

The Education Department announced today that the next round of school allocation exercise will soon commence. School premises to be completed in 2001 and 2002 and school sites for construction of schools will be made available for allocation in this exercise.

At present, an applicant body interested in operating a school becomes eligible for consideration for the allocation of school premises when it is:

- (a) a charitable institution or trust of a public character exempted from tax under Section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance; and
- (b) incorporated under the Companies Ordinance and that its memorandum and articles of association contains all the standard clauses and articles required for allocation of a school.

Allocation exercise will be considered by a School Allocation Committee (SAC) which comprises officials from the Education and Manpower Bureau, Education Department and non-official familiar with the education of Hong Kong .

Allocation of school premises and sites is considered on a competitive basis. The basic principle for allocation of a school premises is to select sponsoring body with the best proposal to provide quality education for our children.

The selection of school sponsors will be based on an assessment of the applicant bodies' proposed school plan for the new schools, including its vision, mission and objectives of the new school, class structure, management and organization, teaching and learning, support for pupils, performance targets and indicators for self-evaluation.

Applicant bodies are required to submit detailed information on their eligibility (i.e., incorporation under the Companies Ordinance and exemption from tax under the Inland Revenue Ordinance), application forms together with a detailed school plan by the end of January 2000 to the Building Section of the Education Department at Room 1427, Wu Chung House, 213 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong.

A briefing session for intending applicant bodies on the school allocation system will be held at 2:30 p.m. on 4 November (Thursday) at School Hall, Tang Shiu Kin Victoria Government Secondary School, 5 Oi Kwan Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong. Application forms for this round of exercise will be distributed at the briefing session.

Enquiries relating to applications may be directed to the Secretary of the SAC at 2892 6391. Details of the school allocation exercise, application forms and guidance notes on application can be downloaded from Education Department's homepage at <http://www.info.gov.hk/ed> after the briefing session.

By April 2000, applicant bodies may be invited to make a presentation to the SAC and to answer questions in relation to their school plans. It is scheduled that the allocation result will be announced by the end of May 2000.