

Overview of the New Senior Secondary Academic Structure and Curriculum

26 September 2009



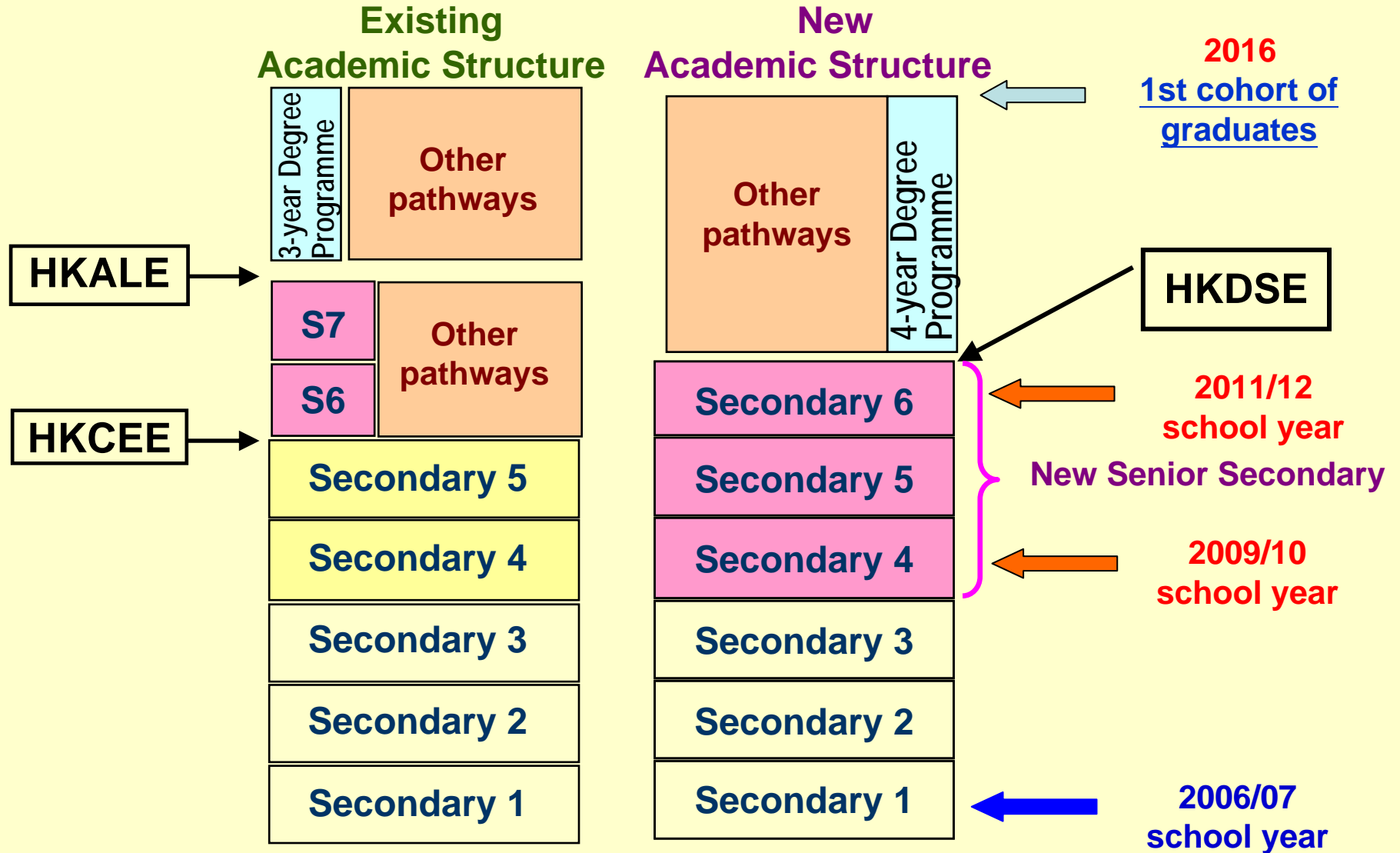
Education Bureau

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

The New Senior Secondary (NSS) Curriculum

Implemented in the 2009/10 school year

Comparison of the Existing Academic Structure and New Academic Structure



NSS Curriculum -

Promote all round development

Provide diversified learning opportunities

4 Core Subjects

Chinese Language
English Language
Mathematics
Liberal Studies



2 or 3 Elective Subjects

2 or 3 subjects
chosen from NSS
elective subjects, or
from Applied Learning
and/or other language
courses



Other Learning Experiences

Moral and Civic
Education, Community
Service, Aesthetic
Development, Physical
Development and
Career-related
Experiences

45-55%

20-30%

15-35%

*Schools will offer different NSS elective subjects depending on individual schools' context and students' needs. Some schools may also offer ApL courses and/or other language courses.

Key Learning Areas	Subjects (<i>core and elective</i>)
Chinese Language Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chinese Language (<i>core subject</i>) • Chinese Literature
English Language Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English Language (<i>core subject</i>) • Literature in English
Mathematics Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mathematics (<i>core subject</i>) - including the Compulsory Part and 2 Extended Modules: Calculus and Statistics, Algebra and Calculus
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liberal Studies (<i>core subject</i>)
Personal, Social and Humanities Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chinese History • Economics • Ethics and Religious Studies • Geography • History • Tourism and Hospitality Studies
Science Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biology • Chemistry • Physics • Science (Integrated, Combined)
Technology Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business, Accounting and Financial Studies • Design and Applied Technology • Health Management and Social Care • Information and Communication Technology • Technology and Living
Arts Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music • Visual Arts
Physical Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical Education

From Existing Public Exam to New Public Exam

	Existing Academic Structure (HKCEE/HKALE)	New Academic Structure (HKDSE)
Liberal Studies	Elective	LS as a core subject in addition to Chi, Eng, Math
No. of Subjects	HKCEE: 7 – 9 HKALE: 4 – 5	Most students study 6 to 7 subjects (in S4)
Streaming	Streaming into arts/sc/business	Not limited by the arts/sc/business streaming. Choose 2 to 3 elective subjects from different KLAs
Level of Subject	HKCEE & HKALE	Most subjects are of HKCEE level plus one year of HKALE level
Content		About 20% change in subject contents*
OLE	Some students	All students

*except Liberal Studies

Other Learning Experiences (OLE)

- Under the NSS Curriculum, OLE is one of the three components that complement the core and elective subjects
- 15% or more of the curriculum time
- Aiming to develop students' **whole-person development**, foster a broader scope of views and life-long learning abilities for students
- Including learning experiences of
 - Moral and Civic Education,
 - Community Service,
 - Physical Development,
 - Aesthetic Development, and
 - Career-related Experiences.





Student Learning Profile (SLP)

Students telling their own “stories of learning”

- Each senior secondary student is encouraged to build up his/her **own profile** to reflect his/her learning experiences and achievements.
- Suggested content :
 - Academic performance in school
 - Other Learning Experiences
 - Awards/Achievements gained outside school
 - Student Self-account



Liberal Studies – a new core subject in NSS curriculum

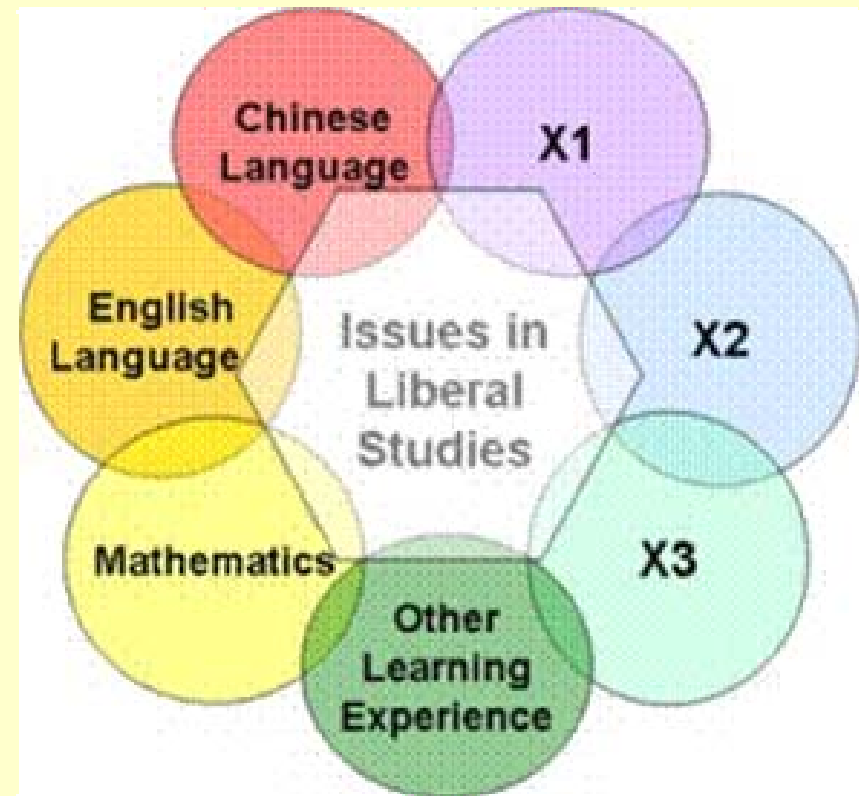
Overview of the subject -

- LS is one of the 4 core subjects.
The other core subjects: Chi, Eng, Math.
- Aims to broaden students' knowledge base and enhance their social awareness through the study of a wide range of issues.
- Provides cross-curricular learning opportunities for all senior secondary students. The learning experiences provided will foster students' capacity for life-long learning, so that they can face the challenges of the future with confidence.
- Takes up no less than 10% of the total lesson time in the overall three-year senior secondary curriculum.

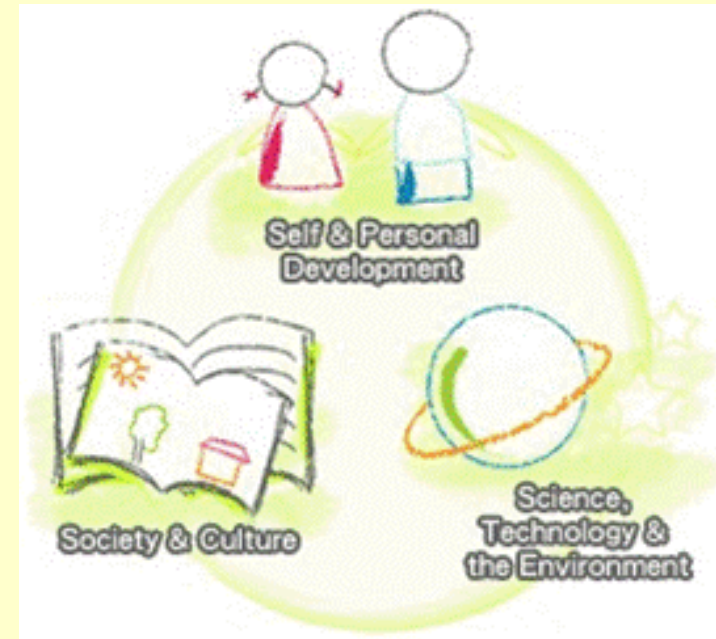
Linkages of LS with Other NSS Subjects

Students have the opportunity to:

- connect knowledge and concepts across different disciplines
- expand their perspectives beyond single disciplines
- study contemporary events not covered in single discipline



3 Areas of Study in LS



Self and Personal Development

Module 1:
Personal Development
& Interpersonal
Relationship

Society and Culture

Module 2:
Hong Kong Today

Module 3:
Modern China

Module 4:
Globalization

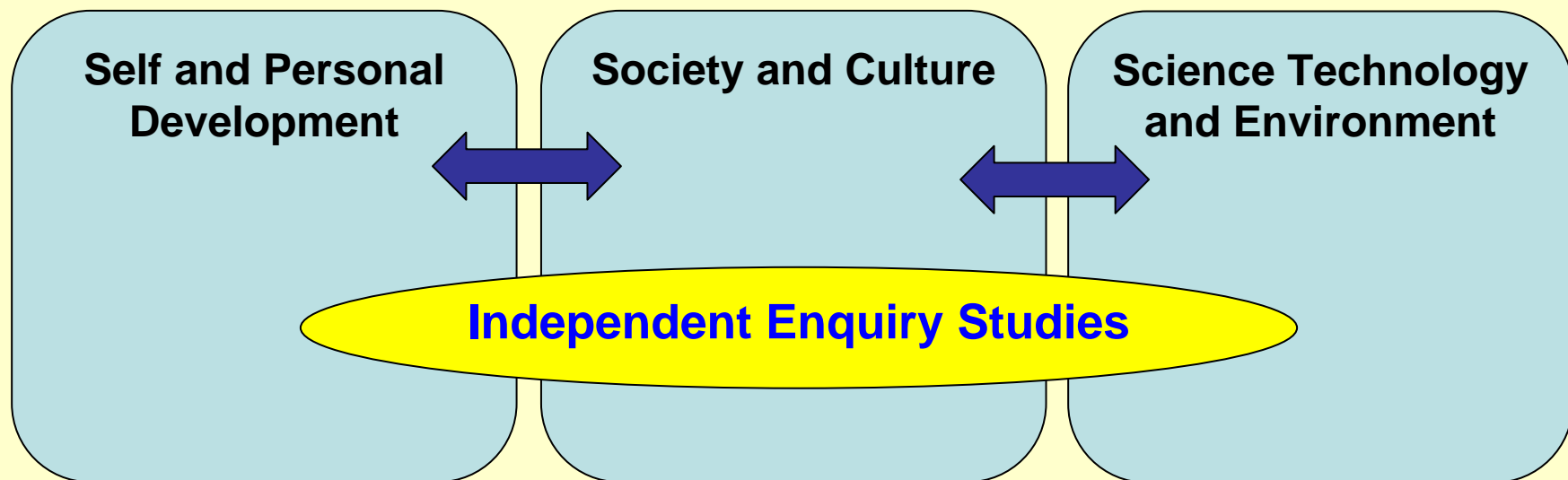
Science Technology and Environment

Module 5:
Public Health

Module 6:
Energy Technology &
the Environment

Independent Enquiry Studies (I.E.S.)

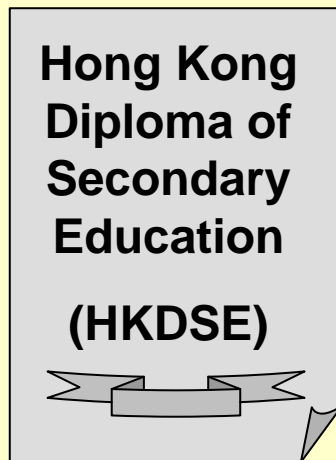
All students are required to conduct an IES making use of the knowledge and perspectives gained from the three Areas of Study and extending them to new issues or contexts.



Students' Multiple Pathways



Multiple Pathways



4-year degree programmes

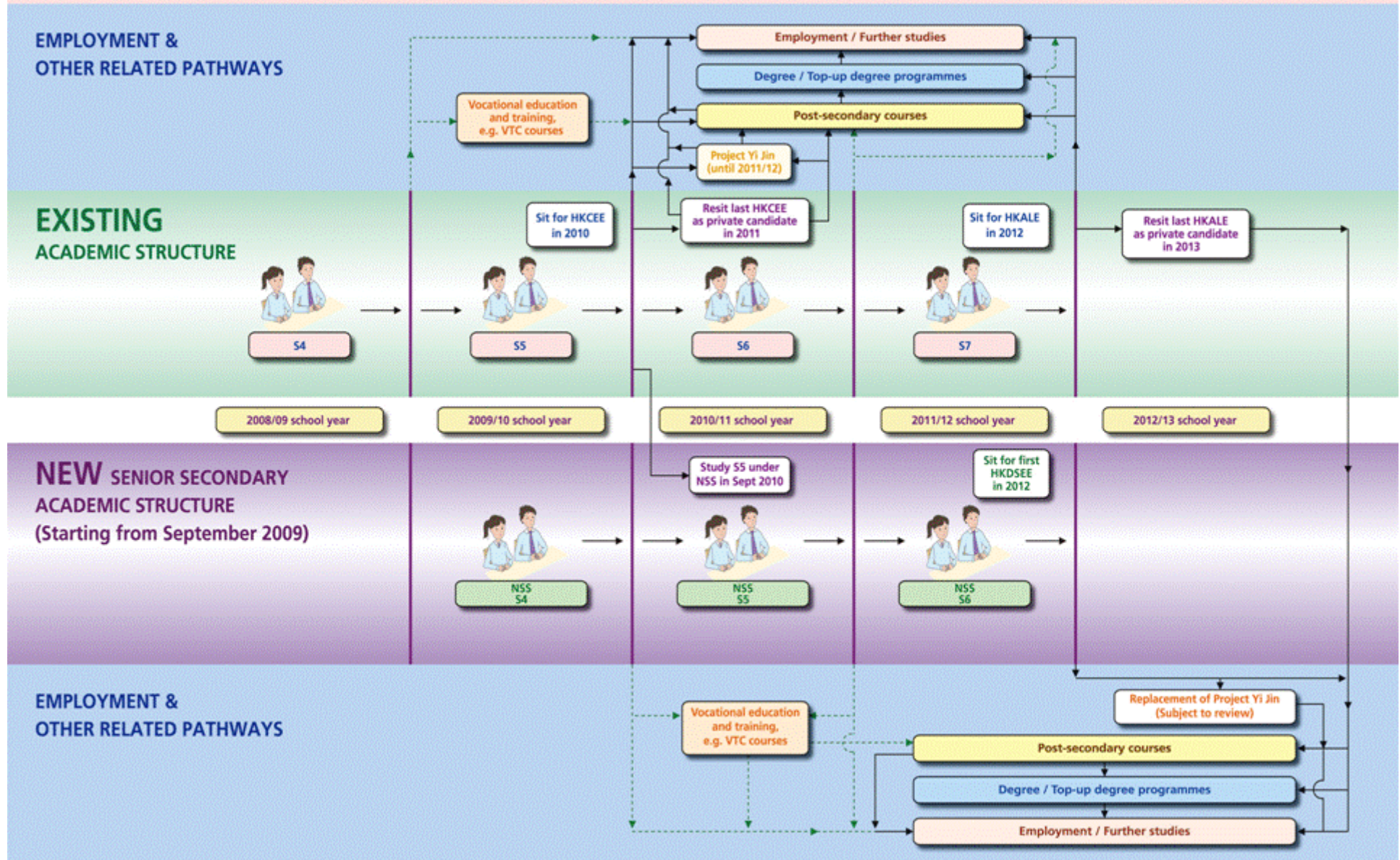
Post-secondary programmes
(including Associate Degree, Higher Diploma)

Vocational education and training
(Diploma and Certificate programmes
offered by the Vocational Training Council
(VTC), the Clothing Industry Training
Authority (CITA), etc.)

Study outside Hong Kong

Employment

Multiple Pathways for Students under the Existing and New Academic Structure



Degree programmes

Top-up degree programmes
Post-secondary courses



Normative 3-year degree programmes for students under the existing academic structure for admission until 2012/13
Normative 4-year degree programmes for students under the new senior secondary academic structure for admission from 2012/13
Programmes that enable sub-degree graduates to "top-up" their qualifications to a bachelor degree
Courses taken by students after secondary education including programmes of Associate Degree, Higher Diploma, Certificate, etc.
Alternative pathways before completing senior secondary education

HKALE Hong Kong Advanced Level Examination
HKCEE Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination
HKDSEE Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination
NSS New Senior Secondary
VTC Vocational Training Council



University Entrance Requirements

(first announced in July 2006; updated in July 2009)

- Most faculties of universities require **4** core subjects + **1** elective subject (specified/non-specified). Some faculties require **4** + **2**.
- In 2012, there will be sufficient places of degree programmes in the universities for students under both existing and new academic structures. There will be **14,500** places for each cohort.



How can parents help their children adapt to their learning in NSS curriculum?

Parents can:

- Provide appropriate **guidance** to their children. Be a role model for them. Educate them with correct value and attitude.
- **Develop** children's positive and independent **attitude for learning**. Let them experience the fruits of learning brought about by their hard work and understand their own learning progress.
- Communicate with the school. Understand children's learning and their difficulties
- In view of the change in curriculum and leaning mode, take appropriate **support measures** to **assist** children's learning.
- Take into consideration of children's **interest** in subject selection. Give them advice.
- Encourage children to establish a **good** reading habit.
- Encourage children to **take part** in OLE (e.g. community service, activities for physical development and aesthetic development) for all-round development.

Communication Channels

- ✓ District-based Parents Seminars
- ✓ Roving Exhibition on “NSS Academic Structure & Curriculum”
- ✓ New Academic Structure “334” Web Bulletin
- ✓ NSS School Information Network (in the NAS “334” Web Bulletin)
- ✓ NSS Information Kit
- ✓ DVDs on NSS curriculum
- ✓ FAQ Booklets
- ✓ Parents Pamphlets



New Publications



The latest version of

- ✓ **New Academic Structure – Parents Handbook**
(English Version)
- ✓ **New Academic Structure – Useful Tips for Parents (Volume 6)**
(English Version)

will be released in **October 2009**.

Contact Us



New Academic structure “334” Web Bulletin

<http://www.edb.gov.hk/334>

Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority

<http://www.hkeaa.edu.hk>

Thank you !



***Let us join hands to build a
bright future for our students***