

To : Heads of Secondary Schools including Special Schools with Senior Secondary Classes (excluding ESF schools and International schools)

Date : 28 June 2021

**Updating of the Information and Communication Technology
Curriculum and Assessment Guide (Secondary 4-6)**

Summary

This circular memorandum aims to announce the updating of the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Curriculum and Assessment (C&A) Guide (Secondary 4-6).

Background

2. The C&A Guide, jointly prepared by the Curriculum Development Council (CDC) and the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (HKEAA) for use in schools in implementing the senior secondary curriculum and assessment. It provides the rationale and aims of the curriculum with elaborations on the curriculum framework, curriculum planning, pedagogy and assessment etc. where curriculum, pedagogy and assessment are well aligned.

3. The CDC-HKEAA Committee on ICT (Committee) has reviewed the ICT Curriculum since May 2017. After in-depth deliberations as well as a school survey and related briefing sessions to collect views from different stakeholders, the Committee submitted recommendation on the curriculum framework in 2020 which was endorsed by the CDC and the Public Examinations Board of the HKEAA. The Education Bureau (EDB) has issued the EDBCM No.100/2020 in June 2020 to announce the details of the refined C&A framework. The ICT C&A Guide was revised by the Committee and endorsed by the CDC, and have been uploaded to the EDB website for use in schools. The updated ICT curriculum will be implemented at Secondary 4 starting from the 2022/23 school year, leading to the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) ICT Examination in 2025 and thereafter.

Details

4. The ICT C&A Guide (Secondary 4-6) was updated whereas the curriculum aims and design were upheld. The first two chapters (namely Introduction and Curriculum Framework) mainly come from the announced supplementary notes, in which the curriculum framework was refined together with restructuring and renewal of contents to

cater for the learning needs of students as well as enhance their computational thinking and coding capability. Chapters 3 to 6 cover curriculum planning, learning and teaching, assessment and learning and teaching resources for reference and use in schools. The major updates include:

- The lesson time of programming in the Core Part of the Curriculum is increased from 24 hours to 48 hours. Students are required to write computer programs instead of describing the algorithms to solve problems only.
- The lesson time for the topics covered at the junior secondary level (such as word processing in office automation) is reduced.
- The contents of the existing four options in the Elective Part are trimmed and merged into three options. Students are required to take two out of the three updated options.

5.   The updated C&A Guide can be downloaded from the EDB website (https://www.edb.gov.hk/en/curriculum-development/kla/technology-edu/curriculum-doc/index.html) for use in schools.

Support Measures for Schools

6.   To support schools and teachers in preparing for the implementation of the updated ICT curriculum, the EDB and the HKEAA will jointly organise a Briefing Session on ICT Curriculum and Assessment Guide in Oct 2021, and different arrangements have been made to support schools in relation to the updated C&A Guide. The EDB will continue to organise professional development programmes to enhance teachers' understanding of the updated ICT Curriculum. Besides, learning and teaching resource materials will be developed for teachers' reference.

Enquiry

7.   For enquiries, please contact Technology Education Section, Curriculum Development Institute on 3698 3130.

<div align="right">Henry LIN
for Secretary for Education</div>

 c.c. Heads of Sections for information