

# Primary One Admission

## for September 2023



**Education Bureau**

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

# Primary One Admission (POA) for September 2023

Intend to study in a government/  
an aided primary school

Participate in POA System

## Obtain an Application Form

- during the period from 2 to 30 September 2022
- from the kindergarten or kindergarten-cum-child care centre the child is attending, District Offices (Home Affairs Enquiry Centre), the School Places Allocation Section or the Regional Education Offices of the Education Bureau

With no particular  
school in mind

Submit the Application Form during the period from  
**26 September 2022 to 3 February 2023** to the School  
Places Allocation Section of the Education Bureau

Office 2, 2/F, Manulife Financial Centre,  
223 Wai Yip Street,  
Kwun Tong, Kowloon.

Participate in the  
“Central Allocation” Stage

- Parents to make choices of schools on 4-5 February 2023
- The central allocation results will be sent to parents by post on 7-8 June 2023

With a particular  
school in mind

## Apply for a Discretionary Place

- submit the Application Form to the school **DIRECT** on the following dates :  
26 to 30 September 2022
- submit the Application Form to **ONE** school only (the application is not subject to restrictions on school nets)
- There are two categories of discretionary places admission:  
(A) applicant children with sibling(s) studying or parent(s) working in the school  
(All applicant children of this category will be admitted by the school.)  
(B) selection of applicant children according to the Points System

Release of discretionary places admission  
results by schools on 21 November 2022

Unsuccessful applicant children to participate  
in the “Central Allocation” Stage

Successful applicant children to register  
with the school on 23-24 November 2022

## To be eligible for participation, the child must

- reach the age of 5 years 8 months when he/she is enrolled in P1 in September 2023 (i.e. born on or before 31 December 2017);
- be a Hong Kong resident;
- not be attending any primary schools; and
- have never been allocated a P1 place



\* In line with the “Smart Government” strategy, the EDB will implement digitalisation of primary one admission by phases starting from 2023. It is envisaged that parents can make school choices at the “Central Allocation” Stage for the Primary One Admission and receive results of the Central Allocation through the e-Platform in Primary One Admission 2023 at the earliest. Further details will be announced in due course.

## The Primary One Admission System

- The Primary One Admission 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 has on education at the kindergarten level.
- Under the Primary One Admission System, the whole territory is divided into some 30 school nets. Parents are required to indicate in the Application Form the school net in which they reside.
- Direct Subsidy Scheme primary schools, private primary schools and primary schools of the English Schools Foundation are excluded from the System. Parents who wish to send their children to these schools may apply direct to the schools.
- The Primary One Admission System is divided into two stages: “Discretionary Places Admission” stage and “Central Allocation” stage.

## “Discretionary Places Admission” Stage

- During the stage of “Discretionary Places Admission”, parents may apply to only ONE government or aided school which may be in or outside the school net in which they reside. Parents are strongly advised to select a neighbourhood primary school to reduce unnecessary transportation problems.
- If more than one application is submitted, the applications for discretionary place will be rendered void.
- There are two categories of discretionary places admission:
  - (A) Applicant children with sibling(s) studying or parent(s) working in the school
    - This category will take up about 30% of a school’s P1 places.
    - If applications are less than 30% of a school’s P1 places, the remaining places will be allocated by the school according to the Points System.
    - If such applications exceed 30% of a school’s P1 places, the shortfall will be made up by the P1 places reserved for the central allocation.
    - All applicant children of this category will be admitted by the school.
  - (B) Selection of applicant children according to the Points System
    - Each primary school will allocate not less than 20% of its P1 places to applicant children according to the Points System.
    - Schools must not conduct tests or interviews on the applicant children’s acquired curriculum knowledge.
- Names of successful applicant children for the discretionary places admission will be posted up at the schools concerned. Parents should register their child with the school on the specified dates. Failure to register with the school within the specified period would lead to forfeiture of the discretionary place offered to them. If it happens that a school eventually does not operate any subsidized P1 class in the 2023/2024 school year, alternative P1 places will be arranged by the Education Bureau for the pupils admitted by the school during the “Discretionary Places Admission” stage.

## The Points System

- If the number of applications for discretionary places in Category (B) received by a school exceeds its quota, the school should admit the applicant children according to the Points System below:

1. Parent(s) teaching or working full-time in the kindergarten or secondary section if it is of the same address as the primary school	(20 points)
2. Sibling(s) studying in the secondary section if it is of the same address as the primary school	(20 points)
3. Parent(s) being a school manager of the primary school	(20 points)
4. Parent(s) or sibling(s) being a graduate of the primary school	(10 points)
5. First-born child (the eldest child in the family irrespective of sex) <i>(Applicant children may claim only one of the relationships from 1 to 5)</i>	(5 points)
6. Same religious affiliation as the sponsoring body which operates the primary school [ See Note ]	(5 points)
7. Parent(s) being a member of the same organisation which sponsors the operation of the primary school [ See Note ] <i>(Applicant children may claim only one of the relationships from 6 to 7)</i>	(5 points)
8. Applicant child of the right age (5 years 8 months to 7 years old)	(10 points)

- Applicant children will be awarded the appropriate points for the relationships claimed upon verification.

[ Note : Parents are advised to consult the school direct about the definition of “same religious affiliation”/“a member of the same organisation”before submitting the application form. ]

## “Central Allocation” Stage

- Children who have not been offered a discretionary place will participate in the central allocation. A fresh application for the central allocation is NOT necessary.
- Parents will be informed, in late-January 2023, by the Education Bureau in writing to go to a designated central allocation centre on the specified dates to make choices of schools for their child. If parents have not received the letter by 30 January 2023, they should contact the School Places Allocation Section.
- In general, each primary school should earmark about 50% of its P1 places for the central allocation, of which 10% are for the unrestricted school choices. Parents may make up to 3 choices of schools in or outside the school net in which they reside.
- The remaining 90% are for restricted school choices. Parents should select primary schools available in their school net in order of their preference.
- If an applicant child has been unsuccessful in gaining admission to a school during the “Discretionary Places Admission” stage, his/her parent may still include that school in the school choices in the central allocation.
- The computer-programmed central allocation will first process the unrestricted school choices and then the restricted school choices. For oversubscribed schools, the “Random Number” generated by the computer for each applicant child will decide the order of priority in allocating school places. This is to ensure fairness to all applicant children.
- Results of the central allocation will be sent to parents by post using door-to-door delivery service from 7 to 8 June 2023. Parents may also choose to receive the results via SMS message. Parents should register their child with the allocated school within the specified period.

## Notes

1. Parents are required by law to send their children aged six or above to school.
2. Children who have been allocated a P1 place previously, and pupils who are studying at a government, aided, Direct Subsidy Scheme or private primary school are not eligible for participating in the Primary One Admission System.
3. Children who have accepted the offer of P1 places in Direct Subsidy Scheme primary schools will not be allocated P1 places through the Primary One Admission System. If school places have been allocated to them through the Primary One Admission System, those school places will be withdrawn.
4. To avoid wastage of P1 places and to enable private primary schools to have a more accurate estimate of their P1 enrolment in the coming school year, a list of those children who have been offered a P1 place by a private primary school and yet opted to remain in the Primary One Admission System will be sent to the private primary schools concerned for information prior to the release of the central allocation results in June 2023.
5. Before submitting the Application Form, parents are advised to read carefully the relevant paragraphs in the “Notes on How to Complete the Application Form for Admission to Primary One” and bring along the documents required.
6. When choosing a primary school for children, parents should first identify children's characteristics, personalities, abilities and interests, and then consider various factors such as the sponsoring body, history, location and religion of a school.
7. Parents who claim the applicant child to be the first-born child should declare so in the application form. Sworn declaration in this regard is not necessary.
8. Parents requiring sworn declaration service in connection with application for P1 admission should go to the office of the School Places Allocation Section of the Education Bureau.

## Enquiries

- Parents seeking further information may contact the School Places Allocation Section of the Education Bureau.

Address : Office 2, 2/F, Manulife Financial Centre, 223 Wai Yip Street, Kwun Tong, Kowloon.

Telephone : 2832 7700/2832 7740 (General Enquiries)

2832 7610 (HK Island & Islands)

2832 7620 (Kowloon)

2832 7635 (New Territories West)

2832 7659 (New Territories East)

24-hour automatic telephone enquiry system: 2891 0088

Website: [www.edb.gov.hk](http://www.edb.gov.hk)

