

EDUCATION BUREAU CIRCULAR MEMORANDUM NO. 170/2026

From	: Secretary for Education	To	: Supervisors and heads of all government schools, aided schools (including special schools), caput schools, Direct Subsidy Scheme schools, and kindergartens/kindergarten-cum-child care centres and schools with kindergarten classes joining the Kindergarten Education Scheme – for action
Ref.	: 1082-2005-8050-9055-00001		
Date	: 15 September 2026		

(Note: This circular memorandum should be read by all supervisors, heads and teachers)

Arrangements for Basic Law and National Security Law Test in the 2026/27 school year

Summary

This circular memorandum informs all public sector schools¹, Direct Subsidy Scheme schools (DSS schools), and kindergartens/kindergarten-cum-child care centres and schools with kindergarten classes joining the Kindergarten Education Scheme (hereinafter collectively referred to as “Scheme-KGs”) of the arrangements for the Basic Law and National Security Law Test (BLNST) in the 2026/27 school year and remind schools to verify and submit newly-appointed teachers’ BLNST information. This circular memorandum should be read in conjunction with the Education Bureau (EDB) Circular No. 13/2022 “Requirement for Newly-appointed Teachers to Pass the Basic Law and National Security Law Test” issued on 24 October 2022 and EDB’s letter to schools in May 2023.

Background

2. The words and deeds of teachers have a far-reaching impact on students’ growth. Teachers should have a correct understanding of the Basic Law and the National Security Law so that they can enlighten students by helping them fulfill responsibilities as a national and Hong Kong resident with a positive, law-abiding, public interest-oriented and responsible attitude. As announced in the EDB Circular No. 13/2022 “Requirement for Newly-appointed Teachers to Pass the Basic Law and National Security Law Test”, starting from the 2023/24 school year, all newly-appointed teachers in public sector

¹ Public sector schools include government, aided and caput schools.

schools, DSS schools and Scheme-KGs (including newly-joined teachers and teachers changing schools) are required to pass the BLNST in order to be considered for appointment. Schools should require teachers to have a correct understanding of the Basic Law and the National Security Law and encourage teachers to take the relevant test. For details of the requirement, please refer to the EDB webpage (<https://www.edb.gov.hk/en/blnst>).

Details

3. Specific arrangements for the BLNST in the 2026/27 school year are as follows:

BLNST at degree level

4. The Civil Service Bureau (CSB) has launched Digitalised BLNST (Degree/Professional Grades) (hereinafter referred to as the Digitalised BLNST), persons who possess a bachelor's degree or will have attained a bachelor's degree in the current or next academic year can take the Digitalised BLNST according to their needs and schedules starting from the 2025/26 school year. The examination format, duration and content of the Digitalised BLNST are identical to the past paper-based BLNST (degree level) organised by EDB. In addition, candidates will receive their test results in the form of electronic result certificates on the same day of the test. Teachers who possess a pass result in the BLNST issued by CSB will be deemed to have met the relevant requirement and can be considered for appointment.

5. Please note that applicant who is absent from the test or has not attained a pass result in the test will not be allowed to take the Digitalised BLNST again during the three-month suspension period. EDB encourages teachers to plan ahead and take the test as early as possible. For details of the Digitalised BLNST and online application methods, please visit the CSB webpage (<https://www.csb.gov.hk/english/recruit/2934.html>).

BLNST at non-degree level

6. On the other hand, EDB will organise one round of paper-based BLNST (non-degree level) for persons without a bachelor's degree and plan to join or change to another secondary schools, primary schools to take up non-graduate teaching posts or be a teacher in kindergartens in the 2026/27 school year. The test is tentatively scheduled for 13 June 2027 (Sunday). Details and application arrangements of the test will be announced through press release and EDB webpage in late-April 2027.

7. A pass result in BLNST (non-degree level) is only applicable for applying for non-graduate teaching posts. For those who have passed the BLNST (non-degree level) and subsequently attained a degree qualification and wish to apply for graduate teaching posts, they will be required to take the BLNST (degree level) to meet the relevant requirement. Individual schools may contact EDB if non-graduate teachers to be appointed were unable to take the previous BLNST (non-degree level) organised by EDB before the appointment is effective and require special arrangements, EDB will

render appropriate support on a case-by-case basis.

Verify and submit newly-appointed teachers' BLNST information

8. Public sector schools, DSS schools and Scheme-KGs are required to verify teachers' prior attainment of a pass result in the BLNST issued by EDB, CSB or government departments before the appointment is effective and submit the BLNST information of all newly-appointed teachers to EDB through the e-Services Portal (<https://eservices.edb.gov.hk>) at the beginning of each school year. For details, please refer to EDB's letter to schools in May 2023.

9. When verifying relevant information provided by the newly-appointed teachers, schools may accept the printed copy of the pass result of the BLNST issued by EDB, CSB, or government departments, and also the printed version of the electronic result certificate issued by CSB. The electronic result certificate contains an e-Proof QR code and schools can access the e-Proof website (<https://www.eproof.gov.hk/>) and scan the e-Proof QR code by using the built-in scanner to verify the validity of the electronic result certificate. The verification result of the electronic result certificate will be shown in a frame with different colours, i.e. "Verified" (In Green) or "Revoked" (In Red) respectively. For more details, please refer to CSB's webpage (<https://www.csb.gov.hk/english/recruit/cre/ecert/2926.html>).

Enquiries

10. For enquiries about the BLNST in the 2026/27 school year, please contact the Teacher Administration 2 Section of the Professional Development and Training Division at 2892 5709. For enquiries about appointment matters of schools, please contact the respective Senior School Development Officers or Senior Service Officers.

Ms W P LEE
for Secretary for Education

c.c. Supervisors and heads of other schools and heads of sections – for information