



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.:
來函檔號 Your Ref.:

電話 Telephone: (852) 2810 2657
傳真 Fax Line: (852) 2868 5916

15 December 2022

Dear School Principals and Teachers,

Thank you for your unceasing hard work. With strict adherence to various anti-epidemic measures, we are able to provide a safe learning environment for students. We are grateful for your efforts in making gradual resumption of normal whole-day face-to-face teaching possible.

The HKSAR Government attaches great importance to education and strives to provide multifarious learning experiences for students to develop and flourish so as to nurture them to be lifelong learners who are virtuous, talented and responsible with vision and an affection for their country and their home. The core mission of education is cultivating values and nurturing people. Teachers are key persons for nurturing students. The pursuit of professionalism and commitment to upholding high moral standards of teachers should be well integrated. Apart from professional knowledge and competencies in teaching, teachers must possess high moral standards and noble virtues, such that students can be nurtured with correct moral values.

We have just formulated the Guidelines on Teachers' Professional Conduct ("the Guidelines") (https://www.edb.gov.hk/en/guidelines_tpc) with the aim of clearly stipulating the professional conduct and norms of behavior required of teachers so that they could have self-awareness and self-discipline in upholding professionalism, and remind each other to abide by the Guidelines together, so as to protect students' well-being, ensure the quality of education and safeguard the education profession.

When formulating the Guidelines, the EDB has not only carefully considered the actual situation of the Hong Kong education system and the existing legislation, but also made reference to documents related to teachers' professional development and the standards of teachers' professionalism in different countries and regions. Eight codes of professional conduct required of teachers are compiled and examples of the “dos” and “don'ts” of behaviour for each code are provided respectively.

I encourage teachers to study the Guidelines to familiarise themselves with the requirements for their professional and personal behaviour, and exercise judgement on what they should and should not do based on the principles of safeguarding national security and social order, protecting the well-being of students and upholding the education profession, so as to serve as a role model for students.

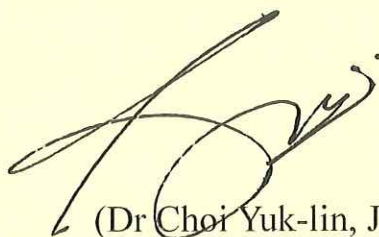
School sponsoring bodies may make reference to the Guidelines and give directives to the school governance authorities under their sponsorship. School governance authorities may make reference to the Guidelines to devise measures on management of staff behaviour and professional development plans. The EDB will also make reference to the Guidelines to review the registration of teachers and process applications for teacher registration.

Through continuous professional development, we will enhance teachers' conduct and quality, recognise teachers with distinguished virtues and excellent performance in teaching profession to ensure the professionalism of the teaching force.

Now that Hong Kong has entered a new milestone of advancing from stability to prosperity. The next five years are important for Hong Kong to break new grounds and achieve another leap forward. The EDB strives to enhance the quality of education based on the development blueprint and direction of Hong Kong, alongside our country's and global trends of developments. I hope to join hands with all of you to provide better education for our children, and to nurture quality talents for Hong Kong and the country for building a better future.

Christmas is approaching and may I take this opportunity to wish you all and your family a healthy and festive holiday.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Choi Yuk-lin', written in a cursive style.

(Dr Choi Yuk-lin, JP)
Secretary for Education