

Blueprint for Digital Education Development in Primary and Secondary Schools (Executive Summary)

Background and vision

In the face of the global digital transformation, primary and secondary education in Hong Kong must actively embrace the digital era and align with our country's support for Hong Kong's positioning as an international innovation and technology (I&T) centre. Adhering to a forward-looking and progressive approach, the Education Bureau (EDB) is promoting the implementation of "AI for all schools" and "AI for all students", comprehensively advancing artificial intelligence (AI) education for students. The EDB established the "Steering Committee on Strategic Development of Digital Education" last year, widely collecting and adopting views before commissioning the Curriculum Development Council to compile the Blueprint for Digital Education Development in Primary and Secondary Schools (the Blueprint). Based on the core philosophy of "students as the foundation, teachers as the profession, schools as the base, and society as the partner", the Blueprint formulates forward-looking strategies with a view to enhancing teaching quality, promoting educational equity, consolidating Hong Kong's international educational advantages and contributing to building the nation into a leading country in education.

Overall objectives

- Enhancing students' digital literacy:** Cultivating students into lifelong learners equipped with digital literacy, computational thinking, creativity and a sense of ethical responsibility, enabling them to make effective use of digital technologies to solve problems in a complex and rapidly changing era.
- Strengthening teacher professionalism:** Comprehensively enhancing teachers' digital pedagogical capabilities, driving a paradigm shift towards "student-centred" personalised learning, and integrating digital technologies into the eight Key Learning Areas and values education.
- Optimising infrastructure and resource support:** Constructing secure, efficient, inclusive and equitable digital education infrastructure, while developing high-quality digital learning resources and support that align with local curriculum guides.
- Fostering cross-sector collaboration, co-creating a digital education ecosystem:** Establishing a collaborative ecosystem spanning the Government, schools, tertiary institutions, related sectors, families and the community, while forging links with the Chinese Mainland and the international community to drive educational innovation.

Four Key Focuses, Ten Strategies

Key Focus	Implementation Strategy
(I) Nurturing talents with both digital literacy and humanistic qualities	<p>(1) Formulate the <i>AI Literacy Learning Framework for Primary and Secondary Schools</i> to systematically cultivate students' knowledge, skills and proper values related to digital technology</p> <p>(2) Strengthen Mathematics, Science and Technology Education to enhance students' I&T capabilities (Launching the Information and Innovation Technology Curriculum Framework for Primary Schools in the 2026/27 school year)</p> <p>(3) Integrate learning elements related to digital education into the primary and secondary curricula organically, promote the "AI+Curriculum", and issue the <i>Guide to Using AI in Teaching in Primary and Secondary Schools</i>.</p>

<p>(II) Strengthening teacher training to drive digital transformation of education</p>	<p>(4) Formulate teacher professional training requirements for digital education (complete a minimum of 30 hours of training in digital education within each three-year Continuing Professional Development cycle)</p> <p>(5) Provide tiered, diversified professional development activities in digital education to strengthen schools' professional capacity to lead change and pedagogical innovation (provide no fewer than 50,000 training places per year)</p>
<p>(III) Optimising infrastructure to build smart campuses</p>	<p>(6) Promote the development of smart campuses and actively explore how AI can assist schools in handling administrative work, to reduce workload, enhance capacity, and improve school governance and efficiency</p> <p>(7) Leverage the enhanced School Development and Accountability framework to drive school improvement and enable schools to refine their implementation of digital education</p> <p>(8) Strengthen support services, provide resources, and build a comprehensive platform for digital education learning resources</p>
<p>(IV) Promoting cross-sector collaboration to co-create a digital education ecosystem</p>	<p>(9) Promote home-school co-operation to jointly cultivate proper values and good attitudes in students</p> <p>(10) Bring together various stakeholders, including professional bodies, to jointly build a digital education ecosystem for primary and secondary schools (including exchanges and collaboration with the Chinese Mainland and at the international level)</p>

Development Positioning and Principles

- Blending Chinese and Foreign educational wisdom, fulfilling the bridging role:** integrating Hong Kong's internationalised background with Chinese culture to actively respond to the prevailing currents of national development and the broader imperatives of the times, developing a model of digital education with distinctive Hong Kong characteristics.
- Nurturing people as the core, using technology as an auxiliary tool:** committing to the fundamental education mission of "cultivating values and nurturing people" and the use of digital technology as an auxiliary tool, adhering to the principle of "human mind as the mainstay, with the computer in a supporting role", fostering proper values and all-round qualities.
- Equitable and inclusive access, supporting diverse needs:** ensuring that all students (including those with special educational needs, those from different socio-economic backgrounds, and those with diverse learning needs) can enjoy equitable access to and effective use of digital learning resources.
- Bridging past and future, building on existing strengths:** leveraging the strengths of resources and platforms such as the Quality Education Fund (QEF) and the Hong Kong Education City (HKEdCity) to accelerate and enhance the efficiency of the digital transformation in education.
- Forward-looking innovation, committed to "Cultivating Values and Nurturing People":** driving schools to actively explore the application and innovation of emerging technologies, such as AI and big data, in teaching and assessment, while ensuring that schools' digital education development firmly adheres to proper values and ethics.

Specific Indicators

- **School level – Conduct holistic digital education planning**

All primary and secondary schools in Hong Kong will incorporate development strategies for

digital education and AI education into their School Development Plans, and establish clear school-based implementation timetables to drive a "student-centred" paradigm shift in learning, teaching, and assessment.

- **System level - Construct digital education infrastructure**

Collaborate with various partners to establish a comprehensive digital education learning resource platform for primary and secondary schools tailored to the local curriculum, while connecting with and bringing in quality educational resources from our country and around the world.

- **Teacher level - Build a digitally-empowered professional teaching team**

Ensure all primary and secondary school teachers in Hong Kong complete foundational training on "AI Literacy" and "AI + Subjects", while all school leaders complete training in "AI Leadership" and advanced professional development, laying a solid foundation for promoting professionalism in digital education.

- **Student level - Enhance digital literacy holistically**

Fully implement the *AI Literacy Learning Framework for Primary and Secondary Schools*, integrating digital technologies into learning both within and beyond the classroom and expanding the range of AI application scenarios to enrich students' learning experiences, so as to cultivate their critical thinking, creativity and problem-solving skills, promoting self-directed learning, strengthening their AI literacy (including cyber security awareness and privacy protection concepts).

Supplement

I: AI Literacy Learning Framework for Primary and Secondary Schools

Adopts the philosophy of "learn to apply, apply to learn, learn to think, think to innovate", enabling students to learn through practice, deepen their understanding through application, and internalise their learning through reflection, thereby continuously developing their AI literacy.

II: Guide to Using AI in Teaching in Primary and Secondary Schools

Outlines the fundamental principles for teachers in respect of using AI in teaching, as well as the areas requiring attention when using AI in the domains of "Learning", "Teaching", and "Assessment".

Conclusion

The Blueprint for Digital Education Development in Primary and Secondary Schools drives the comprehensive implementation of AI education in primary and secondary schools through systematic planning and cross-sector collaboration. The EDB will work closely with stakeholders such as the Curriculum Development Council, schools, tertiary institutions, professional bodies, families, and the community to ensure the effective implementation of various strategies. This will build a solid foundation and foster a robust ecosystem for the digital transformation of education in Hong Kong, nurturing the next generation with digital literacy and humanistic qualities and empowering students to embrace future developments and opportunities.