

Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (HKDSE)

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HKDSE Certificate

At least one subject achieved:

Category A subject Level 1 or above (For CS: Attained)

Category B subject Attained or above

Category C subject*

*Starting from the 2025 HKDSE, candidates will be required to take the stipulated language examinations, i.e. French, German, Hindi, Japanese, Spanish & Urdu (from 2026 HKDSE) administered in Hong Kong by the official organisations which are the official providers of the language examinations concerned. Candidates' results obtained in these examinations at the stipulated proficiency level or above will be included as the HKDSE Category C results and reported on the HKDSE certificate.





International Recognition of HKDSE

over 600

Overseas institutions have recognised the HKDSE 138

Mainland higher education institutions directly admit

130

Institutions in Taiwan accept applications from students with HKDSE qualification



www.hkeaa.edu.hk/en/recognition/hkdse_recognition/



The Reporting System - Category A Subjects

Candidates' performance in Category A subjects is reported in five levels*

Level 5 is the highest level. Candidates with the best performance in level 5 will be awarded 5**, the next top level 5 candidates will be awarded 5*

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2

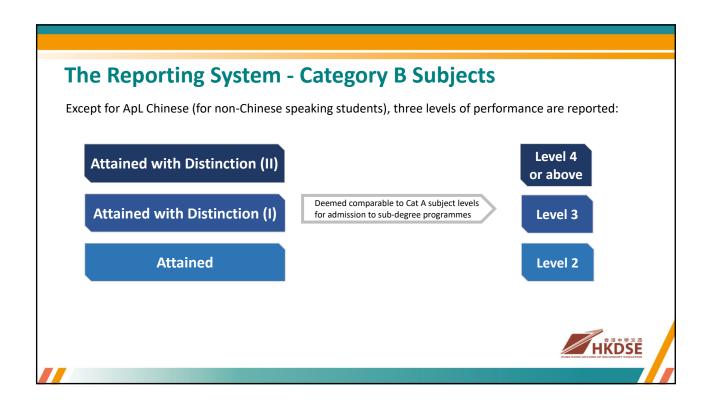
Candidates who are not able to attain level 1 will be labeled as 'Unclassified'

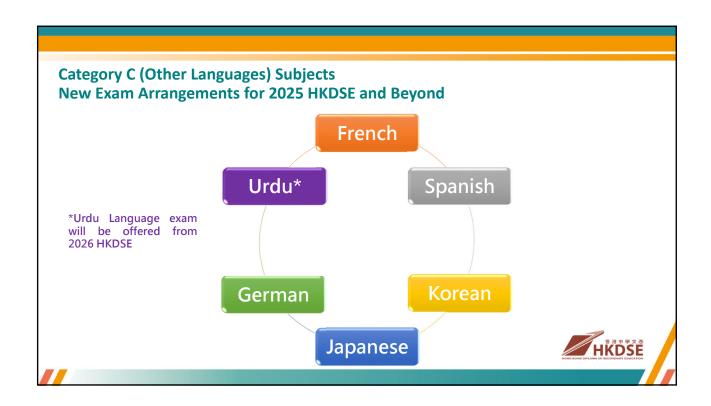
Standards-referenced Reporting system:

- Candidates' levels are reported with reference to a set of explicit and fixed standards of performance
- Level Descriptors and exemplars are provided to indicate standards required for each level
- Facilitate tertiary institutions and employers to set appropriate entrance/ job requirements

*The results of Citizenship and Social Development are reported in one level: Attained







New Exam Arrangements

- Candidates have to take the stipulated language examinations administered in Hong Kong by the official organisations
- Candidates will have to enroll directly with the administrators of the stipulated language examinations and opt for the respective Category C subject during HKDSE registration
- Candidates' results obtained in these examinations at the stipulated proficiency level or above will be included in the HKDSE Category C results
- Candidates may take the language examinations more than once within the two years
 preceding the HKDSE they sit (for example, for the 2025 HKDSE, candidates may take
 the language examinations in 2023 and 2024, and should complete the examinations by
 the end of 2024)



Details of the Cat C Exams

Subject	French	German	Japanese	Korean	Spanish	Urdu
Exam	Diplôme d'Études de Langue Française (DELF) Diplôme Approfondi de Langue Française (DALF)		Japanese-Language Proficiency Test (JLPT)	Test of Proficiency in Korean (TOPIK)	Diplomas de Español como Lengua Extranjera (DELE)	Urdu (International)
Exam provider (official organisation)	Alliance Française de Hong Kong (AFHK)	Goethe-Institut Hong Kong	Japan Foundation	National Institute for International Education (NIIED), Korea	Instituto Cervantes (Shanghái)	The Federal Board of Intermediate & Secondary Education (FBISE), Islamabad
Exam administrator	Alliance Française de Hong Kong (AFHK)	Goethe-Institut Hong Kong	Society of Japanese Language Education, Hong Kong (SJLEHK)	NIIED, Korea Implementing agency: Korean International School & HKEAA	University of Wollongong (UOW) College HK Spanish World HK & other DELE exam centres that may open in the future in HK	FBISE, Islamabad



Details of the Cat C Exams

Subject	French	German	Japanese	Korean	Spanish	Urdu
Language proficiency level to be accepted into the HKDSE results	A2 or above	A2 or above	N3 or above	TOPIK II: Grade 3 or above	A2 or above	Grade E or above
Exam component	Listening, Reading, Writing, Speaking	Listening, Reading, Writing, Speaking	Language Knowledge (Vocabulary / Grammar), Reading, Listening	Listening, Reading, Writing	Listening, Reading, Writing, Speaking	Reading and Writing, Essay Writing
Time of exam*	March/April, November	April to June	July, December	April, July, October	May, November	April-May, September- October
Website	www.afhongkong.org/en / exams/delf-dalf/	www.goethe.de/ins/cn /e n/sta/hon/prf.html	www.japanese- edu.org.hk/zh/jlpt/jlpta .h tml	www.topik- hk.org/chi/index.asp	www.uowchk.edu.hk/st u dy-at-uowchk/find- programmes/internatio n al-language- proficiency- tests/diplomas-de- espaol-como-lengua- extranjera-dele/	www.fbise.edu.pk/hon g kong papers.php

 $Remark: \textit{Urdu (International) will be offered from 2026 \textit{ HKDSE while the other language exams will be offered from 2025 \textit{ HKDSE while the other language exams will be offered from 2025 \textit{ HKDSE while the other language exams will be offered from 2025 \textit{ HKDSE while the other language exams will be offered from 2025 \textit{ HKDSE while the other language exams will be offered from 2025 \textit{ HKDSE while the other language exams will be offered from 2025 \textit{ HKDSE while the other language exams will be offered from 2025 \textit{ HKDSE while the other language exams will be offered from 2025 \textit{ HKDSE while the other language exams will be offered from 2025 \textit{ HKDSE while the other language exams will be offered from 2025 \textit{ HKDSE while the other language exams will be offered from 2025 \textit{ HKDSE while the other language exams will be offered from 2025 \textit{ HKDSE while the other language exams will be offered from 2025 \textit{ HKDSE while the other language exams will be offered from 2025 \textit{ HKDSE while the other language exams will be offered from 2025 \textit{ HKDSE while the other language example example the other language example exampl$



Category A – Public Examination

Written Exam

MC items

Short / data-based / structured questions

Essays

*Listening and Integrated Skills + Speaking Assessments

Starting from the 2024 HKDSE, applicable to English Language subject only



Details: HKDSE Assessment Frameworks of each year's examination. www.hkeaa.edu.hk/en/hkdse/assessment/assessment framework/



Optimising Proposal for the Four Senior Secondary Core Subjects (Starting from 2024 HKDSE)

Generate synergy, release lesson time and enhance curriculum flexibility for creating space for students

Release space to varying degrees in order to cater for students' diverse learning and development needs



Measures to Optimise the Four Senior Secondary Core Subjects (Starting from 2024 HKDSE)

	Weighting of Written Examinations	Weighting of SBA
Chinese Language	85% • Paper 1 (Reading) (40%) • Paper 2 (Writing) (45%)	15%
English Language	85% Paper 1 (Reading) (20%) Paper 2 (Writing) (25%) Paper 3 (Listening & Integrated Skills) (30%) Paper 4 (Speaking) (10%)	15%
Mathematics Compulsory Part	 100% Paper 1 (Conventional questions) (65%) Paper 2 (Multiple-choice questions) (35%) A good mastery of Foundation Topics of the Compulsory Part is sufficient for candidates who perform well in the HKDSE Examination Mathematics Compulsory Part to attain up to Level 4 in the Examination 	No SBA required
Citizenship and Social Development	100% • Results reported will be either 'Attained' or 'Unattained'	No IES required



Details: HKDSE Assessment Frameworks www.hkeaa.edu.hk/tc/hkdse/assessment/assessment_framework/



Category A: School-based Assessment (SBA)

- Assessments administered in schools and marked by the students' own teachers
- · SBA scores awarded will count towards students' public assessment results

Advantages

Helps students understand their strengths and weaknesses through quality feedback from teachers Emphasises the assessment of a wide range of abilities and offers a comprehensive appraisal of students' performance

Reduces dependence on the results of public examinations and boosts students' confidence and motivation to learn



How will fairness be ensured in SBA?

Provide detailed guidelines, assessment criteria, exemplars and professional development training to help teachers become familiar with the SBA

Majority of the assessments are conducted under close supervision of teachers Moderate SBA marks submitted by different schools to iron out possible differences among schools in

marking standards

Review samples of students' work and assessment records, provide feedback to schools

Candidates may be liable to disqualification from the subject concerned or the whole of the exam, or suffer a mark or grade penalty for proven plagiarism

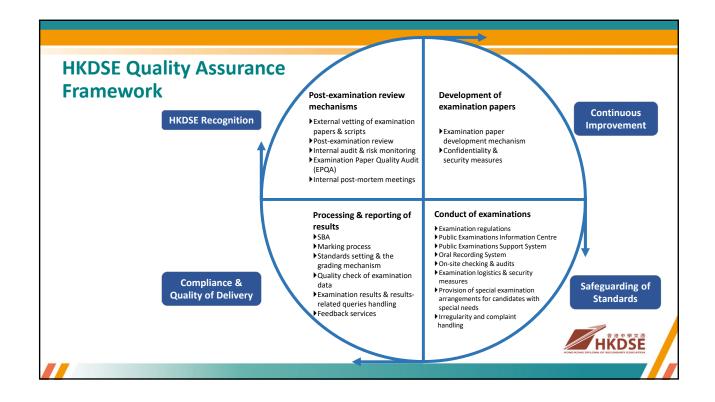


HKDSE Category A Subjects: School Based Assessment (SBA) 12 Subjects with an SBA Component

Chinese Language	Chinese Literature	English Language	Literature in English
Health Management and Social Care	Information & Communication Technology	Technology and Living	Design & Applied Technology
Biology	Physics	Chemistry	Visual Arts









	Paper-based Marking	OSM
Training	Sample scripts	Training, qualifying, control, reference & sample scripts
Checkmarking	1 st & 2 nd checkmarking	1 st , 2 nd & real-time checkmarking
Marking Statistics	Available after completion of marking	Real-time
Remarking	After completion of checkmarking	Real-time
Demote from Marking Retraining	N/A	✓

HKDSE Question Papers & HKDSE Examination Report

2023 HKDSE Question Papers

Provides a comprehensive report on 24 Category A subjects

Including question papers, marking schemes, and examiners' comments and suggestions on candidates' performance

HKDSE Examination Report published in December 2023

Provides information on the overview of the HKDSE Examination and examination statistics for reference of stakeholders



www.hkeaa.edu.hk/en/hkdse/assessment/exam_reports/



Exemplars of Candidates' Work Category A Subjects: English Language Paper 2 -2023 Samples of Candidates' Performance Category B Subjects: Interior Design – Level 5 exemplar 1 2023 Samples of Student Performance **Pop-up Shop Application Form** A. Company Profile (Introduce your company): Planet Smart is an environmentally-friendly company that aims to produc high quality products that would not only increase the quality of life of the citizens, but also the planet itself. Our eco-friendly products are specifically made to aid global problems such as definestation and s plantic worste. By expanding our company in various ovens, such as setting up a prop-up surp inside the shapping deather centure, will not only premote and immunes variet auroretes on these devocating topics, but also she allow the general public to learn how to incorporate simple eco-friendly products into their loves. As the enging gree, 'A single step 10 goes a long way." HKDSE Cat A subjects: www.hkeaa.edu.hk/en/hkdse/assessment/subject_information/ Cat B subjects: www.hkeaa.edu.hk/en/hkdse/assessment/subject_information/category_b_subjects/

