



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  
香港添馬添美道 2 號政府總部東翼 5 樓學校行政第一組  
School Administration 1 Section, 5/F., East Wing, Central Government Offices, 2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, HK

本局檔號 Our Ref.: (30) in EDB(SA1)/DSS/POL/2(VII)

電話 Telephone: 3509 7536

來函檔號 Your Ref.:

傳真 Fax Line: 2572 5402

4 July 2019

To: Supervisors / Heads of Senior Secondary Schools  
under the Direct Subsidy Scheme

Dear Sir/Madam,

### **Senior Secondary Schools under the Direct Subsidy Scheme (DSS)**

Senior secondary schools have been introduced under the DSS with an aim to provide Secondary (S) 3 leavers with more choices to cater for their different needs and talents. Upon the implementation of the Senior Secondary Academic Structure and Curriculum, currently all students are given an opportunity to complete their six years of secondary education in the same school.

In order to facilitate the sustainable development of senior secondary schools while upholding the policy intent of offering alternative curricula to cater for the different needs and interests of students as well as to prepare them for work and life, we write to inform you that senior secondary schools can now apply for class restructuring starting from the 2020/21 school year with details set out below.

### **Senior Secondary Schools without Junior Secondary Levels**

Senior secondary schools which operate only senior secondary levels can now apply to operate junior secondary classes starting at S1 effective from the 2020/21 school year through submitting a school plan, which should include, among others, the proposed

網址 : <http://www.edb.gov.hk> 電子郵件 : [edbinfo@edb.gov.hk](mailto:edbinfo@edb.gov.hk)

Web site : <http://www.edb.gov.hk> E-mail : [edbinfo@edb.gov.hk](mailto:edbinfo@edb.gov.hk)

class structure, curriculum planning and design, interface between the junior and senior levels as well as budgets under the proposed restructuring of classes. For headcount purposes, the maximum number of students per class is 41 or the permitted accommodation of the classrooms, whichever is the smaller.

### **Senior Secondary Schools with Junior Secondary Levels**

Senior secondary schools which currently operate both the junior and senior secondary levels can now apply to operate one additional class per junior secondary levels starting at S1 commencing the 2020/21 school year. Those now operating 5 classes per senior secondary levels will have to make a corresponding reduction of one class starting from S4 in the 2020/21 school year. The class structuring will ultimately lead to a symmetrical class structure of 4 classes for all S1 to S6 levels. For headcount purposes, the maximum number of students per class will be adjusted downwards from 45 to 41<sup>1</sup> (on par with the prevailing enrolment ceiling of DSS secondary schools) or the permitted accommodation of the classrooms, whichever is the smaller. Schools will no longer be allowed to admit any student once the enrolment reaches the level ceiling, i.e. 41 times the number of approved classes in the level concerned or the total permitted accommodation of the classrooms concerned, whichever is the smaller.

### **Application**

As the development needs of each senior secondary school are different, this Bureau will consider schools' applications on their individual merits. To allow sufficient time for vetting, all applications should be submitted to this Bureau by November in the year prior to the planned year of operating additional S1 class or introducing S1 level. All applications should be sent to the following address, with a copy to your respective Senior School Development Officer:

School Administration 1 Section  
Education Bureau  
5/F., East Wing, Central Government Offices  
2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong

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<sup>1</sup> The enrolment cap of 41 per class will be applicable to all S1 and S4 classes in the 2020/21 school year, all S1, S2, S4 and S5 classes in the 2021/22 school year and all classes in the 2022/23 school year respectively. During the transitional period, the existing enrolment cap of 45 granted under special consideration can be retained for the other levels, viz. S2, S3, S5 and S6 in the 2020/21 school year, and S3 and S6 in the 2021/22 school year.

For enquiries, please contact Ms May LAI on 3509 7460 or Mr Simon SIT on 3509 7454 or your respective Senior School Development Officer.

Yours sincerely,



( Ms Karen LAU )  
for Permanent Secretary for Education

c.c. Area CSDOs  
STA(FS)  
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