

中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部教育局

Education Bureau

Government Secretariat, The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region The People's Republic of China

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Kindergarten Administration 2 Section, Room 1402, 14/F, Wu Chung House, 213 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai, Hong Kong

本局檔號 Our Ref: EDB(KGA2-1)/LIA/6 Pt. 2 來函檔號 Your Ref: 電話 Telephone: 2892 6669 傳真 Fax Line: 3691 8021

20 December 2024

To: Supervisors and Heads of Kindergartens, Kindergarten-cum-Child Care Centres and Schools with Kindergarten Classes joining the Kindergarten Education Scheme

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Kindergarten Education Scheme "Guangdong-Hong Kong Sister Kindergarten Exchange Programme" (2024/25 school year)

To actively promote the professional exchanges and collaboration between kindergarten (KG) teachers in the Mainland and Hong Kong, the Department of Education of the Guangdong Province and the Education Bureau of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (EDB) have launched the "Guangdong-Hong Kong Sister Kindergarten Exchange Programme" (the Exchange Programme) since the 2023/24 school year to strengthen connection between the Mainland and Hong Kong in early childhood education, with a focus on fostering teachers' professional exchanges and collaboration, as well as enhancing the quality of KG education.

DETAILS

2. The Exchange Programme will serve as a platform for professional interflows to facilitate the formation of learning circles among KGs in the Mainland and Hong Kong. By the launching of various professional exchange activities through different channels and in diversified modes (e.g. forums, exchange visits, online and offline exchanges), the Exchange Programme will be conducive to promoting the development of KGs in the two places and enhancing teachers' professionalism. 50 KGs from different cities in the Guangdong Province and 50 Hong Kong KGs which have joined the Kindergarten Education Scheme (Scheme-KGs) were invited to participate in the Exchange Programme and form learning circles in the first year (the 2023/24 school year), and to launch different types of professional exchange activities.

3. In the 2024/25 school year, Guangdong and Hong Kong will continue to take forward the Exchange Programme, by inviting another 50 KGs from different cities in the Guangdong Province and 50 Hong Kong Scheme-KGs to participate in the Exchange Programme, with a view to increasing the number of beneficiary KGs in the two places to 100 respectively, and deepening professional exchanges and collaboration among KG teachers of the two places.

4. The Signing Ceremony-cum-Annual Exchange Activity for the 2024/25 Exchange Programme is tentatively scheduled to be held in March 2025 in the Guangdong Province. We will also provide Hong KOgs with professional support, by assisting KGs to identify their needs and facilitating KGs to organise exchange activities with Mainland KGs and disseminate good practices, among others.

Application Procedures and Selection Criteria

5. All Scheme-KGs may apply for joining the 2024/25 Exchange Programme and the applications should be on a per-school basis based on school registration. A Scheme-KG, regardless of the number of its registered locations under the same school registration, will be counted as one eligible KG. Duplicate applications will not be considered further. KGs which have joined the 2023/24 Exchange Programme do not need to submit applications afresh for joining the 2024/25 Exchange Programme.

6. KGs intending to join the 2024/25 Exchange Programme should complete the reply slip (at <u>Annex</u>) and return it <u>on or before 13 January 2025</u> by post to the EDB Kindergarten Administration 2 Section (Address: Room 2329, 23/F, Wu Chung House, 213 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai, Hong Kong). The reply slip (in Word format) can be downloaded from the EDB webpage (Home > Education System and Policy > Kindergarten Education > Kindergarten Education Scheme > 4. Circular > Guangdong-Hong Kong Sister Kindergarten Exchange Programme). Other KGs (including those have joined the 2023/24 Exchange Programme) are also required to complete the above reply slip and return it by post to the EDB Kindergarten Administration 2 Section by the date mentioned above, providing up-to-date information on formation of "Sister KGs" with Mainland KG(s).

7. EDB will take into account various relevant factors, including the education quality of the KGs (i.e. performance in the aspects of "Management and Organisation", "School Culture and Support for Children", and "Learning and Teaching" in the Quality Review), whether the KGs' overall operating standards in the past were satisfied by EDB (if KGs have been served written warning by EDB due to serious management issues or glaring practices, their applications will not be considered), and whether the KGs have formed Sister KGs with their Mainland counterparts by the signing of formal agreements (regardless of forming as Sister KGs on their own initiative or through other channels), etc., in considering the KGs to be selected for participating in the 2024/25 Exchange Programme. Selected KGs will be informed by early February 2025.

ENQUIRIES

8. For enquiries about the Exchange Programme or this circular letter, please contact the EDB Kindergarten Administration 2 Section at 2892 6351 or 2892 6546.

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Your sincerely,

(for Permanent Secretary for Education

Kindergarten Education Scheme "Guangdong-Hong Kong Sister Kindergarten Exchange Programme" (2024/25 school year) Reply Slip

(To be returned on or before 13 January 2025 by post)

To: Permanent Secretary for Education

(Attn: Kindergarten Administration 2 Section

Address: Room 2329, 23/F Wu Chung House, 213 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong)

School Information			
Name of School: (Chinese)			
(English)			
School Registration No.: :			
(1) Participation in the Guangdong-Hong Kong Sister Kindergarten Exchange Programme (the Exchange Programme)			
Our School: (Please put a " \checkmark " in the appropriate boxes \Box)			
would like to participate in the 2024/25 Exchange Programme.			
is interested in the Exchange Programme, but would like to participate in the Exchange Programme in subsequent school years. The reason(s) is/are:			
does not intend to participate in the 2024/25 Exchange Programme. The reason(s) is/are:			
has participated in the 2023/24 Exchange Programme.			
(2) Overview of the formation of "Sister Kindergartens (KGs)" with Mainland KG(s)			
Our school <u>has / has not*</u> formed Sister KGs with Mainland KG(s) with formal agreements signed. <i>(* Please delete as appropriate)</i>			
If the school has already formed Sister KGs with Mainland KG(s) by the signing of formal agreement(s), please set out the information of the Sister KG(s) in the Mainland in the table below:			
Sister KG (1):			
Name of KG:			
Year of Forming Sister KG:			
Location of Sister KG:	Province City Area		

Sister KG (2):		
Name of KG:		
Year of Forming Sister KG:		
Location of Sister KG:	Province	City Area

(If there are more than two Sister KGs formed, please use a separate sheet to provide supplementary information)

Declaration

I / our school:

- (a) confirm(s) that all the information provided in the application form is factually correct;
- (b) understand(s) that KGs will be selected to participate in the Exchange Programme with reference to paragraph 7 of the circular letter dated 20 December 2024;
- (c) am/is fully aware that, if being selected to participate in the Exchange Programme, our school has to arrange representative(s) to attend the Signing Ceremony-cum-Annual Exchange Activity to be held in March 2025 tentatively, to participate in the professional support to KGs in Hong Kong offered by EDB, and to join (if possible) the professional exchange activities with the Sister KGs in the Guangdong Province during the period from February to September 2025; and
- (d) am/is fully aware that, if being selected to participate in the Exchange Programme, the information provided by our school in this application form would be transferred to the service contractor(s) commissioned by EDB, to facilitate their liaison with our school regarding the Exchange Programme.

Signature of Principal:	
Name of Principal:	
Date:	(School chop)
Contact person (Name):(Post):	
Tel. No.:	