

Reviewing Life Planning Education in Primary Schools from the Life Course Perspective

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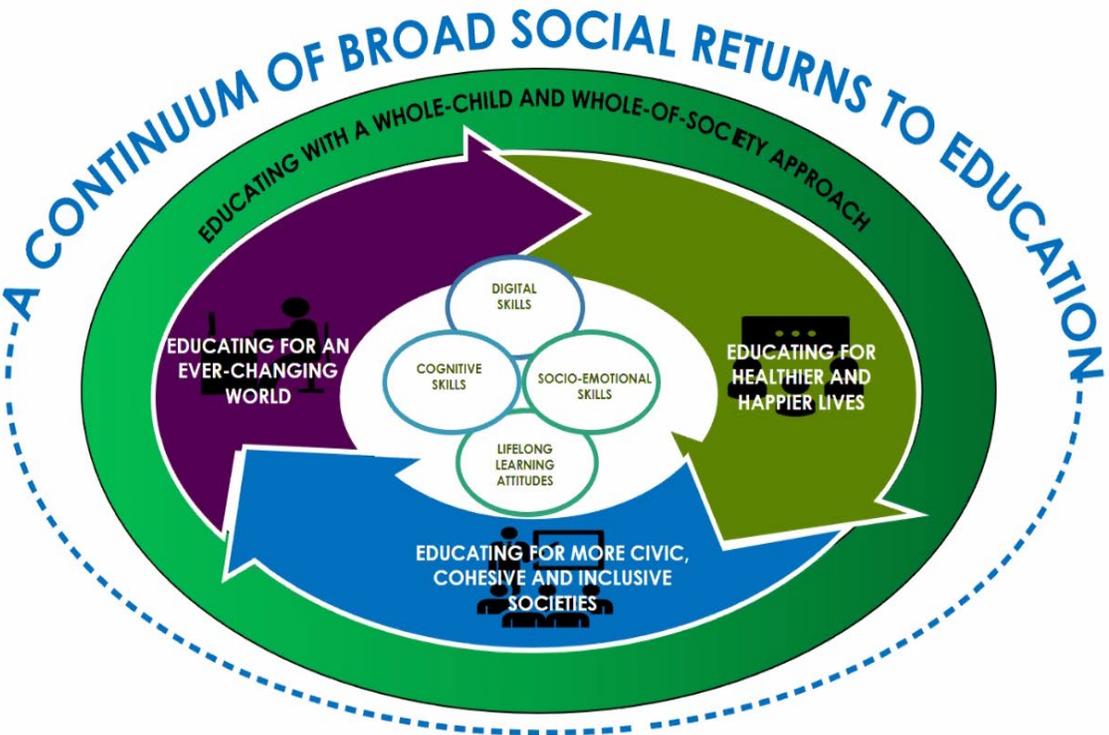


Early Childhood and Elementary Education Division
幼兒及基礎教育部

What is Education?



Besides direct economic benefits, high-quality education pays off for individuals, communities and societies in significant and diverse ways

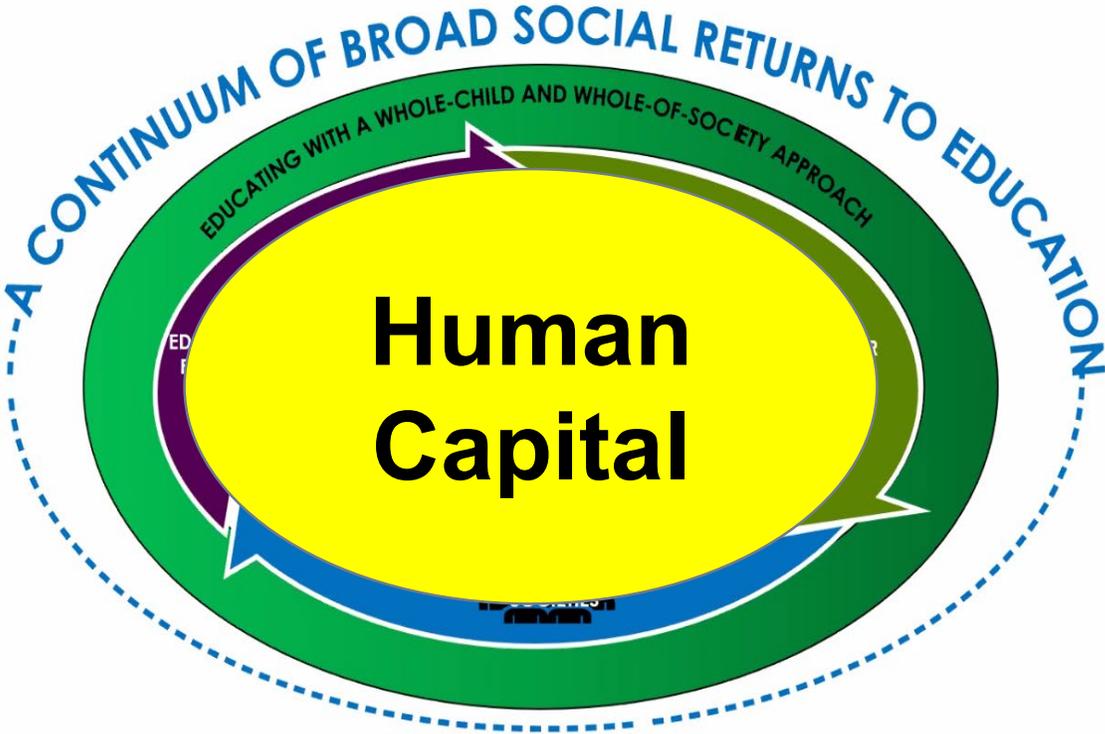


Minea-Pic, A (2022)

What is Education?



Besides direct economic benefits, high-quality education pays off for individuals, communities and societies in significant and diverse ways



Minea-Pic, A (2022)

Life Roles in Different Stages

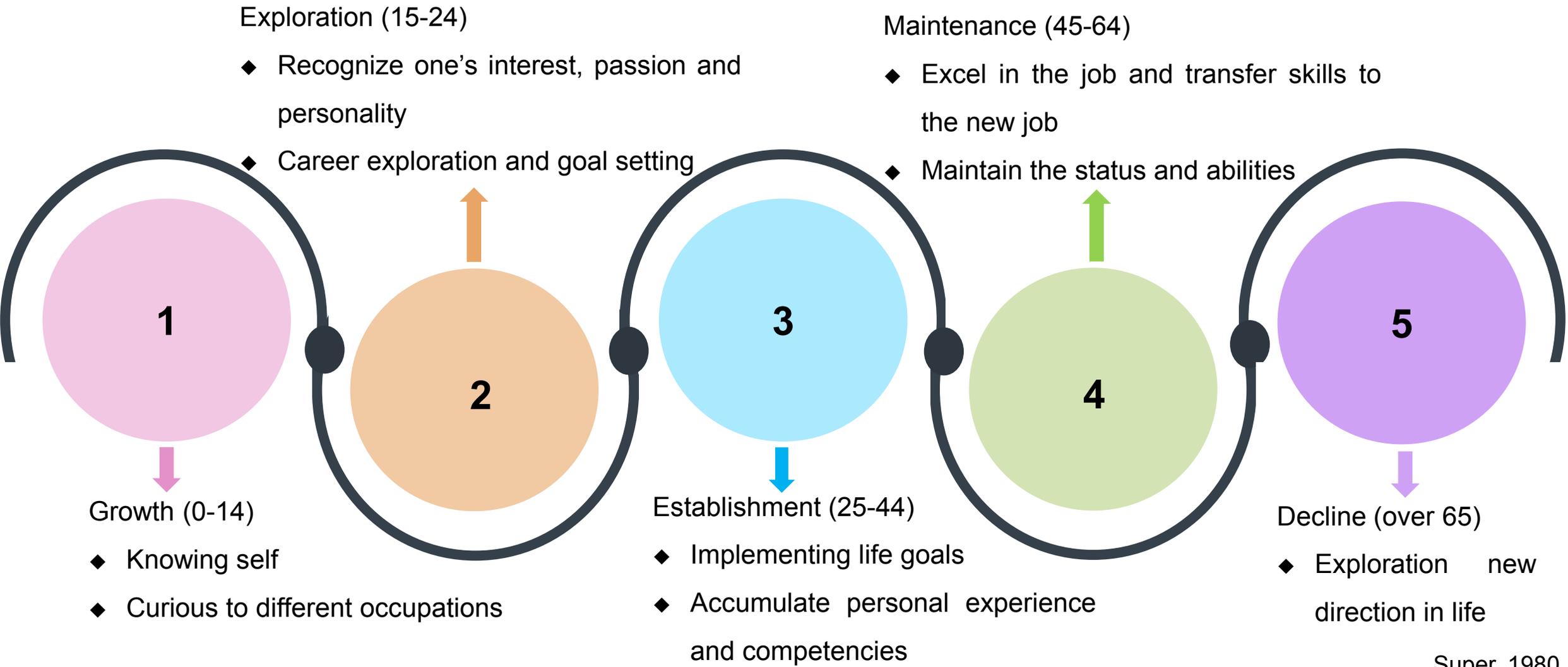
- ◆ Family
- ◆ School
- ◆ Workplace
- ◆ Society

What is Planning?

Choices on:



Is life planning significant to primary school students?



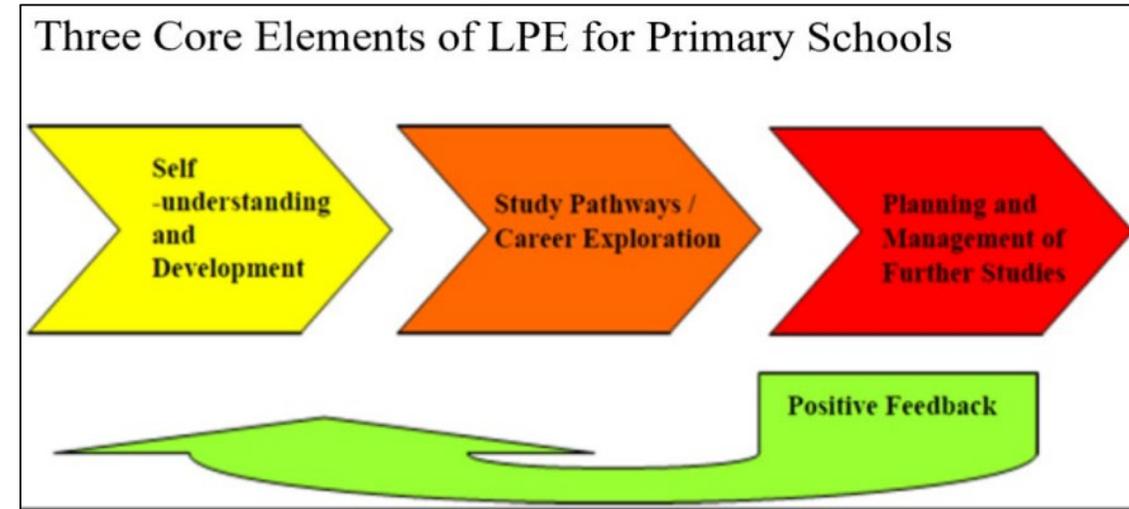
Why is life-planning so important?

- ◆ Navigating through a **complex and uncertain world**
- ◆ Future-ready students need to **exercise agency**, in their own education and throughout life
- ◆ A personalized learning environment that helps students build **purposeful life**

What is life planning?

Three Core Elements of LPE for Primary Schools

- ◆ Self Understanding, Management and Development
- ◆ Career Exploration, Experiencing and Thinking
- ◆ Career Planning and Management

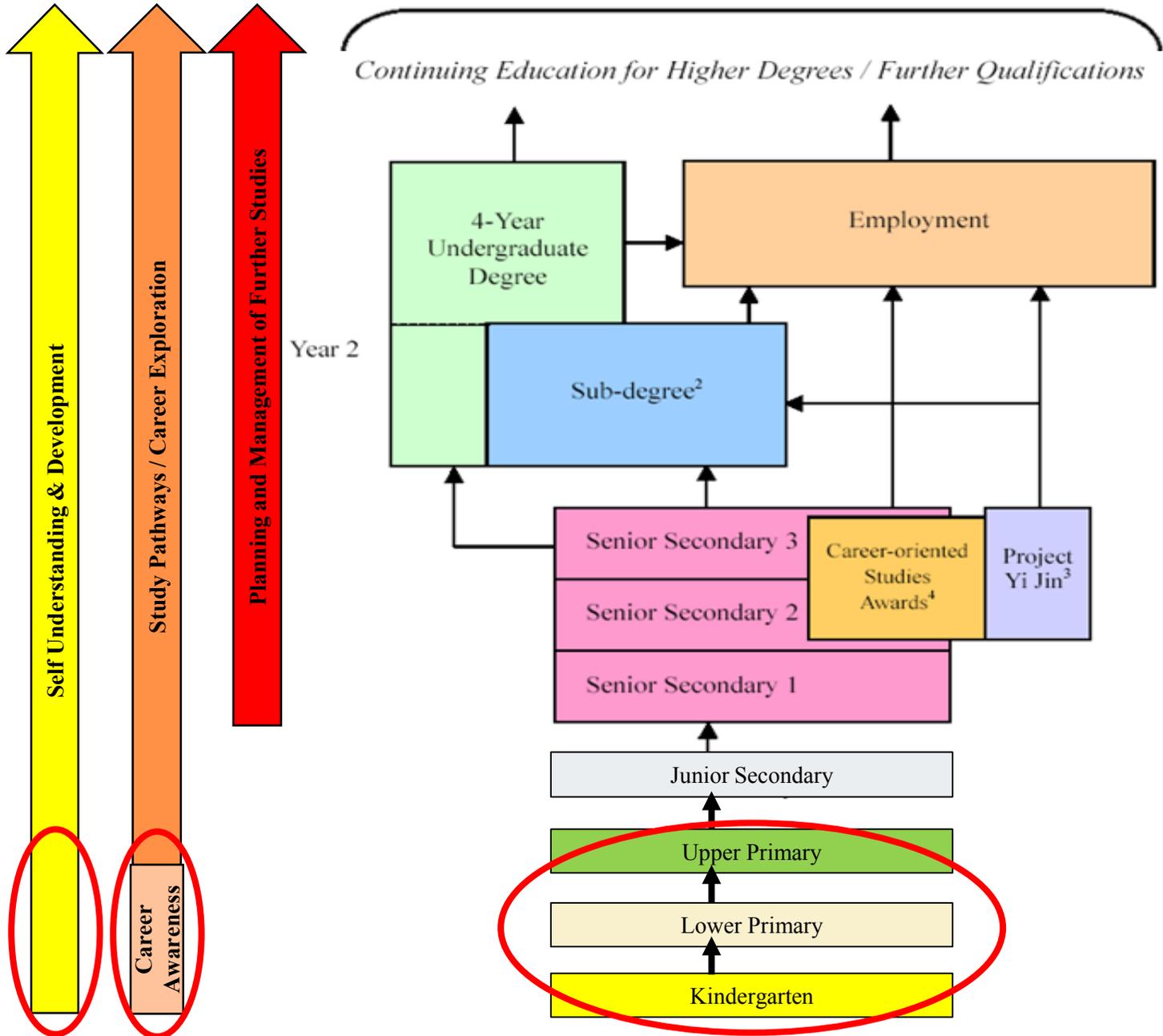


EDB (2021)

How to promote life planning?

- ◆ Life planning is an ongoing and lifelong process for personal fulfillment, with different stages of the lifetime. (EDB Website)
- ◆ Life planning covers choices on academic, family, career, finance, health, citizenship

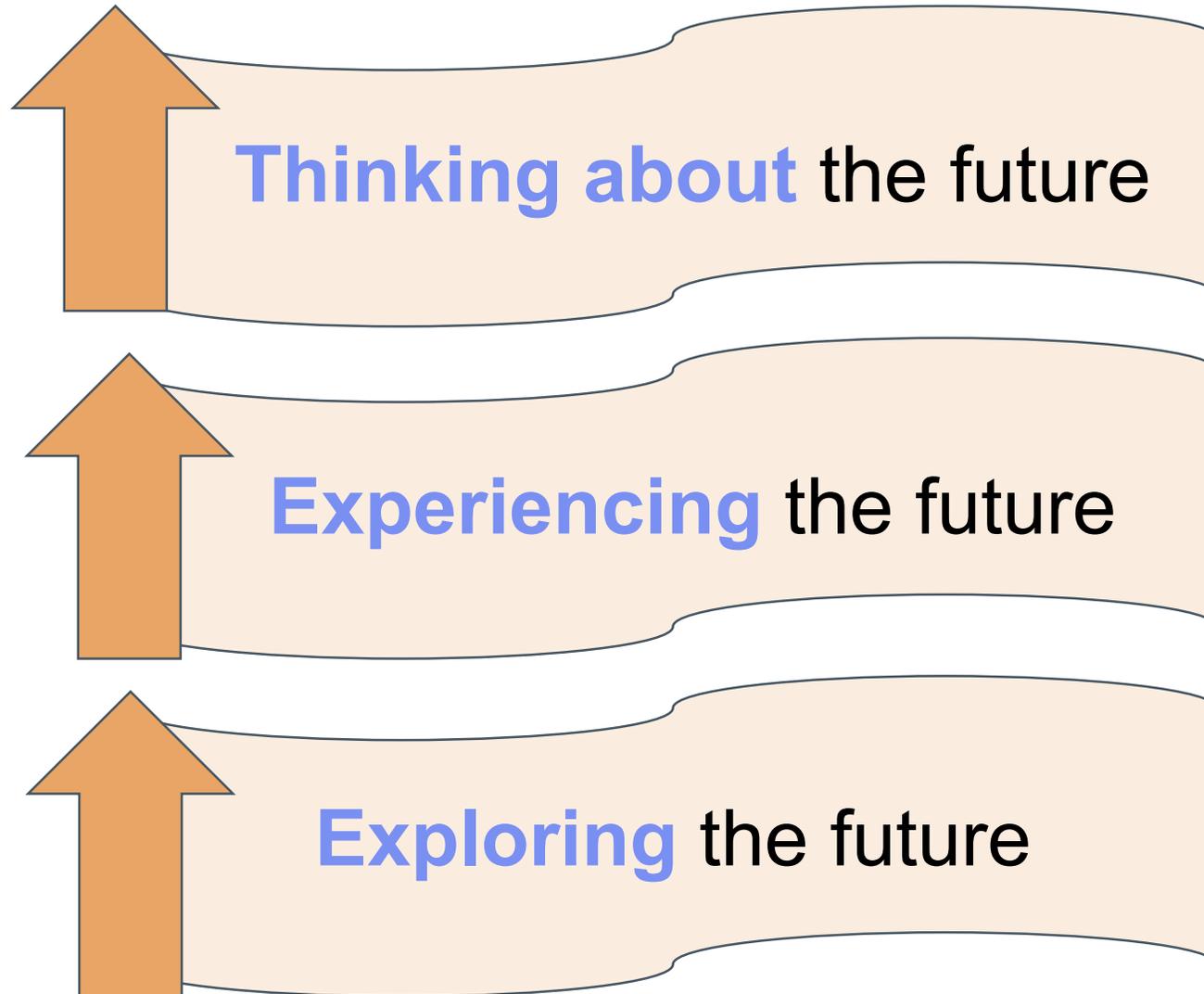
Education Pathways for Lifelong Learning



- ◆ Life-long Upskilling & Reskilling for Employment & Life Improvement
- ◆ Continuing Education for Further Qualifications
- ◆ Undergraduate Degree
- ◆ Sub-degree
- ◆ Compulsory & free education

Modified from Education and Manpower Bureau (2004), Reforming the academic structuring for senior secondary education and higher education – Actions for Investing in the Future, p.6.

Indicators of Career Readiness



Indicators of Career Readiness

A. Exploring the future

- ◆ Career conversation with teachers, family members and friends
- ◆ Engaging with people in work through career talks or job fairs
- ◆ Workplace visits or job shadowing
- ◆ Application and interview skills development activities
- ◆ Occupationally-focused short programmes

Indicators of Career Readiness

B. **Experiencing** the future

- ◆ Part-time work
- ◆ Volunteering

Indicators of Career Readiness

C. Thinking about the future

- ◆ Career certainty – being the ability to name an expected occupation in adulthood
- ◆ Career ambition – being the expectation of working in a professional or managerial role
- ◆ Career alignment – being where the educational plans of a student can typically be regarded as appropriate for entry to their occupational expectation
- ◆ Instrumental motivation towards school – being where students acknowledge that their education will be useful for their working lives

Criticisms of Career Education



Are we on the right track?

1. Takes time away from core academic subjects?
2. Pressures students to pursue work immediately after high school rather than postsecondary education?
3. Topic not appropriate at elementary and secondary levels?
4. Programs not systematic and coordinated?

Career Development Interventions in the Elementary Schools - PowerPoint PPT Presentation (n.d.).

Criticisms of Career Education (HK)

- ◆ 使唔使專登及咁早做？做都有用？成效成疑？
- ◆ 你教佢勤力讀書就得啦，咁先有前途。興趣？有錢嘅人就可以講。
- ◆ 咁早就開始講人生規劃？明年去邊間學校都唔知啦！
- ◆ 佢（個仔）識得乜。今日話種菜，明天話踢波，見人做乜佢就想做乜，我就叫佢勤力D，就做到醫生，大把錢又幫到人。
- ◆ 甚麼都可以「話」係生涯規劃啦！
- ◆ 佢鍾意揸巴士就叫佢揸巴士，咁唔使讀書啦！
- ◆ 唔緊要，最緊要入到去名校入大學，唔好去D職訓學院就得啦！
- ◆ 只係講興趣，係咪唔使講現實呀，Miss/亞Sir！
- ◆ 做乜嘢唔緊要，最緊要對得住自己/家人/社會/？
- ◆ （老師）佢亞媽唔會咁教囉！

Criticisms of Career Education (HK)

◆ 估唔估東谷及咁早做？做都冇用？成效成疑？

◆ **Wisdom from**
◆ **critical comments**
◆ **Any hidden agenda?**

講。

想做乜，我就叫

◆ 世麼都可以「話」你生涯祝到啦！

◆ 佢鍾意揸巴士就叫佢打 **For life / for living ?**

◆ 唔緊要，最緊要入到去名校入大學 **Right / Wrong ?**

◆ 只係講興趣，係咪唔使講現實呀，MISS/LEWIS ?

◆ 做乜嘢唔緊要，最緊要對得住自己/家人/社會/？ **Discrepancies ?**

◆ (老師) 佢亞媽唔會咁教囉！

At the heart of life experience.....

is understanding and learning firsthand about yourself, others around you, and your world. (LMS Hero, n.d.)



At Primary Level ...

Parent's Involvement

KEY Learning Tasks

Teachers' Role

LMS Hero (n.d.)

Outline

Compare Life Planning Curriculum in Elementary Level
in Different Places –
Core Learning Components - 5 mins

Implementation of Life Planning Education in Hong Kong
Key Issues and Concerns - 10 mins

Challenges and Opportunities ...

**Compare Life Planning Curriculum in
Elementary Level in Different Places –
Core Learning Components**

Career Guidance in US (E.g., Georgia / Washington)

American School Counselors Association [↗](#)
Missouri School Counselors Association [↗](#)

Comprehensive Guidance & Counseling eLearning Center

Linking School Success with Life Success.

Academic Development ★ MORE MATERIALS

Career Development ★ MORE MATERIALS

Personal & Social Development ★ MORE MATERIALS

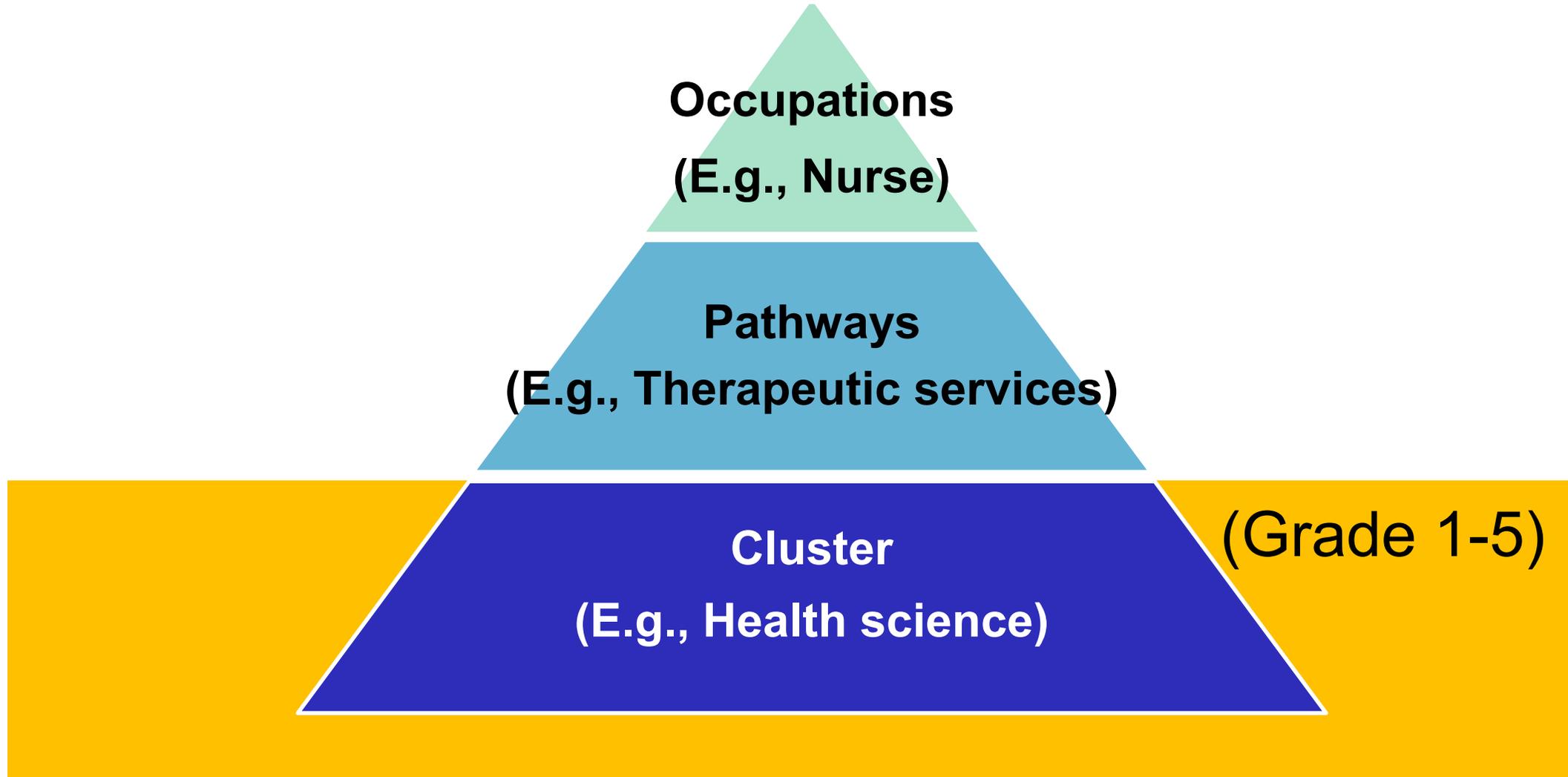
About Comprehensive Guidance & Counseling

- Guidance Curriculum
- Individual Student Planning
- Responsive Services
- System Support
- Evaluation: Program + Personnel = Results

National Standards for School Counseling Programs (Career Development Domain)

- ◆ Standard A: Students will acquire the skills to investigate the world of work in relation to knowledge of self and to make informed career decisions.
- ◆ Standard B: Students will employ strategies to achieve future career goals with success and satisfaction.
- ◆ Standard C: Students will understand the relationship between personal qualities, education, training, and the world of work.

From Grade 1 to 5 (State of Georgia, US)



From Grade 1 to 5 (State of Georgia, US)

17 Career Clusters:

- Grade 1** Agriculture, food, and Natural resources / Transportation, distribution, and logistics / Law, public safety, and security
- Grade 2** Arts, A/V Technology, and communications / Health science / Education and training
- Grade 3** Hospitality and tourism / Human services / Energy
- Grade 4** STEM / Manufacturing / Business management and administration / Architecture and construction
- Grade 5** Finance / IT / Marketing / Government and public administration

From Grade 1 to 5 (State of Georgia, US)

Activates are designed to assist students and their families with answers to the following questions:

- ◆ **Who am I?** (Aware the world of work; the concept of work/vocation; work opportunities; career-related assessments; expose to all career options*)
- ◆ **Where am I going?** (exploration during the middle grades / Individual Graduation Plan (IGP) by the end of 8th grade)
- ◆ **How am I going to be there?** (career related information; career planning portfolio; coursework selection)

Newfoundland Labrador Career Development Elementary Curriculum Guide 2017

Unit 1 - All About Me

Unit 2 - Me in the World of Work

Unit 3 - Me and my Community

Newfoundland Labrador Education and Early Childhood Education (2017)

5 tips for Accelerating Student Learning

1. **Prioritise content** that is essential for future learning
2. **Personalise instruction** for each student
3. **Monitor** student **progress** and adapt instruction regularly
4. Give teachers the resources they need to help students
5. Bring **students and families** into the conversation

Georgia District Administration (2022)

Career Guidance (Washington, US)

Career guidance strives to:

- Meaningful choices for life
- **At least one adult, at school, who knows and cares about him/her**
- Help students to evaluate and reflect on their own skills, interests, and accomplishments;
- **Involve families** by engaging them in students' decision and plans
- Strengthen community within schools and in the surrounding neighbourhood by offering **meaningful volunteer service and leadership opportunities**

Individual
Support &
Planning

Talent
Development

Family
Involvement

Collaboration
&
Engagement

Implementation of Life Planning Education in Hong Kong

Key Issues

Talent Development

Life Planning

Career and Life Planning

Career

Occupation

Vocation

Job

Life Planning Education – Primary Schools: Implementing Life Planning Education at Upper Primary Level

1. Self-understanding and development: Students can understand themselves and the external influences on life planning;
2. Study pathways/career exploration: Students can explore the opportunities, constraints and options available for study and career development;
3. Planning and management of further studies: Students are assisted to plan and make choices about further study, work out the implementation plan and put it into practice.

Of the three core elements, “Self-understanding and development” should receive the greatest emphasis.

Cheung, R. (2021)

Life Planning

Study Pathways / Career Exploration
Planning and Management of Further Studies

Self Understanding

&

Talent Development



Career

Occupation

Vocation

Job

Clap Project

4 Pillars of CLAP



Engagement

- Motivate, develop positive attitudes and hope



Self-understanding & Development

- Identify interest, values, talents and circumstances



Pathway Exploration

- Explore multiple pathways (different forms of work/study)



Career Planning & Management

- Develop relevant skills
- Set action plans and prepare for transitions

Area	A. 啟發參與 Engagement	B. 認識自我及發展 Self-Understanding	C. 探索出路 Career Exploration	D. 生涯規劃及管理 Career Planning and Management
self	A1. 自我區分及內在意義 Self-Differentiation and Intrinsic Meaning	B1. 尋夢熱忱 Aspiration Building	C1. 生涯規劃初探 Basics of Career and Life Planning	D1. 回顧反思及目標訂定 Review and Goal Setting
	A2. 自我效能及結連 Self-Efficacy and Connectedness	B2. 性格、興趣與能力 Interests, Personalities and Strengths	C2. 探索多元出路資訊 Exploring Information on Multiple Pathways	D2. 決策技巧 Decision Making Skills
	A3. 扭曲信念與樂觀感 Distorted Beliefs and Optimism	B3. 信念與價值 Beliefs and Values	C3. 生活技能:自我管理 Life Skills on Self-Management	D3. 建立個人事業檔案 Building Personal and Career Profiling
	A4. 提升動機與參與 Motivation and Participation	B4. 情緒及人際關係 EQ and Interpersonal Relationship	C4. 事業發展及學習經驗 Career Development	D4. 專業預備 Professional Readiness
	A5. 歸因成功與失敗 Attribution of Success and Failure	B5. 環境及文化對我的影響 Influence from Environment		角色及工作多面 Multiple Roles and Notions of
	A6. 逆境與抗逆力 Adversity and Resilience	B6. 敘事解惑人生 Creating Life Stories		工作及參與實踐 Work and Participation in Practice
society	E. 香港工作處境 (Work Context in HK Today) E1 打工大環境 E2 創業苦與樂 E3 自由也自在 E1 The Encounters of Employee E2 The Ups and Downs of Entrepreneur E3 The Adventures of Freelancer			

Intrinsic
Motivation

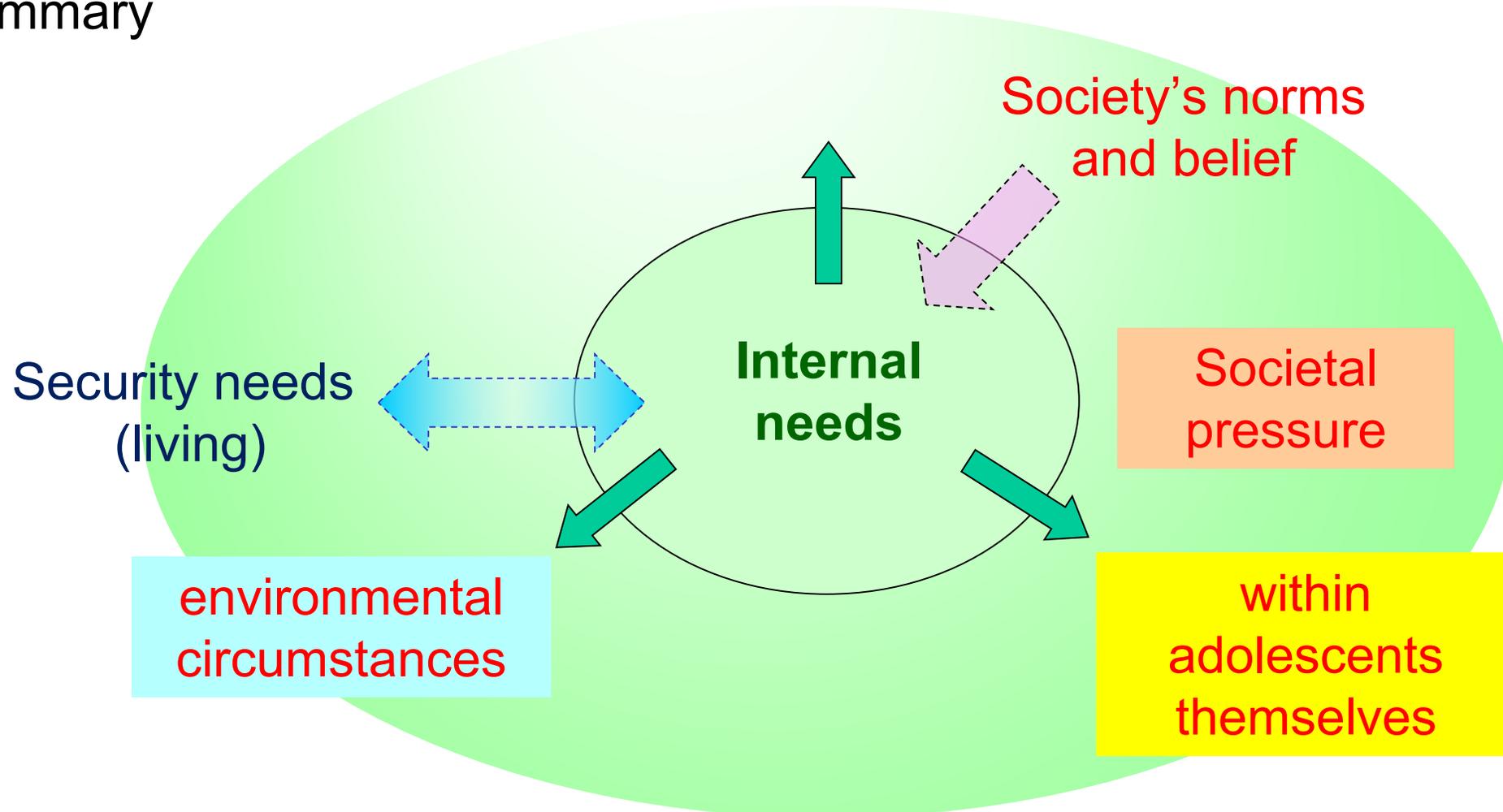
Implementation of Life Planning Education in Hong Kong **Concerns**

Question for you:

To what extent we
respect students'
career choices and life planning?

Three major sources of pressure to choose a vacation

Summary



Different views on vocation

1. An adolescent with a philosophical frame of mind: Vocation is one channel through which **his life goals** and purposes might be fulfilled
 - Vocational choice not only involves “How can I make a living?” but also implies “What am I going to do with my life?”
2. An adolescent whose concerns is to meet the needs of people or **bettering the society** in which he lives
 - Career choice will depend on the needs he recognizes as most importance

Rice, F.P. (1992)

Different views on vocation

3. An adolescent **without rational choice**

- Find a well-paid job; Friends' recommendation;

4. An adolescent choose **not to work at all**

- Against the values exemplified in the lives of adults and the values of their society;
- Reduce the need for money as much as possible and lead simple lives;
- The most important thing to him/her is the freedom to do as he/she pleased.

Examine your role ...

Value free?

Value sharing?

Value judgement?

Value indoctrination?

Reflections

Teachers' role

- ◆ Facilitator
- ◆ Listener
- ◆ Maximise opportunity for self exploration / career exploration
- ◆ Work with the family
- ◆ Self awareness and seek opportunities for self-development as a person

Challenges and Opportunities ...

How to make good use of value-added elements?

Understanding

ability / life challenges / value system / family issues

Collaboration among student support services

Referral / Follow up / Parent education

Individual Planning / Supporting Services

In Early Stage of Life Development

E.g., Early childhood / primary level

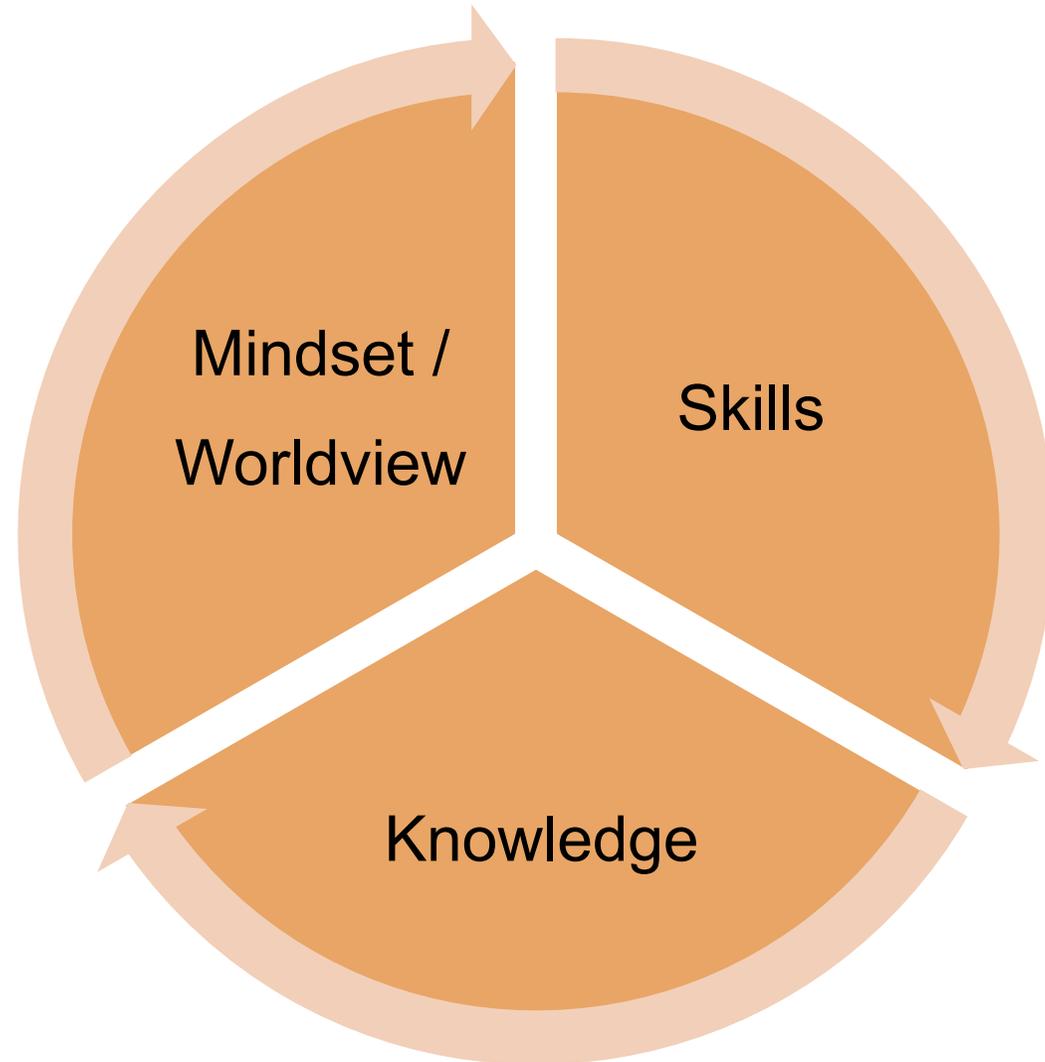
Identity acceptance

Talent development

Motivation for development

Formation of value system

Preparing Primary Students for Workplace



Preparing Primary Students for Workplace

- ◆ Mindset / Worldview: value, manner, motivation, dependence or independence
- ◆ Skills: 4 Cs (Communication, Critical thinking, Creativity & Collaboration), management, reflection, logic, problem solving, priority, following instruction
- ◆ Knowledge: literacy and numeracy

I have had the good fortune to be able to do the things that fascinate me in their own right and not just as a means of earning a living, that I could be involved in those. And I have not retired, and I don't intend to.

Henry A. Kissinger

You cannot predict your path

你不可能預計你人生的路途

but you can try to be as prepared as possible for the opportunities

但你可以盡力預備自己去把握機會

as well as the disappointments

尚有面對失望

Your ability to think critically and creatively – is your greatest asset.

具批判的思考力和創意能力是你畢生最大的資產

Ben S. Bernake

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THANK YOU!