

**EDUCATION BUREAU**  
**CIRCULAR MEMORANDUM NO. 103/2024**

From: Secretary for Education

To: Supervisors and Heads of secondary schools  
(excluding English Schools  
Foundation schools and international schools)

Ref.: (1) to EDB(CD/C&S2)/COM/1/1(2)

Date: 7 June 2024

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**The Results Release Day of  
the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination on 17 July 2024**

**Summary**

This circular memorandum aims to introduce the information and support measures for Secondary 6 (S6) students and related stakeholders provided by the Education Bureau (EDB) so as to assist schools to prepare for the results release day of the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) Examination on 17 July 2024.

**Details**

2. To help S6 students continue with further studies and/ or work, schools are advised to prepare for the results release and support their students continuously prior to and after the HKDSE Examination results release day.

3. The EDB has updated the “Designated Webpage for Secondary 6 Students” website and its “Reminders for 2024 HKDSE Exam and Exam Results Release” infographics to provide S6 students, parents and schools with the latest information on multiple pathways and details on various support and counselling services. Moreover, S6 students and parents can search for local programme information including degrees, sub-degrees, the Diploma of Applied Education, etc. at the “e-Navigator” website or the “e-Navigator” mobile application as downloaded via smartphone for working out appropriate further studies plans.

4. For details of preparation work for the results release day and the multiple pathways for S6 students, please refer to **Annex**. For the arrangements of the HKDSE Examination results release, please refer to the latest announcement on the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (HKEAA) website ([www.hkeaa.edu.hk/en/](http://www.hkeaa.edu.hk/en/)).



**Enquiries**

5. For enquiries, please contact Ms Ulrica CHOI of the Council and Secondary Section 2, Curriculum Development Institute of the EDB on 2892 6460.

Ms Angela CHUNG  
for Secretary for Education

c.c. Heads of Sections

## Preparation for the 2024 HKDSE Examination Results Release Day and Multiple Pathways for S6 Students

### 1. Preparation for the 2024 HKDSE Examination results release day

The EDB provides S6 students, parents and schools with support measures as below to facilitate their early preparation for the results release day.



- *“Designated Webpage for Secondary 6 Students”*: S6 students and parents can obtain the latest information on the exam results release day, multiple pathways, counselling and support measures at this one-stop website ([www.edb.gov.hk/s6/en](http://www.edb.gov.hk/s6/en)) and its “Reminders for 2024 HKDSE Exam and Exam Results Release” infographics.
- *“e-Navigator”*: S6 students and parents can input their predicted or actual HKDSE Examination results at this website or mobile application (<https://enavigator.edb.hkedcity.net/main/index.php?lang=en>) to search for local programme information including degrees, sub-degrees, the Diploma of Applied Education, etc. for which they meet the minimum entrance requirements for working out appropriate further studies plans.
- *Parents’ Seminar on “Get Prepared for the Release of HKDSE Examination Results - the Latest Information on Multiple Pathways”*: To provide updates on multiple pathways to parents of S6 students, the EDB will organise this online parents’ seminar (Chinese version only) on 12 June 2024. Relevant presentation slides and information will be uploaded to the “One-stop Portal on Articulation to Multiple Pathways • Transition to Senior Secondary and Post-secondary Education” website (<https://www.edb.gov.hk/amp/en>) in early July 2024 for reference.
- *“Leaflet on Understanding Multiple Pathways at a Glance”*: e-version available at the “Concourse for Self-financing Post-secondary Education” website (<https://www.cspe.edu.hk/en/Resources-CareerGuidance.html>) to provide S6 students with the latest information on career guidance and multiple pathways for further studies.



Telephone enquiry services operated by the HKEAA, Joint University Programmes Admissions System (JUPAS) Office and other non-governmental organisations are available in July 2024. For details, please refer to the “Counselling and Support Services” on the “Designated Webpage for Secondary 6 Students” website.


Schools are strongly advised to provide their students and parents with advice and updated information on the support measures available through different channels before the results release day in July.

## 2. Multiple pathways for S6 students in 2024




Item	Information
<b>2.1 Articulation to local degree programmes</b>	
Admission requirements for local undergraduate programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The general entrance requirements of undergraduate programmes are set at the Level of “332A” in the four core subjects in the HKDSE Examination (i.e. Level 3 in Chinese Language and English Language, Level 2 in Mathematics and “Attained (A)” in Citizenship and Social Development), plus Level 2 or 3 in one/ two elective subjects. Institutions may set additional faculty/ programme requirements in consideration of the specific nature and needs of the programmes, including the number of elective subjects and the required results.</li> <li>• All institutions will continue to accept alternative Chinese qualifications (e.g. ApL(C) (for non-Chinese speaking students), IGCSE, GCSE) for students who have fulfilled the specified conditions.</li> <li>• For details of the admission requirements of institutions/ programmes, please visit the websites of respective institutions. Regarding details of JUPAS application, please visit the JUPAS website (<a href="http://www.jupas.edu.hk/en">www.jupas.edu.hk/en</a>). </li> <li>• Apart from University Grants Committee-funded undergraduate programmes, students may also pursue undergraduate programmes offered by self-financing institutions. Further details are available at “Information Portal for Accredited Post-secondary Programmes” (iPASS) (<a href="http://www.ipass.gov.hk">www.ipass.gov.hk</a>). </li> </ul>






## 2.2 Articulation to Mainland higher education institutions

### Admission to Mainland higher education institutions

- Students can continue to be exempted from taking the Joint Entrance Examination for Universities on the Mainland through the Scheme for Admission of Hong Kong Students to Mainland Higher Education Institutions (“Admission Scheme”). The 138 Mainland higher education institutions participating in the “Admission Scheme” for the 2024/25 academic year will admit Hong Kong students based on their HKDSE Examination results.
- The minimum entrance requirement for admission to the institutions participating in the “Admission Scheme” is “332 A”, i.e. Level 3 in Chinese Language and English Language, Level 2 in Mathematics and “Attained” in Citizenship and Social Development. Institutions may adopt an alternative minimum entrance requirement for students nominated under the School Principal Nomination Scheme, i.e. “Attained” in Citizenship and Social Development and a total score of 8 or above in the three core subjects (i.e. Chinese Language, English Language and Mathematics) among which none of them is below 2.
- The online application and confirmation were completed respectively in March and May this year. Institutions will announce admission results and conduct supplementary enrolment according to the enrolment situation tentatively in late July.
- For the latest details of the “Admission Scheme” and the related Guidelines/ Handbook (Chinese version only), please refer to the EDB website ([www.edb.gov.hk/admissionscheme/](http://www.edb.gov.hk/admissionscheme/)). 

### 2.3 Articulation to local sub-degree programmes, Vocational Training Council (VTC) programmes and appointment in the civil service

(a)	<p>Articulation arrangements &amp; curriculum design for Associate Degrees, Higher Diplomas and VTC programmes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There will be about 24 500 places available for admission to sub-degree programmes (including over 9 000 subsidised Higher Diploma places to be offered by the VTC which are covered below) for the 2024/25 academic year. Students may also pursue other further education programmes under the multiple entry and multiple exit pathways which best suit their aspirations and abilities.</li> <li>• The VTC will offer around 15 000 places in the 2024/25 academic year, including Bachelor’s Degree, Higher Diploma, Diploma of Foundation Studies, Diploma of Vocational Education, and hospitality and culinary-related Diploma/ Certificate programmes.</li> <li>• For details and latest information on the above programmes, please refer to the “Concourse for Self-financing Post-secondary Education” website (<a href="http://www.cspe.edu.hk/en">www.cspe.edu.hk/en</a>). </li> </ul>
(b)	<p>Diploma of Applied Education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Diploma of Applied Education Programme provides an alternative pathway for S6 school leavers as well as adult learners aged 21 or above to obtain a formal qualification to pursue employment and further study. Students can apply for admission to the full-time programme for the 2024/25 academic year through a web-based application system at <a href="http://www.dae.edu.hk">www.dae.edu.hk</a> (Chinese version only) by 4 pm, 15 July 2024. The latest details of the programme and application procedure are available at the above application website (<a href="http://www.dae.edu.hk">www.dae.edu.hk</a>) and the “Diploma of Applied Education Programme” website (<a href="http://www.dip-ae.edu.hk">www.dip-ae.edu.hk</a>).  </li> </ul>

(c)	Apprenticeship Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• S6 school leavers may choose to join as apprentices to undergo normally 3 to 4 years of systematic work-cum-study training at employer’s companies and VTC institutions from over 60 trades in engineering, information technology, transportation and logistics, healthcare services, creative industries, testing and certification, etc. During the apprenticeship, they can acquire professional skills from workplaces and be awarded certificate, diploma or higher diploma qualifications. In addition to the basic salary, eligible apprentices will also receive a monthly allowance. Further details are available at the website of the Office of the Director of Apprenticeship of VTC (<a href="http://apprenticeship.vtc.edu.hk">apprenticeship.vtc.edu.hk</a>). </li> <li>• Some employers may support their apprentices in joining the VTC Earn and Learn Scheme (The Scheme), and eligible apprentices will be provided with financial subsidies and basic salary. Details are available on the Scheme website (<a href="http://www.vtc.edu.hk/earnlearn">www.vtc.edu.hk/earnlearn</a>). </li> </ul>
(d)	Qualification requirements for civil service appointments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The government has accepted the results in the HKDSE Examination for civil service appointment purposes with effect from 20 July 2012. Details are available at the website of the Civil Service Bureau (CSB) (<a href="https://www.csb.gov.hk/english/info/2170.html">https://www.csb.gov.hk/english/info/2170.html</a>). </li> <li>• The Government announced in September 2023 that the result of “Attained” in the Citizenship and Social Development subject in the HKDSE Examination is accepted as meeting the entry requirements of relevant civil service grades. For details, please refer to the press release concerned (<a href="https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202309/22/P2023092200313.htm">https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202309/22/P2023092200313.htm</a>). </li> <li>• For the arrangement of accepting results in the HKDSE Examination as equivalent to the results in the Common Recruitment Examination, please refer to the CSB website (<a href="http://www.csb.gov.hk/english/recruit/cre/949.html">www.csb.gov.hk/english/recruit/cre/949.html</a>). </li> </ul>

## 2.4 Arrangements for repeaters

Arrangements for repeaters

- The EDB reiterates that repetition is not a desirable choice as multiple pathways are provided for the secondary school leavers. However, schools are allowed to admit S6 students of their own or from other schools who wish to repeat S6, should the repetition rate of the whole school not exceed the 5% repeater quota. Under normal circumstances, schools should not allow too many students to repeat at a certain level. A list of schools admitting S6 repeaters from other schools, subjects offered and admission requirements will be released in mid-July at the Life Planning Information Website of the EDB ([lifeplanning.edb.gov.hk/en/](http://lifeplanning.edb.gov.hk/en/)) and the “Designated Webpage for Secondary 6 Students” website ([www.edb.gov.hk/s6/en](http://www.edb.gov.hk/s6/en)).



### 3. Cheer Up Videos

To instil positive energy in S6 students in preparation of the results release day, the Curriculum Development Institute of the EDB has launched a series of cheer up videos which have been uploaded to the “Cheer Up Zone” on the “Designated Webpage for Secondary 6 Students” website by phases (<https://s6.edb.edcity.hk/en/cheerup.php>).



#### List of participating guests in the cheer up videos:

Prof POON Wai-yin, Isabella, JP	Chairperson of the Curriculum Development Council (CDC)
Mr YAU Siu-hung, MH	Deputy Chairman of the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (HKEAA) Council
Dr YIP Chi-sio <sup>^</sup>	Member of the CDC
Mr CHAN Ngai-sang, Kenny, BBS <sup>^</sup>	Member of the HKEAA Council
Mr LAW Chak-ka, Charlie	2023 HKDSE Champion
Mr CHONG Ngai-chun, Adrian <sup>^</sup>	2023 HKDSE Candidate
Mr LAM Hoi-ham	2023 HKDSE Candidate
Mr HARMON Payton James	2023 HKDSE Candidate
Mr YANG Ji-yuan <sup>^</sup>	2023 HKDSE Candidate
Miss NG Elise <sup>^</sup>	Student of Post-secondary institution

<sup>^</sup> Videos concerned to be launched in mid-July