

Admission Arrangements for Nursery (K1) Classes in Kindergartens for the 2026/27 School Year



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

Preamble

- The Education Bureau (EDB) will continue to implement the admission arrangements for nursery (K1) classes in kindergartens (KGs) for the 2026/27 school year (hereafter referred to as "2026/27 K1 Admission Arrangements") with a view to facilitating the smooth operation of the admission process of KGs and helping parents secure KG places for their children in a timely manner.

- Parents who wish to apply for admission to a K1 class in a KG joining the Kindergarten Education Scheme (the Scheme) for their children in the 2026/27 school year should follow the procedure set out below. The procedure is applicable to all non-profit-making KGs joining the Scheme (Scheme-KGs).

Procedure

- EDB will issue a registration document to each child who can receive education in Hong Kong and all Scheme-KGs should only admit children holding valid registration documents.

- Parents are required to apply to EDB for a "Registration Certificate for KG Admission" (RC) from **September to November 2025**. If a child can receive education in Hong Kong but cannot obtain an RC as he/she is not eligible for subsidy under the Scheme, EDB will issue a KG Admission Pass (AP) to the child concerned for registration and admission to a Scheme-KG, but the parents concerned are required to pay full school fees before deduction of subsidy under the Scheme as shown on the Fees Certificate of the KG admitting the child.

- The RC will be used for registration for K1 during the Centralised Registration Dates (i.e. 8 to 10 January 2026). As it takes time for processing of RC, parents should submit their RC applications to EDB by **28 November 2025** at the latest. Otherwise, the RC/AP may not be issued before the Centralised Registration Dates for K1 registration.

- In line with the Government's policy objective of digitalisation of public services, EDB introduced the electronic RC ("e-RC") in June 2025. Each e-RC/AP would contain an encrypted QR code. When parents are registering with the KGs, KG staff would only need to scan the QR code on the e-RC/AP and the registration process will be completed.

- Parents should understand from KGs about their school-based admission mechanism, including the procedure, criteria, interview arrangements, application fee, etc. They should obtain application forms and submit applications for admission in accordance with the requirements as specified by individual KGs.

- KGs will inform parents the application results before 12 December 2025.

- Upon receipt of notification(s) of admission, parents should, after careful consideration, choose one KG for registration. They are required to let the KG to scan the QR code on the e-RC/AP to complete the registration procedure during the Centralised Registration Dates (i.e. 8 to 10 January 2026). This measure is to prevent a child from hoarding a number of school places at one time, which may affect other children.

- EDB will release K1-K3 vacancy information from late January 2026 onwards (i.e. after the Centralised Registration Dates). If necessary, parents may obtain the information via EDB's website, Regional Education Offices and hotline.

Who are eligible to apply?

- The child applicants must be:
 - Hong Kong residents with right of abode, right to land or valid permission to remain without any condition of stay (other than the limit of stay) in Hong Kong; children who stay in Hong Kong on a tourist/visit visa or as a visitor, are not eligible for RC or AP; and
 - born on or before 31 December 2023.

Where to obtain an application form?

- Applicants may apply via "iAM Smart" mobile application or submit online ([url: https://eform.cefs.gov.hk/form/edb005/en/](https://eform.cefs.gov.hk/form/edb005/en/)). Under normal circumstances, the processing time of e-applications (with digital signing "iAM Smart+" and with full supporting documents) will be shorter than that of paper-based applications.



- Application forms and guidance notes can be downloaded from EDB's website (www.edb.gov.hk/applyRC/en/) and they are also available at District Offices and the Regional Education Offices of EDB.

How to return the completed application forms?

- Applicants may submit their application online ([url: https://eform.cefs.gov.hk/form/edb005/en/](https://eform.cefs.gov.hk/form/edb005/en/)).
- Applicants may send the duly completed application forms together with copies of necessary identity documents by post to EDB, P.O. Box 23179, Wan Chai Post Office, Hong Kong.
- Applicants may enclose all relevant documents in a sealed envelope marked "Application for the Registration Certificate for Kindergarten Admission" and drop it into the drop-in box at the office of EDB on 14/F, Wu Chung House, 213 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai, Hong Kong (Opening hours of drop-in box: Mondays to Fridays 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; closed on Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays).

When to return the application forms?

- Application for the RC/AP is open starting from September 2025, and the details will be duly uploaded onto EDB's website.

When will the result of the applications be available?

- Upon receipt of the applications with all necessary information and documents provided, it generally takes six to eight weeks for EDB to complete processing of the applications and issue the e-RC/AP with an encrypted QR code to applicants by email (for e-applications) or by post (for applications by post/in person).

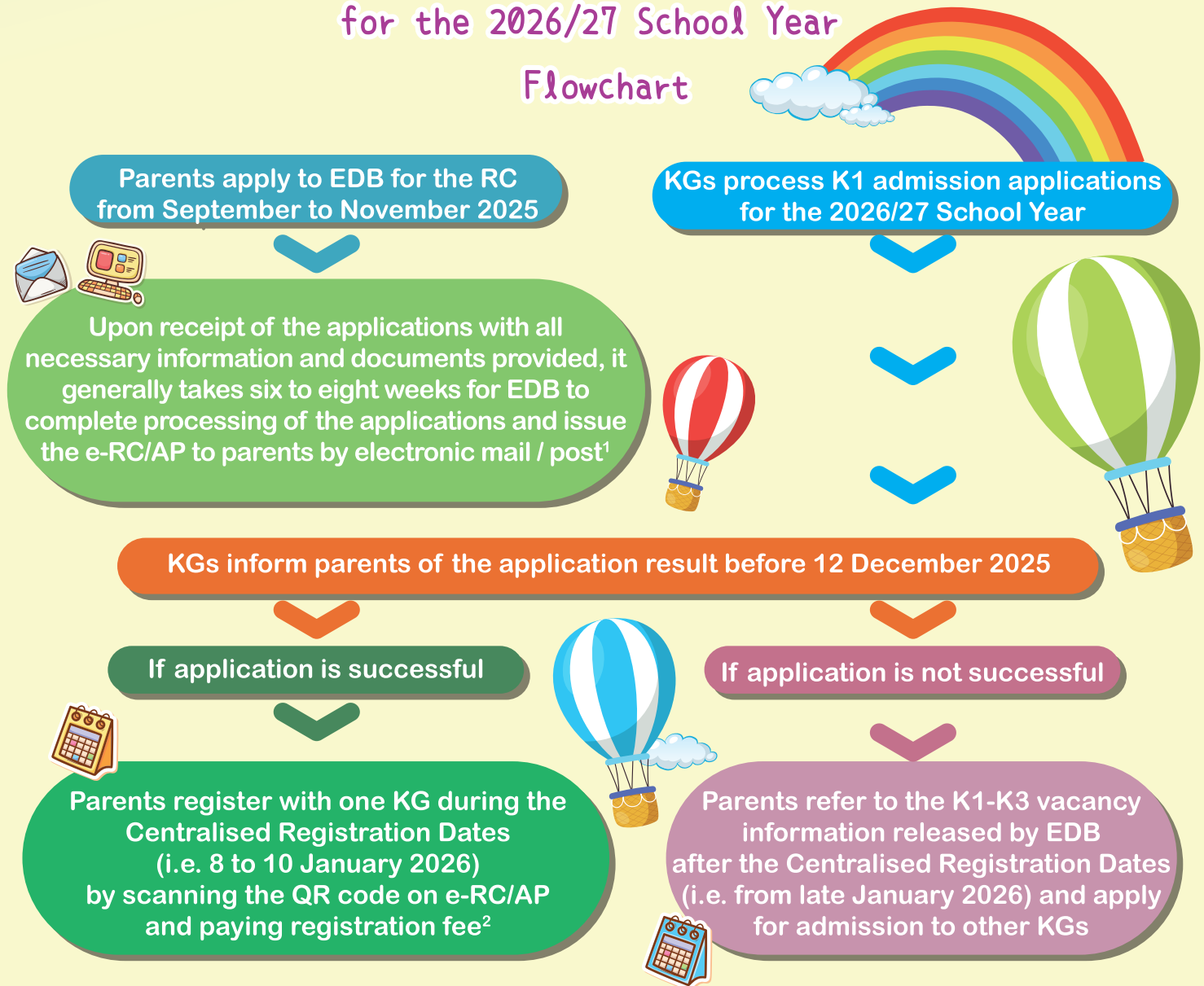
Enquiry

- For details of the 2026/27 K1 Admission Arrangements and application for RC, please visit EDB's website (www.edb.gov.hk/k1-admission_e) or the AI Chatbot "Glowie" in the website or call EDB at 3540 6808 / 3540 6811 (Working hours: Mondays to Fridays 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.; closed on Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays) or the 24-hour automatic telephone enquiry system at 2891 0088. Parents of non-Chinese speaking children may call EDB Hotline at 2892 6676 for enquiry on admission to KGs.
- Parents may also call EDB's Regional Education Offices or the Joint Office for Kindergartens and Child Care Centres (the telephone numbers can be found on EDB's website: www.edb.gov.hk/k1-admission_e).



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Flowchart



¹ If parents are unable to allow the KG in which their child has been admitted to scan the QR code on the e-RC/AP during the Centralised Registration Dates, the KG concerned may not be able to complete registration for their child. Hence, parents are required to submit application to EDB within the designated period.

² If a child is admitted after the Centralised Registration Dates, his/her parent is still required to submit the e-RC/AP for registration. If the parent intends to change school for his/her child after registration with a KG, he/she is required to complete the de-registration with the KG with which he/she has registered by scanning the QR code on the e-RC/AP. Upon de-registration, the KG concerned will no longer reserve the place for the child. Normally, the registration fee paid to the KG with which the parent has registered will not be refunded.