



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部教育局

Education Bureau

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

本局檔號 Our Ref: EDB(SDCT)3/PRO/10/1/1

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5 January 2022

To: Supervisors / Principals of all Secondary Schools, Primary Schools, Special Schools, Schools offering Non-Local Curriculum, Kindergartens and Kindergarten-Child Care Centres and Private Schools offering Non-Formal Curriculum

Dear Supervisor / Principal,

Stay Vigilant against COVID-19 Variant

Since the resumption of face-to-face classes for all schools in Hong Kong in September 2021, teachers, school staff, parents and students have been working relentlessly to put in place various anti-epidemic measures, enabling students to learn in a safe campus environment. The Education Bureau (EDB) appreciates your efforts in the anti-epidemic work. The COVID-19 Omicron variant is spreading in Hong Kong recently and may rapidly worsen the epidemic situation. We are now at a very critical stage. The Government announced on 5 January 2022 a series of stringent measures to cope with the development of the epidemic situation. All sectors of the society, including schools, should heighten vigilance and strictly put in place all the anti-epidemic measures.

Regarding primary and secondary schools, we opine that face-to-face classes are very important for students' learning and growth. As such, meanwhile, the existing face-to-face class arrangements will continue. That said, teachers, school staff and students should continue to strictly observe the measures as stipulated in the "Health Protection Measures for Schools" issued by the EDB and the "Health Advice to Schools for the Prevention of COVID-19" issued by the Centre for Health Protection. Schools must implement all the required anti-epidemic measures, including checking of body temperature every day before returning to schools, wearing of masks at all times, maintaining proper hand hygiene and appropriate social distances, avoiding crowd gathering and paying attention to personal and environmental hygiene, etc.

We reiterate that schools at this stage should not organise mass events

including sports days, swimming galas, and all non-essential activities. For schools that have resumed whole-day face-to-face classes, if schools arrange luncheons for students within the school campuses, the most desirable arrangement is to provide students with individually packed lunchboxes made by lunch suppliers / operators of catering outlets, and students should have their luncheons under the supervision of teachers / school staff. Schools should also install partitions at dining tables and students should keep proper distances with one another and face one direction. Students should put on their masks immediately after meals and perform cleansing immediately afterwards.

As regards kindergartens (KGs), they should strictly follow the “Health Protection Measures for Schools”. KG should not arrange learning or other activities on the other half of the day after the half-day class is conducted. This is to avoid students staying at the school for whole day activities. If some students have to stay at school for the whole day due to the lack of carers at home, parents should prepare snacks and lunches for their children and provide them with their own tableware. Schools should put in place the necessary preventive measures to protect the health and ensure the safety of students.

If teachers, school staff, and students, feel unwell or have any symptoms, they should seek medical advice promptly and refrain from going to schools. If teachers, school staff, students and their parents/household members residing together are diagnosed with COVID-19, they should not return to schools and should inform schools immediately. Schools are also reminded to report the confirmed COVID-19 cases to the EDB as soon as practicable.

Vaccination is a vital step in the fight against the epidemic. The Government has recently announced the expansion of the “Vaccine Bubble” programme, which will be implemented in more premises with effect from 24 February 2022. We once again urge teachers and school staff, students and parents to get vaccinated. Regarding the implementation of the above programme at schools, we shall announce the further details as early as possible.

The epidemic situation may evolve rapidly in the future. The EDB will closely monitor the situation and dovetail with the development of the overall anti-epidemic measures in Hong Kong, and endeavour to inform schools of the corresponding arrangements as early as possible.

For enquiries, please contact your respective Senior School Development Officers or Senior Service Officers.

Yours sincerely,



(Dr Verena LAU)
for Secretary for Education