



# Admission to Kindergarten

## Overview on Kindergarten Education



In Hong Kong, children between the age of three and six could receive kindergarten education in kindergartens.

The goals of kindergarten education are to nurture children to attain whole-person development, and to stimulate their interest in learning and cultivate in them positive learning attitude, so as to lay the foundation for their future learning.

Some kindergartens operate with an attached child care centre to provide caring services for children aged below three as well.

At present, there are about 1,030 kindergartens and kindergarten-cum-child care centres in Hong Kong, which are privately run and categorised into non-profit-making and private independent.

Kindergartens can operate local and non-local curricula. Half-day and whole-day services are available for the choice of parents. Information of individual kindergartens is available in the Profile of Kindergartens and Kindergarten-cum-Child Care Centres  
(Website: [www.chsc.hk/kindergarten](http://www.chsc.hk/kindergarten))

Parents should seek admission to kindergartens by themselves. Details are available at EDB Homepage at:  
[www.edb.gov.hk/k1-admission\\_e](http://www.edb.gov.hk/k1-admission_e)

Kindergartens will provide both Chinese and English versions of application form, information on the application arrangements and admission criteria, etc. put in place an effective means of communication and offer assistance to students/parents as far as possible.

Under special circumstances, if kindergartens joining the kindergarten education scheme still have vacancies and individual students (such as students at risk of developmental delay) encounter difficulties in applying for admission, Regional Education Offices and Joint Office for Kindergartens and Child Care Centres of EDB will make referrals as appropriate.



## Kindergarten Education Scheme (Scheme)

The new kindergarten education policy has been implemented starting from the 2017/18 school year. Under the new policy, subsidy is directly provided to kindergartens joining the Scheme.

The policy objectives are to provide good quality and highly affordable kindergarten education, and enhance the accessibility of students to different modes of services that suit their specific needs.



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Non-profit-making kindergartens offering a full local curriculum may apply to join the Scheme.

The basic tenet of the new policy is that Government subsidy would be sufficient for kindergartens to provide quality half-day services according to the standards prescribed by the EDB. To unleash the potential of the local labour force under the population policy, we provide an additional subsidy for whole-day and long whole-day services on a co-payment basis with parents.

The requirement in overall teacher-pupil ratio for kindergartens joining the Scheme is raised from 1:15 to 1:11.

Needy parents may apply for fee remission and grant for school-related expenses to defray school-related expenses incurred from the students' kindergarten education. Details are available at Student Finance Office Homepage at: [www.wfsfaa.gov.hk/sfo/en/preprimary/](http://www.wfsfaa.gov.hk/sfo/en/preprimary/)



## Profile of Kindergartens and Kindergarten-cum-Child Care Centres (KG Profile)

(Website: [www.chsc.hk/kindergarten](http://www.chsc.hk/kindergarten))

EDB publishes the bilingual (Chinese and English) KG Profile on the web every year to provide basic information on all kindergartens and help parents make informed

school choices for their children. It contains information such as the list of kindergartens joining the Scheme, the approved school fees, the number and overall professional qualifications of the principal and teaching staff, enrolment, teacher-to-pupil ratio, curriculum details, etc.

Starting from 2018, a new column "Support to non-Chinese speaking Students" has been included in the KG Profile for kindergartens to give an overview of their support.

Printed copies are available for parents' reference at EDB's Regional Education Offices, Home Affairs Enquiry Centres of the Home Affairs Department (HAD), Maternal and Child Health Centres of the Department of Health, Integrated Family Service Centres of the Social Welfare Department, public libraries and Support Service Centres for Ethnic Minorities funded by the HAD.

For enquiries on kindergarten education, parents can contact the Joint Office for Kindergartens and Child Care Centres or the respective School Development Sections of EDB, the telephone list of which is available on page 14.

