



Education Support for Non-Chinese Speaking (NCS) Students

Education Bureau
August 2023

Key Message

- The Government is **committed** to encouraging and supporting the **integration** of NCS students into the community, including facilitating their **early adaptation to the local education system and mastery of the Chinese language**

Key Message

- Policy intent: encourage parents of NCS students to send their children to **schools with an immersed Chinese language environment** as **early** as possible to facilitate their mastery of the Chinese language
- Starting from the 2014/15 school year, a series of measures have been implemented to step up the support for NCS students to facilitate
 - their **effective learning of Chinese** and
 - the creation of an **inclusive learning environment** in schools

1. “Chinese Language Curriculum Second Language Learning Framework” (“Learning Framework”)

- Provides **steps and methods** for learning and teaching, and **assessment** according to the needs of NCS students of learning Chinese as a second language
- The “Learning Framework”, **complemented by learning and teaching materials**, helps NCS students learn Chinese

2. Provision of learning and teaching resources

- **Learning and teaching resources** are uploaded to the EDB webpage and updated on an ongoing basis
 - a set of learning and teaching materials
 - including student textbooks, workbooks and teaching reference materials
 - suitable for P1-6 NCS students

3. Teacher training and professional support to schools

- **Professional development programmes**
- **Diversified school-based support services**
 - e.g. help schools adapt their school curriculum and develop appropriate learning and teaching materials

Teacher training and professional support to schools

- Experience sharing/briefing sessions and workshops for teachers
 - to gain a deeper understanding of the “Learning Framework”
 - to master effective methods of learning and teaching

Teacher training and professional support to schools

- to promote cultural awareness and inclusiveness
 - e.g. annual sharing session for schools in collaboration with the Equal Opportunities Commission about the Race Discrimination Ordinance

4. Enhanced additional funding support to schools

- All public sector schools and Direct Subsidy Scheme schools offering the local curriculum with **10 or more NCS students** are provided with an additional funding ranging from **about \$0.8 million to about \$1.5 million per year**^(Note) depending on the number of NCS students admitted

Note: Amount of funding to be adjusted on a school year basis according to the annual rate of the Civil Service Pay Adjustment, if applicable

Overall use of funding by schools

(a) Implementation of the "Learning Framework"

- most of the additional funding (about 90%): for **employing/deploying additional Chinese Language teachers and teaching assistants** to implement diversified modes of intensive learning and teaching

(b) Creation of an inclusive learning environment

- about 10% of the additional funding: generally for **appointing assistants of different races and/or procurement of professional services** to strengthen communication with parents of NCS students, organising activities promoting cultural integration, etc.

Chinese Language teachers teaching NCS students in the schools concerned

- From the 2014/15 to 2022/23 school years, about **70%-80%** of the schools concerned **assigned middle management** (e.g. vice-principals, panel heads, etc.) to coordinate Chinese learning and teaching for NCS students as well as the planning and deployment of school resources and manpower, to ensure sustainable development of the support measures
- Many schools have set up a **coordinating team** with teachers in relevant discipline, including the Chinese Language teachers, to participate in planning and deploying the school-based support measures
- In the 2022/23 school year, most of the Chinese Language teachers (**over 80%**) **had experience in teaching NCS students** (about 60% had 4 or more years of related experience)

Findings of recent school reports, school plans & stakeholder survey

- The majority of the schools receiving the enhanced additional funding agreed that progress has been made in the following areas with the provision of the additional funding:
 - **enhancing teachers' professional capability** for teaching the Chinese language to NCS students
 - deploying more resources to develop **school-based teaching resources and curricula**, as well as adopting **diversified teaching strategies and activities**
 - **enhancing NCS students' motivation, confidence and performance** in learning

Findings of recent school reports, school plans & stakeholder survey

- The majority of parents of NCS students of the schools concerned indicated that
 - they were **aware of the support provided** to their children in **learning Chinese** by the schools
 - they **obtained relevant information** through various channels from the schools
 - they were **satisfied with the support provided** to their children in **learning Chinese** by the schools

Enhanced additional funding support to schools

- Schools admitting a **relatively small number (i.e. 1 to 9) of NCS students**
 - their NCS students can **benefit from the immersed Chinese language environment of the school**
 - Starting from the 2020/21 school year, all public sector schools and DSS schools offering the local curriculum and admitting NCS students are provided with an **additional subsidy** depending on the number of NCS students admitted.
 - **1 to 5 NCS students: about \$0.15 million per year**
 - **6 to 9 NCS students: about \$0.3 million per year**

Note: Amount of funding to be adjusted on a school year basis according to the year-on-year movement of the Composite Consumer Price Index or the annual rate of the Civil Service Pay Adjustment, if applicable

The enhanced support measures have widened school choices of parents of NCS students

- In the 2022/23 school year, there were **about 680 primary and secondary schools admitting NCS students**, which **covered about 70% of the schools in total**

Key Message

- With appropriate support, NCS students can master the Chinese language

5. Other Complementary Measures for NCS Students and Their Parents

- **Summer Bridging Programme for NCS Students**
 - for **NCS P1 entrants** and **NCS students progressing to P2, P3 and P4**
 - From 2023 onwards, the Programme has been expanded to include **NCS students progressing to P5 and P6**
 - **Parents** of participating NCS students are also **invited to join** the Programme
 - Enquiry: 3509 8565 or 3509 8772

Other Complementary Measures for NCS Students and Their Parents

- **Diversified parent education programmes** for parents of NCS students starting from the 2020/21 school year to help them support their children's learning and encourage their children to master the Chinese language (Enquiry: 3698 4343)

Information for parents

Parents can **obtain information** about support for NCS students provided by schools **through various channels**

Information for parents

- English version of the **Primary School Profiles** are distributed to parents of NCS students studying in K3 via kindergartens
- School Profiles are also **uploaded to the website of the Committee on Home-School Co-operation**



Information for parents

- A separate column on “**Education Support for NCS Students**” in the Primary School Profiles
 - include additional support provided by schools receiving the additional funding for their NCS students in learning of the Chinese language

Information for parents

- Starting from the 2021/22 school year, schools provided with the additional funding will upload on their school websites **a bilingual summary in both Chinese and English on the education support** provided for their NCS students in the preceding school year for parents' reference

Information for parents

- **Dedicated briefing sessions (simultaneous interpretation services in languages of different races provided)**
- **Dedicated webpage: <http://www.edb.gov.hk/ncs>**
- **Hotline: 3540 7447**
(**simultaneous interpretation services** in languages of different races will be arranged where necessary)

Information for parents

- **Materials translated into languages of different races**
 - NCS Parent Information Package (e-version)
 - Information Note on Primary One Admission System



Key Messages

- The **support from parents** of NCS students is of utmost importance
- Parents are encouraged to make good use of children's **prime time** in learning the Chinese language and **consider schools with a language-rich environment**

*Thank
You!*

