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中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部教育局

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The People's Republic of China

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15 December 2010

Miss Betty Ma Clerk to Bills Committee Legislative Council Secretariat 3rd floor, Citibank Tower 3 Garden Road, Hong Kong

Dear Miss Ma.

Bills Committee on Residential Care Homes (Persons with Disabilities) Bill Information on Chi Yun School

Thank you for your letter of 6 December 2010 to the Secretary for Education. I am authorized to reply on his behalf.

Chi Yun School is an aided special school for children with severe intellectual disability with a boarding section. As far as barrier-free access facilities is concerned, the school is provided with a lift and toilets for use of the disabled people. We are actively exploring the possibility of reprovisioning the school with a view to improving its facilities.

According to section 2 of the Education Regulations (ER) (Chapter 279 Subsidiary Legislation), "boarding school" means a school in connection with which hostels, dormitories or other rooms or premises are provided for the housing or lodging of some or all of the pupils of that school out of school hours, whether such hostels, dormitories, or other rooms or premises are in or

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part of the same building or group of buildings as the classrooms or not. Chi Yun School is within the meaning of boarding school under the ER.

The ER has provisions on school premises and structural requirements (s3 to s10), fire precautions and inspection of school premises by fire officers (s34 to s39), and health and sanitation (s40 to s57), which includes s56 on boarding schools. No matter whether they are new special schools or existing special schools to be reprovisioned or redeveloped, we will follow the approved Schedule of Accommodation in the provision of facilities. Moreover, the Education Ordinance has provisions on the registration and management of schools (s10 to s22 and s31A to s40Al) and appointment of inspectors of schools (s79 to s81B). The staffing requirements of the boarding section of aided special schools are also prescribed by the Code of Aid for Special Schools and Code of Aid for Aided Schools.

Should you have further enquiry, please feel free to contact the undersigned or Mr LO Man-fai at 2892 6393.

Yours sincerely,

(Raymond Sy) for Secretary for Education

c.c. Commissioner for Rehabilitation (Fax No: 2543 0486)