Kindergarten Education Policy

Kindergarten (KG) education lays vital foundation for children's lifelong learning and whole person development. Capitalising on the strengths of the existing KG education in terms of vibrancy and diversity, the new KG education policy has been implemented starting from the 2017/18 school year.

The policy objectives are to provide good quality and highly affordable KG education for all eligible children, and enhance the accessibility of students to different modes of services that suit their specific needs.

Enhancing the quality

Improving the teacher-pupil ratio from 1:15 (including the principal) to 1:11 (principal not included) so that teachers would have the capacity for lesson preparation, development of school-based curriculum, professional collaboration and development, communication with parents and catering for students with diverse needs;

Encouraging KGs to provide a career ladder and competitive remuneration to attract and retain quality teachers;

Promoting continuous professional development of KG principals and teachers, for example, implement the Continuous Professional Development policy and the revising of the existing teacher training programmes;

Supporting strength to students with diverse needs;

Refining the Quality Assurance Framework;

Enhancing the governance and transparency of KGs;

Improving school premises and facilities, and formulating measures to increase the provision of KG premises in the long run;

Enhancing parent education and encouraging KGs to set up Parent-Teacher Associations; and

Conducting more researches on kindergarten education in Hong Kong.

Kindergarten Education Curriculum

The aims of the Kindergarten Education curriculum are as follows:

To foster children's balanced development in the domains of ethics, intellect, physique, social skills and aesthetics;

To help children develop good living habits and a strong and healthy body;

To foster in children an interest in learning, an inquisitive mind and eagerness to explore, and to instil in children positive values and attitudes.

Catering for student diversity

Students from needy families: Continuing to provide fee remission and provide an additional grant for school-related expenses for eligible KG students;

NCS students: All KGs admitting NCS students may apply for school-based professional support; teacher training will be strengthened; starting from the 2019/20 school year, a 5-tiered subsidy will be provided to Scheme KGs according to the number of NCS students admitted for enhancing the support to NCS students. KGs admitting 1 NCS student will also receive this subsidy;

Students with special needs or at risk of developmental delay: The On-site Pre-school Rehabilitation Services has been reorganised since the 2018/19 school year with a total of about 9,000 service places provided at participating kindergartens. The number of service places will be further increased to 7,000 in the 2019/20 school year; and

The enhancement of the teacher-pupil ratio to 1:11 will create more space for teachers to cater for the diverse needs of students. The Education Bureau will also offer more structured in-service training programmes for teachers.

1 The grant rate is pegged at the level of grant for school-related expenses for KG students under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance.