

Date: 29th December, 2008

Attention: The Panel on Education, the Legislative Council

Opinions on the Medium of Instructions (MOI) Policy

Opinions

- In principle, the labeling effect is suggested to be arised from the categorization of CMI and EMI at schools. Such labeling effect is agreed to be diminished in order to enlarge the CMI student's exposure to English.
- The 'division by class' MOI arrangement is not recommended because the labeling effect on CMI school is further worsen.
- The rising of "Differentiation" at school: Labeling effect and "Differentiation" between classes is foreseeable at the result of the categorization of CMI and EMI at schools. The mobility of student's internal form promotion within schools is going to be limited and that may be questioned by the parents.

Recommendations

- Flexibility in using English is going to be enhanced if the teaching at CMI schools is classified 'by academic discipline' or 'by academic topic'.
- It is to be recommended that schools should have the choice in deciding the extent and proportion of EMI students. Thus, it aids the schools in addressing the problem of individual learning differences effectively.
- The actual data and statistic regarding the English standards of students at schools is suggested not to be disclosed by The Education Bureau, otherwise, the labeling effect between CMI and EMI schools and even the "differentiation" between CMI schools are going to be enhanced.

Kind Regards,

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