



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

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Miss Polly YEUNG
Chief Council Secretary (4)4
Legislative Council Secretariat
Council Business Division 4
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong.

Dear Miss YEUNG,

We refer to the questions raised on the “Latest development on ‘Using Putonghua as the Medium of Instruction for Teaching the Chinese Language Subject’ (“PMIC” hereafter) in primary and secondary schools in Hong Kong” at the Legislative Council Panel on Education meeting held on 2 July and set out our reply as follows –

Development on PMIC in Macau

According to the “Non-tertiary Education: Language Education Policy”¹ issued by the Education and Youth Bureau, Macau Special Administrative Region Government in 2008, its “Language Education Policy” is to encourage schools to progressively create conditions in which Putonghua can be used in the teaching of Chinese.

¹ “Non-tertiary Education Language Education Policy”:
http://www.dsej.gov.mo/~webdsej/www/grp_db/policy/lang_policy_e.pdf?timeis=Thu%20Jul%2007%2017:30:51%20GMT+08:00%202016&&

Comparison of Chinese Language Standard in Different Chinese Regions

As Chinese language standard covers a wide range of domains, including listening, speaking, reading and writing skills, as well as literature, thinking and moral education, it would not be easy to make a comprehensive comparison. The Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) is by far the most relevant and internationally recognised study on reading literacy of students. The students participated in the study aged between 15 years 3 months and 16 years 2 months. In the past two studies, the performances of the students in four regions using Chinese as the major language are as follows –

Year	Ranking of Students' Reading Literacy (mean score)			
	Hong Kong, China	Shanghai, China	Macau, China	Chinese Taipei
2009	4 (533)	1 (556)	28 (487)	23 (495)
2012	2 (545)	1 (570)	16 (509)	8 (523)

Yours sincerely,



(Ms Jenny Chan)
for Secretary for Education