

**立法會**  
***Legislative Council***

LC Paper No. CB(4)193/14-15  
(These minutes have been seen  
by the Administration)

Ref : CB4/PS/1/12

**Panel on Education**

**Subcommittee on Integrated Education**

**Minutes of the seventeenth meeting  
held on Tuesday, 8 July 2014, at 10:45 am  
in Conference Room 2 of the Legislative Council Complex**

**Members present** : Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung (Chairman)  
Hon IP Kin-yuen (Deputy Chairman)  
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung  
Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP  
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP  
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che  
Dr Hon CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth  
Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP

**Public Officers attending** : Items I & II

Education Bureau

Mr Kevin YEUNG, JP  
Under Secretary for Education

Mr KWONG Ying-wai  
Principal Education Officer  
(Special Education & Kindergarten Education)

Mr Raymond HO  
Principal Inspector  
(Special Education Support 2)

Dr Verena LAU  
Senior Specialist  
(Educational Psychology Service/Kowloon)

Hospital Authority

Dr CHUNG Kin-lai  
Chief Manager

Social Welfare Department

Ms Nancy KWAN  
Chief Social Work Officer  
(Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services)

**Attendance by : SEN Rights**  
**Invitation**

Ms Josephine CHEUNG  
Vice-chairperson

Equal Opportunities Commission

Dr CHU Chung-man, Ferrick  
Head, Policy & Research

Hong Kong Christian Service Chih Ai Parents'  
Association

Mr IP Heong-weng  
Educational Secretary

Hong Kong Association for AD/HD

Ms Marcia NG  
Chairperson

Hong Kong Integrated Education Concern  
Association

Ms Snowy CHOI  
Vice-chairperson

Concord Mutual-Aid Club Alliance

Mr LI Chi-on Johnny  
Chairman

Mr HUI Wai-chun

**Clerk in attendance** : Miss Polly YEUNG  
Chief Council Secretary (4) 4

**Staff in attendance** : Mr Ian CHOW  
Council Secretary (4) 4

Ms Sandy HAU  
Legislative Assistant (4) 4

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Action

**I. Mechanism for handling complaints about the implementation of integrated education**

(LC Paper No. CB(4)897/13-14(01) -- Paper provided by the Administration)

**II. Support for students with mental derangement under the existing integrated education system**

(LC Paper No. CB(4)897/13-14(02) -- Paper provided by the Administration)

Other paper

Written submission from deputation not attending the meeting

(LC Paper No. CB(4)909/13-14(01) -- Submission from Hong Kong Professional Teachers' Union  
(Chinese version only))

Meeting with deputations / individuals and the Administration for agenda items I and II

The Subcommittee deliberated (index of proceedings attached at **Annex**).

2. Noting that the Hospital Authority ("HA") had newly introduced an "opt-out" notification system to the effect that schools would be notified of the mental disorders suffered by the students unless their parents did not agree to the arrangement, the Chairman requested HA to provide information on the proportion of parents who did not agree to notifying schools.

*(Post-meeting note: HA's written response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(4)1044/13-14(01) on 2 September 2014.)*

3. The Education Bureau ("EDB") was requested to provide –
- (a) information on the number/percentage of teachers who had attended the 120-hour training course for teachers on "Effective Strategies for Managing Students' Challenging Behaviour : A Psychological Approach" that was run annually by a tertiary institution commissioned by EDB; and
  - (b) as far as practicable, the number of students with mental derangement who had received assistance from –
    - (i) the student support teams of their schools; and
    - (ii) multi-disciplinary case conferences arranged by schools for relevant professionals to identify appropriate support measures.

*(Post-meeting note: EDB's written response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(4)1044/13-14(01) on 2 September 2014.)*

**III. Any other business**

4. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 12:50 pm.

Council Business Division 4  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
25 November 2014

**Proceedings of the meeting of the  
Subcommittee on Integrated Education  
on Tuesday, 8 July 2014, at 10:45 am  
in Conference Room 2 of the Legislative Council Complex**

<b>Time marker</b>	<b>Speaker(s)</b>	<b>Subject(s)</b>	<b>Action required</b>
<i>Agenda Item I - Mechanism for handling complaints about the implementation of integrated education</i>			
<i>Agenda item II - Support for students with mental derangement under the existing integrated education system</i>			
000232 - 000318	Chairman	Opening remarks	
000319 - 001005	Education Bureau ("EDB") Chairman	<p>EDB briefly briefed members on –</p> <p>(a) the established mechanism for handling school complaints (including complaints arising from the implementation of integrated education ("IE")) and its latest development; and</p> <p>(b) the support services provided to students with mental derangement ("MD").</p> <p>The Chairman referred to the inquest into the death of a student with MD who committed suicide in 2010 in which the Jury had recommended that the Government and educational institutions should assess whether the existing IE system was suitable for persons with mental illness.</p> <p>The Chairman considered that an independent third party should be tasked to handle disputes arising from the implementation of IE in schools.</p>	
001006 - 001414	SEN Rights	Presentation of views	
001415 - 001730	Equal Opportunities Commission ("EOC")	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(4)897/13-14(03)]	
001731 - 002152	Hong Kong Christian Service Chih Ai Parents' Association	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(4)916/13-14(01)]	
002153 - 002531	Hong Kong Association for AD/HD	Presentation of views	
002532 - 002854	Concord Mutual-Aid Club Alliance	Presentation of views	
002855 - 003313	Mr HUI Wai-chun	Presentation of views	

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003314 - 005116	Chairman EDB Hospital Authority ("HA")	<p>In response to the views expressed by the deputations, EDB advised that –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the elimination of discrimination and successful implementation of IE at schools was an evolving process and was progressing in the right direction;</li> <li>(b) when a complaint involving Disability Discrimination Ordinance ("DDO") could not be settled by the school and the complainant according to the established school-based procedures, it could be submitted to the relevant Regional Education Office ("REO") of EDB for arrangement of a mediation meeting for both parties. The complainant could also submit the case to EOC for investigation;</li> <li>(c) to promote home-school co-operation, EDB had always encouraged schools to maintain good communication with parents; and</li> <li>(d) EDB had reached a consensus with the seven district-based Early Assessment Service for Young People with Psychosis (i.e. E.A.S.Y.) Programme service centres of HA under which schools could seek advice and support from the respective district service centres on catering for students with MD.</li> </ul> <p>HA advised that, to enhance the notification mechanism, HA had newly introduced an "opt-out" system, under which it would, unless the parents did not give consent to HA to pass the psychiatric reports to the referrers, inform the schools of the students diagnosed with MD so that the relevant schools could prepare for providing appropriate support for these students.</p> <p>The Chairman noted that according to available information, the number of students receiving psychiatric service under HA was about 17 000 cases while the number of students with MD known to EDB was only about 130 cases.</p> <p>HA informed members that there were around 17 000 students (aged 18 or below) who were diagnosed with various types of mental disorder and receiving psychiatric service from HA. Among these cases with confirmed diagnosis, 6 100 suffered from Autism Spectrum Disorders, 6 800 suffered from Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, and 4 100 suffered from other types of MD.</p>	

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		On the "opt-out" notification system, the Chairman requested HA to provide information on the proportion of parents who did not give consent to notifying schools after the system had come into operation for some time.	HA was requested to provide the information as stated in paragraph 3 of the minutes.
005117 - 010057	Deputy Chairman EDB Chairman	<p>The Deputy Chairman commented that –</p> <p>(a) schools should render appropriate support to students with MD, despite the fact that MD was not classified as a type of special educational needs ("SEN") ; and</p> <p>(b) it was essential for teachers to acquire a broad understanding of some common types of MD such as psychosis, and to be provided with training which could address the needs of students with MD.</p> <p>In response, EDB recapitulated that it had commissioned annually a tertiary institution to run a 120-hour training course for teachers on "Effective Strategies for Managing Students' Challenging Behaviour : A Psychological Approach".</p> <p>The Chairman requested EDB to provide information on the number/percentage of teachers who had attended this 120-hour training course.</p>	EDB was requested to provide the information as stated in paragraph 4(a) of the minutes.
010058 - 011111	Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che EDB EOC	<p>To ensure impartiality and fairness, Mr CHEUNG urged for the establishment of an independent mechanism in handling complaints arising from the implementation of IE. Instead of relying on REOs, Mr CHEUNG considered that EDB should set up a dedicated team to handle such complaints.</p> <p>EDB responded that where necessary, the professional staff of its special education section could provide expert advice to REOs in handling school-related complaints arising from the implementation of IE.</p> <p>Mr CHEUNG sought EDB's view on a deputation's suggestion to remove the defense provision related to "unjustifiable hardship" (section 4 of DDO) under which education institutions may be exempted from providing service/support to persons with disabilities under certain circumstances.</p> <p>EDB advised that such a defense provision would be considered with close reference to the actual situation and difficulties. For instance, requiring a school that</p>	



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		<p>was built many years ago to construct an elevator for the use of students with disabilities would impose "unjustifiable hardship" on the school if there were proven technical constraints, such as a lack of space, for such construction.</p> <p>EOC also considered that the defense provision related to "unjustifiable hardship" under DDO should be retained.</p>	
011112 - 012422	Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung EDB Chairman	<p>Sharing his experience as a teacher, Mr LEUNG stressed the need for the service of educational psychologists ("EPs") in schools on a full-time basis.</p> <p>In response, EDB advised that schools might, according to their specific needs, pool and flexibly deploy their resources to employ additional teaching assistants or procure professional services to support SEN students and students with MD. Schools could also request EDB to provide appropriate assistance or advice. If a student with MD had persistent and severe adjustment difficulties, EDB would discuss with the school and parents of the student, where necessary, on the feasibility of other options to assist the student concerned.</p> <p>In reply to the Chairman, EDB advised that with parental consent, schools would submit the information on their SEN students and students with MD to EDB through the Special Education Management Information System (i.e. SEMIS), which was developed by EDB to capture information on SEN students in public sector primary and secondary schools as well as special schools.</p> <p>On the support and services provided to students with MD, the Chairman requested EDB to provide, as far as practicable, the number of students with MD who had received assistance from the student support teams of their schools and the multi-disciplinary case conferences arranged by schools. EDB advised that it did not require schools to submit information on the number of students with MD, and information on any individual student support team meetings or multi-disciplinary cases conferences. That notwithstanding, EDB would, on a need basis, discuss and follow-up relevant cases with the schools during regular school visits.</p>	EDB was requested to provide the information as stated in paragraph 4(b) of the minutes.
012423 - 013045	Mr TAM Yiu-chung EDB Chairman	<p>Mr TAM considered that –</p> <p>(a) experience sharing among teachers in handling or supporting SEN students and students with MD was an effective way to equip them with relevant skills;</p>	

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		<p>(b) cultivating a caring and inclusive school environment could bring about effective implementation of IE; and</p> <p>(c) EDB, schools and teachers should continue to enhance the implementation of IE at the school level.</p> <p>The Chairman opined that SEN students and students with MD were disadvantaged under the existing examination-oriented education system. In this regard, EDB remarked that the new senior secondary curriculum had placed greater emphasis on students' whole-person development, not solely on academic achievements.</p>	
013046 - 014416	Deputy Chairman EDB Chairman	<p>Noting that MD was not classified as a type of SEN, the Deputy Chairman asked whether EDB had set aside manpower and resources specifically for providing professional support to students with MD.</p> <p>EDB advised that –</p> <p>(a) its Special Education Support Sections were tasked to provide professional support to SEN students and as well as students with MD;</p> <p>(b) EPs of its Educational Psychology Service Sections would provide support for students with MD; and</p> <p>(c) under the current arrangements, EDB provided additional resources to schools to support SEN students, and schools could pool and flexibly deploy their resources to provide support according to their specific needs and circumstances. Currently, EDB did not earmark specific resources solely for supporting students with MD.</p>	
014417 - 020650	Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che HA Chairman EDB	<p>Mr CHEUNG sought more information on the time-limited grant provided to schools for employing teaching assistants to help students with MD follow classroom routines and learn effectively.</p> <p>In response to Mr CHEUNG's enquiry about how schools could help students with MD adjust to studying in ordinary schools –</p> <p>(a) HA explained that some mental illnesses such as mild depression could be induced by external environmental factors. Hence, it was very important for the schools to cultivate a caring environment where teachers and regular students were supportive to students with MD.</p>	

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		<p>(b) HA considered that schools and teachers might need more professional support to cater for the needs of students with MD; and</p> <p>(c) EDB advised that while it would provide necessary assistance to schools, it was important for the schools to take steps to help SEN students and students with MD by providing a caring learning environment. Transfer of school might be considered as a last resort for those students with MD who could not adapt to the school life of their current school.</p> <p>The Chairman asked whether multi-disciplinary case conferences would be arranged when considering whether a student with MD should suspend or resume his study or transfer to another school. EDB said that schools would arrange such conferences where necessary for professionals such as EPs and school personnel to identify appropriate support measures for the students and to find out why the students would choose to quit or transfer to another school. The Chairman considered that EDB should require schools to arrange multi-disciplinary case conferences in order to ascertain whether suspension or resumption of study, or transfer of school, was the most appropriate option for the students with MD concerned.</p> <p>The Chairman urged EDB to consider –</p> <p>(a) as suggested by the deputations, setting up an independent mechanism to handle complaints arising from the implementation of IE and to serve as an appeal channel for the existing school-based complaint handling mechanism; and</p> <p>(b) including MD as a type of SEN so that resources could be provided to the schools accordingly to support students with MD.</p>	
<i>Agenda Item III – Any other business</i>			
020651 - 020703	Chairman	Closing remarks	