



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

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27 April 2012

Ms Amy Yu,
Clerk to Education Panel,
Legislative Council Secretariat,
Legislative Council Complex,
1 Legislative Council Road, Central,
Hong Kong

Dear Ms Yu,

Panel on Education

Follow up to meeting on 20 April 2012

**Supplementary Information on
94EB - Redevelopment of Ying Wa Girls' School
at Robinson Road, Hong Kong**

I refer to your letter of 23 April seeking supplementary information on the relocation of Hong Kong Institute of Technology (HKIT) and preservation of the former kindergarten block built in 1926 (1926 building) in the existing campus of YWGS following consideration of the information paper on 'Redevelopment of Ying Wa Girls' School (YWGS)' at the meeting of the Panel on Education on 20 April 2012. Please find the requested information in the ensuing paragraphs.

Relocation of HKIT

HKIT is currently housed at the premises at 2 Breezy Path let by the Government by way of a tenancy agreement. HKIT, under the Land Grant Scheme¹, has successfully applied for the ex-premises of SKH St. Thomas' Primary

¹ The objective of Land Grant Scheme is to grant land sites at nominal premium and to lease vacant school premises at nominal rent to non-profit making institutions for the operation of full-time locally accredited self-financing post-secondary programmes.

School at Nam Cheong Street, Sham Shui Po for its use and HKIT has been informed of the result in 2011. Subject to the completion of the renovation and conversion works at the ex-premises of SKH St. Thomas' Primary School, it is expected that HKIT can move into the premises before October 2013. HKIT would continue to operate at its existing campus at Breezy Path before relocation. Subject to the funding approval of the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council to redevelop YWGS (i.e. 94EB), the Government plans to hand over the site at 2 Breezy Path to YWGS for school redevelopment after the site is vacated. The above-mentioned arrangement will enable redeployment of the site at 2 Breezy Path for further school use at the earliest.

Preservation of the 1926 building

During the planning of the redevelopment, YWGS has deployed great efforts to research into the history of the former kindergarten block built in 1926 within their campus. According to historical records, the site of the 1926 building housed the first kindergarten in Hong Kong. The 1926 building therefore has significant symbolic value to the history of education in Hong Kong. As advised by the Antiquities and Monuments Office, the 1926 building is proposed to be accorded Grade 3 status. In light of its historical significance, the school has decided to retain the 1926 building entirely and has blended it in with the future school campus design. Full conservation will be adopted to the 1926 building with minimum impact to the proposed Grade 3 historical building. Certain restoration, renovation works and necessary structural strengthening works for safety are required. The school plans to set up a School Archive showing the historical records (such as photos and exhibits) in relation to the history of the former kindergarten and its founder, the London Missionary Society, as well as the development of the school at the 1926 building. After completion of the school development, YWGS will consider opening the 1926 building for visits when circumstances permit (e.g. school open day) and without prejudice to the daily operation of the school and other safety and security considerations. A photo showing the existing outlook of the 1926 building is at Annex.

Yours sincerely,



(Wendy Chung)
for Secretary of Education