



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部教育局
Education Bureau

Government Secretariat, The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
The People's Republic of China

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27 September 2013

To: Supervisors and Heads of all Primary Schools and Secondary Schools with a primary section of the same school registration under Direct Subsidy Scheme

Dear Sirs/Madams,

**Admission of Primary One (P1) Students in Schools
Under Direct Subsidy Scheme (DSS)**

This letter serves to clarify the policy stance on student admission to P1 of DSS schools.

2. Under the existing policy, all children who have the right of abode in Hong Kong and reach the age of 5 years 8 months (as at 1 September of the year of entry to P1) are eligible to participate in the Primary One Admission (POA) System except those who are already attending a primary school or have been allocated a P1 place previously. The POA System is designed to eliminate the pressure imposed on young children by the intense competition to enter popular primary schools and the adverse effect this induces on education at the kindergarten level. DSS schools, in receipt of government subventions, are also required to observe the above-mentioned age threshold in their admission of students.

3. Also, schools are reminded that the maximum number of students eligible for government subsidies per class should be capped by the permitted accommodation of the classroom or the enrolment ceiling^{Note}, whichever is lower. Similarly, schools concerned would not be entitled to receiving the respective government subsidies for any attendees not reaching the age of 5 years 8 months as at 1 September of the year of entry to P1.

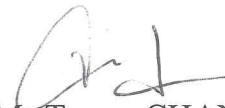
^{Note} For the 2013/14 school year, the enrolment ceiling per class is 33 students for P1 to P5 and 30 students per activity approach class / 35 students per ordinary class for P6.

4. In administering their own student admission mechanism, schools are expected to exercise professional judgement and assessment. To avoid imposing undue pressure on young children, schools are requested to convey to parents that children's growth and learning are gradual processes which should embrace both "balanced development" and "whole person education". Children should be allowed to learn in tune with their abilities and needs. Schools can advise parents to get access to the relevant information and messages from the "Guide to the Pre-primary Curriculum - Parent Booklet" on EDB's website via the following path:

EDB Homepage > Education System and Policy > Kindergarten Education > Pre-primary Curriculum and Learning Materials > Curriculum Resources/Reference Materials > Parent Education > Guide to the Pre-primary Curriculum - Parent Booklet

5. For enquiry, please contact the respective Senior School Development Officers.

Yours sincerely,



(Ms Teresa CHAN)

for Permanent Secretary for Education

c.c. Supervisors and Heads of all Secondary Schools under Direct Subsidy Scheme
CSDOs