



2011/06/29 PM 02:17

To <panel\_e@legco.gov.hk>

cc

Subject Review of subvention for ESF by the Legco Education Panel

Dear Madam,

I would like to express our view concerning the subvention to ESF.

There is a misconception that ESF schools only cater for expatriate or foreign families who live in Hone Kong as a result of job relocation. Therefore ESF does not justify Education subsidies from the Hong Kong Government because this does not benefit the community as a whole. If you look at the proportion of expatriate children and local students in the group, you would realise that local students out number expatriates by about 3 to 1 in most schools.

I would like to share our story why we chose ESF for our children. Our family returned to Hong Kong after 3 years relocation to Shanghai. Prior to living in Shanghai our children attended St. Paul's Convent Kindergarten and Primary School. After studying 3 years at Concordia International School Shanghai, it was difficult for them to adjust back to the local school curriculum. ESF group was our first choice as the fees of international schools were very high. ESF has provided a well balanced education for my elder daughter and nurtured her strengths enabling her to pursue her degree in English Literature.

If the government did not provide subvention to ESF we would not be able to find a suitable school for our children. There are many families in similar situations in Hong Kong and we hope the government will consider this when making the decision in regards to subvention.

Best regards,