



Education Support for Non-Chinese Speaking (NCS) Students

Education Bureau
August 2020

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

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

- developed, in consultation with teachers and language experts, **from the perspective of second language learners**
- sets out **expected learning outcomes** at different learning stages
- **learning and teaching materials** provided to teachers
- a **“small-step”** learning approach

Diversified learning and teaching materials

- uploaded to the EDB webpage and will be constantly updated
- **a series of learning and teaching materials**
 - including student textbooks, workbooks and teaching reference materials
 - suitable for P1-6 NCS students

Enhanced support to facilitate the implementation of “Learning Framework” in 3 main aspects:

1. Teacher training
2. School-based support
3. Funding support for schools

1. Teacher training

- 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
 - to promote cultural awareness and inclusiveness
 - “Professional Enhancement Grant Scheme for Chinese Language Teachers (Teaching Chinese as a Second Language)”

2. School-based Support

- Diversified school-based support services from post-secondary institutions

3. Enhanced funding Support

- 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 **\$0.8 million to \$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 translation 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 2019/20 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
- In the 2019/20 school year, most of the Chinese Language teachers (over **80%**) **had experience in teaching NCS students** (over 50% had 4 or more years of related experience)

New 2-tiered subsidy

- Schools admitting a handful (i.e. 1 to 9) of NCS students
 - their NCS students can **benefit from the immersed Chinese language environment of the school**, as well as the “Learning Framework”
 - Starting from the 2020/21 school year, EDB will provide a new 2-tiered subsidy for all schools admitting a handful of NCS students (**1 to 5 NCS students** and **6 to 9 NCS students** respectively) and increase the amount of the additional funding substantially from \$50,000 in the past to **\$0.15 million** or **\$0.3 million**^(Note)

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

Other Support

- **Summer Bridging Programme** for NCS P1 entrants and those progressing to P2, P3 and P4; parents' participation is encouraged
- **District-based programmes** to enhance NCS children's interest in learning the Chinese Language
- **Chinese Language Learning Support Centres** which offer after-school remedial programmes operated in different districts (Enquiry: 2892 6190)

Other Support

- Series of **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 4376)

Findings of recent school reports, school plans & stakeholder survey

- The majority of the schools receiving the enhanced additional funding agreed that the funding was **useful for 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

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

- In the 2019/20 school year, there were over **630 primary and secondary schools admitting NCS students**, which covered about **2/3 of the schools** in total
- The number of schools admitting **10 or more NCS students** and provided with the **additional funding** increased from 173 in the 2014/15 school year to **252** in the 2019/20 school year

Key Message

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

Information for parents

- Starting from the 2014/15 school year, the **English version of the Primary School Profiles** are **distributed** to parents of NCS students studying in K3 **via kindergartens**
- A separate column on **“Education Support for NCS Students”** has been **added** to the Primary School Profiles since the 2018/19 school year



Information for parents

- All schools receiving the additional funding are required to specify that additional support, including after-school support, is provided for their NCS students in learning of the Chinese language
- The new column has been further enhanced from the 2019/20 school year onwards to require the schools concerned to provide more details on their support measures

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
 - Information Note on Primary One Admission System Specifically for NCS Students
 - Tips for Parents of NCS Students (primary), etc.



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!*

