

## **Education Bureau Circular Memorandum No. 167/2014**

From: Secretary for Education

To: Supervisors / Heads of all aided, government and caput secondary schools, secondary schools under the Direct Subsidy Scheme and special schools with secondary classes

Ref.: EDB(CD/C&S)/SC/1/1/1 (3)

Date: 24 November 2014

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### **Continual Renewal from Strength to Strength: Launch of the Consultation on “New Academic Structure Medium-term Review and Beyond”**

#### **Summary**

This circular memorandum (CM) announces the launch of a 3-month consultation on the “New Academic Structure (NAS) Medium-term Review and Beyond” from 24 November 2014 to 28 February 2015, including a School Survey for school leaders and teachers which ends on 6 January 2015.

#### **Background**

2. In 2000, the Government accepted the Education Commission’s proposal to reform the education system of Hong Kong to enable our students to succeed in the knowledge-based, constantly changing and increasingly globalised world. The basic education reform was then launched in 2001/02, followed by the implementation of the NAS in 2009/10. Building on the aims of education for whole-person development and life-long learning in basic education, the senior secondary curriculum continues to pursue the seven learning goals for our students.

3. The ongoing curriculum renewal cycle is part of the NAS Review which aims at responding to the changes at a more macro level such as economic, scientific and technological developments over the past years in our society and around the world, as well as addressing the practical concerns faced by schools in the implementation of the senior secondary curriculum. Building on the strength of the basic education reform, the smooth implementation of the NAS, the fine-tuning recommendations of the NAS Short-term Review in April 2013 (EDBCM No. 48/2013) and the first batch of recommendations of the NAS Medium-term Review in April 2014 (EDBCM No. 63/2014), this review, which continues to be jointly launched by the Education Bureau (EDB), the

Curriculum Development Council (CDC), and the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (HKEAA), is a process of continual renewal that encompasses the further review of the curriculum and assessment of subjects on whether the aims of education can be achieved, as well as the holistic review of School-based Assessment to address issues of cross-subject coordination and workload.

## **Details**

4. The NAS Medium-term Review continues to adopt a student-centred approach and the same set of guiding principles below:

- Gear all curricula towards achieving the overall learning goals for secondary education;
- Keep abreast of the latest changes in the disciplines of knowledge, economic, social and technological contexts, etc. with regular international benchmarking and recognition;
- Strike a balance between breadth and depth in knowledge, skills, positive values and attitudes in school curricula appropriate to secondary education and interface with further studies;
- Cater for student diversity and build on strengths (e.g. personal effort, student interest, teaching method and curriculum content are recognised by students as most important factors for success in senior secondary education);
- Consider factors and concerns regarding implementation (e.g. workload of teachers and students, support to teachers);
- Align assessment with curriculum aims, learning objectives, curriculum design and expected learning outcomes; and
- Engage different stakeholders and consider the feedback collected from different sources to inform deliberations in relevant CDC and HKEAA committees.

## **Consultation and Engagement**

5. The consultation will last from 24 November 2014 to 28 February 2015. The EDB, the CDC and the HKEAA will jointly hold seminars, briefing sessions and focus group meetings with stakeholders such as principals, teachers, tertiary institutions, parents and employers to collect their views and feedback. A School Survey comprising the School Leaders Questionnaire and 17 subject-level questionnaires will be conducted from 24 November 2014 to 6 January 2015. The School Leaders Questionnaire aims to collect views from school principals and vice-principals on system- and school-level issues, while the subject-level questionnaires are to collect views from subject panel heads

and teachers on the curriculum and assessment issues of 17 subjects, namely Chinese Literature, English Language, Literature in English, Mathematics, Liberal Studies, Chinese History, Economics, Ethics and Religious Studies, Geography, History, Tourism and Hospitality Studies, Health Management and Social Care, Information and Communication Technology, Technology and Living, Music, Visual Arts and Physical Education. Some subjects with fine-tuning measures introduced in the NAS Short-term Review or the first batch of recommendations of the NAS Medium-term Review will be implemented as scheduled. Further communication with stakeholders will be conducted as appropriate.

6. The feedback collected from this School Survey, in conjunction with the feedback collected from other channels, will be consolidated to inform deliberations at the Joint CDC-HKEAA Public Examinations Board meeting. The last batch of Medium-term recommendations is expected to be announced in July 2015. Following the announcement of the recommendations, review of all senior secondary subjects should be conducted on a regular basis taking into consideration the subjects' needs and the regular curriculum and assessment development cycle.

7. All the questionnaires of the School Survey (English version) have been uploaded to the NAS Review webpage on the EDB website ([www.edb.gov.hk/nas/review/en](http://www.edb.gov.hk/nas/review/en)). Schools are expected to receive hard copies (English version) by post by end November. The Chinese version will be uploaded later. In tandem with the launch of the School Survey, a series of briefing sessions will be held in November and December 2014 in which the EDB and the HKEAA will explain the recommendations, answer questions and collect feedback from school leaders and teachers. Please refer to the Appendix for details. Schools may register for the sessions through the Training Calendar System. School principals and teachers are encouraged to contribute their professional advice and collaboration in responding to the questionnaires in the best interest of student learning and schools. We should be grateful if your school could complete and return the School Leaders Questionnaire and the relevant subject-level questionnaires together to the Council and Secondary Section of the EDB (Room 1302, 13/F, Wu Chung House, 213 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong) by hand on or before 6 January 2015.

8. We would like to express our sincerest appreciation for your support in providing us with generous responses in our past surveys. We look forward to receiving feedback from you and your teaching staff in the present School Survey. The 3-month consultation on the "New Academic Structure (NAS) Medium-term Review and Beyond" is to be conducted from 24 November 2014 to 28 February 2015. The public are welcome to express their views via email ([nasreview@edb.gov.hk](mailto:nasreview@edb.gov.hk)) on the designated NAS

Review website ([www.edb.gov.hk/nas/review/en](http://www.edb.gov.hk/nas/review/en)). Please visit the NAS Web Bulletin ([www.edb.gov.hk/nas/en](http://www.edb.gov.hk/nas/en)) or the designated NAS Review website ([www.edb.gov.hk/nas/review/en](http://www.edb.gov.hk/nas/review/en)) for the latest developments.

Stephen YW YIP  
for Secretary for Education

c.c. Heads of Sections --- for information

**“New Academic Structure Medium-term Review and Beyond”**

**Briefing Sessions on the School Survey**

**「新學制中期檢討及前瞻」學校問卷調查簡介會**

**Schedule /時間表**

	<b>Date 日期</b>	<b>Subject 科目</b>	<b>TCS Course ID 培訓行事曆課程編號</b>	<b>Venue 地點</b>	<b>Time 時間</b>
1	22 Nov 2014 (Sat)	Chinese History 中國歷史	CDI020150497	Ying Wa College, 1 Ying Wa Street, Shamshuipo, KLN  九龍深水埗英華街 1 號英華書院	10:00 - 12:15
2	24 Nov 2014 (Mon)	English Language 英國語文	CDI020141273	School Hall, Queen's College, 120 Causeway Road, HK  香港銅鑼灣高士威道 1 2 0 號皇仁書 院禮堂	15:00 - 17:00
3	24 Nov 2014 (Mon)	Ethics and Religious Studies 倫理與宗教	CDI020141264	WP01, West Block, EDB Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre, 19 Suffolk Road, Kowloon Tong, KLN  九龍塘沙福道 19 號教育局九龍塘教 育服務中心西座 WP01	16:00 - 17:00
4	25 Nov 2014 (Tue)	Mathematics 數學	CDI020150751	Lecture Hall, 9/F Auditorium, The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups Building, 21 Pak Fuk Road, North Point, HK  北角百福道 21 號香港青年協會大廈 9 樓演講廳	15:00 - 17:00
5	25 Nov 2014 (Tue)	Visual Arts 視覺藝術	CDI020141288	W321, 3/F., West Block, EDB Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre, 19 Suffolk Road, Kowloon  九龍沙福道 19 號教育局九龍塘教 育服務中心西座 3 樓 W321 室	14:30 - 16:00
6	26 Nov 2014 (Wed)	Literature in English 英語文學	CDI020141274	W425, West Block, EDB Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre, 19 Suffolk Road, Kowloon Tong, KLN  九龍塘沙福道 19 號教育局九龍塘教 育服務中心西座 3 樓 W425 室	15:00 - 17:00
7	26 Nov 2014 (Wed)	Geography 地理	CDI020141260	School Hall, HKSYP & IA Chan Nam Chong Memorial College, 12 King Cho Road, Cho Yiu Chuen, Kwai Chung, NT  新界葵涌祖堯邨敬祖路 12 號香港四 邑商工總會陳南昌紀念中學禮堂	15:00 - 17:00

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8	26 Nov 2014 (Wed)	School Survey (for Principals/ Vice-Principals) 學校問卷調查 (校長/副校長)	CDI 020141245	Heung To Middle School, 33 To Yuen Street, Yau Yat Chuen, Kowloon  九龍又一村桃源街 33 號香島中學	14:30 - 16:30
9	27 Nov 2014 (Thu)	Liberal Studies 通識教育科	CDI020141267	Lecture Theatre, 4/F, West Block, EDB Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre, 19 Suffolk Road, Kowloon Tong, KLN  九龍塘沙福道 19 號教育局九龍塘教 育服務中心西座 4 樓演講廳	14:30 - 16:30
10	27 Nov 2014 (Thu)	Information and Communication Technology 資訊及通訊科 技	CDI020141224	Lam Tai Fai College, 25 Ngan Shing Street, Shatin, NT  新界沙田銀城街 25 號林大輝中學	14:30 - 16:30
11	27 Nov 2014 (Thu)	Music 音樂	CDI020141254	W321, West Block, EDB Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre, 19 Suffolk Road, KLN  九龍沙福道 19 號教育局九龍塘教 育服務中心西座 W321 室	16:00 - 18:00
12	28 Nov 2014 (Fri)	Visual Arts 視覺藝術	CDI020141288	Conference Hall, 4/F, Hong Kong Productivity Council Building, 78 Tat Chee Avenue, KLN  香港九龍達之路 78 號生產力大樓 4 樓會議廳	14:30 - 16:00
13	29 Nov 2014 (Sat)	History 歷史	CDI020150432	School Hall, Belilios Public School, 51 Tin Hau Temple Road, HK  香港天后廟道 51 號庇理羅士女子中 學禮堂	9:30 - 12:30
14	2 Dec 2014 (Tue)	Physical Education 體育	CDI020141262	School Hall, Ho Lap College (Sponsored by the Sik Sik Yuen), 15 Tseuk Luk Street, KLN  九龍爵祿街 15 號 可立中學 (齋色園 主辦) 禮堂	15:00 - 17:00
15	3 Dec 2014 (Wed)	Liberal Studies 通識教育科	CDI020141267	Lecture Hall, Ho Tim Building, The Chinese University of Hong Kong  香港中文大學何添樓演講廳	14:30 - 16:30
16	3 Dec 2014 (Wed)	Economics 經濟	CDI020141258	Lecture Theatre, 4/F, West Block, EDB Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre, 19 Suffolk Road, Kowloon Tong, KLN  九龍塘沙福道 19 號教育局九龍塘教 育服務中心西座 4 樓演講廳	14:30 - 17:30

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17	3 Dec 2014 (Wed)	Tourism and Hospitality Studies 旅遊與款待	CDI020141261	Hong Kong Space Museum Lecture Hall, 10 Salisbury Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, KLN 九龍尖沙咀梳士巴利道 10 號香港太 空館演講廳	15:45 - 17:15
18	3 Dec 2014 (Wed)	Technology and Living 科技與生活	CDI020141292	W303, 3/F, West Block, EDB Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre, 19 Suffolk Road, Kowloon Tong, KLN 九龍塘沙福道 19 號教育局九龍塘教 育服務中心西座 3 樓 W303 室	15:00 - 16:30
19	6 Dec 2014 (Sat)	Liberal Studies 通識教育科	CDI020141267	WP01, West Block, EDB Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre, 19 Suffolk Road, Kowloon Tong, KLN 九龍塘沙福道 19 號教育局九龍塘教 育服務中心西座 WP01	9:30 – 11:30
20	9 Dec 2014 (Tue)	Chinese Literature 中國文學	CDI020141302	WP01, West Block, EDB Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre, 19 Suffolk Road, Kowloon Tong, KLN 九龍塘沙福道 19 號教育局九龍塘教 育服務中心西座 WP01	14:00 - 14:45
21	10 Dec 2014 (Wed)	Health Management and Social Care 健康管理與社 會關懷	CDI020141256	W134, 3/F, West Block, EDB Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre, 19 Suffolk Road, Kowloon Tong, KLN 九龍塘沙福道 19 號教育局九龍塘教 育服務中心西座 3 樓 W134 室	15:00 - 17:00