

**Panel on Education**  
**List of follow-up actions**  
(position as at 18 June 2004)

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Date of meeting</b>	<b>Follow-up action required</b>	<b>Administration's response</b>
<p>1. <u>Loans to non-profit-making international schools</u></p> <p>1.1 Review of the policy on financial assistance to schools operated by the English Schools Foundation (ESF)</p>	<p>26.11.99 (Finance Committee)</p>	<p>The Administration agreed to report the outcome of the review to the Panel in due course.</p>	<p>Response awaited.</p> <p><u>Latest position</u>  Current per class subsidy was frozen at the 1999-2000 school year price level. In line with Government-wide retrenchment policy, for 2004-2005, overall subvention to ESF is further subject to an efficiency saving of 6.44%. The Administration is reviewing the subsidy policy on ESF taking into account the prevailing financial stringency of Government, cost-effectiveness of ESF's operation and the interests of parents and students.</p>
<p>2. <u>Further expansion of the Non-means Tested Loan Scheme (NLS)</u></p> <p>2.1 Risk-adjusted factor and repayment period</p>	<p>19.6.00</p>	<p>The Panel requested the Administration to review the risk-adjusted factor and the</p>	<p>Response awaited.</p>

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		repayment period of NLS in the light of members' comments at the meeting.	<u>Latest position</u> The Administration is considering the possibility of outsourcing NLS to the private sector.
<p>3. <u>Briefing on the Higher Education Review</u></p> <p>3.1 Institutional governance and staff grievances</p>	2.12.02	The University Grants Committee (UGC) agreed to provide an update on the development of an internal grievances and complaint mechanism in UGC-funded tertiary institutions at an appropriate time.	<p>Response awaited.</p> <p><u>Latest position</u> The institutions are at various stages of reviewing their governance and management structures, including their internal grievances and complaint mechanisms. The Administration will provide an update in due course.</p>
<p>4. <u>Enhanced School Development and Accountability</u></p> <p>4.1 Implementation of the enhanced school development and accountability (SDA) framework</p>	28.4.03	The Administration agreed to provide an interim report on the results of implementation by the end of the 2003-04 school year.	<p>Response awaited.</p> <p><u>Latest position</u> Education and Manpower Bureau (EMB) has started to conduct External School Review (ESR) since early February 2004, and 100 schools will have been covered by June 2004. Refinement on SDA has been made in June (including reporting on Key</p>

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			Performance Measures KPM) to facilitate implementation. An interim report on the results of implementation of the SDA framework will be prepared by the end of the 2003-04 school year.
<p>5. <u>Results of the 2003 Language Proficiency Assessment for teachers</u></p> <p>5.1 Options for upgrading the quality of English teachers</p>	23.6.03	The Panel requested the Administration to explore workable options for upgrading the quality of English teachers and provide a paper in October 2003.	<p>Response awaited.</p> <p><u>Latest Position</u> Teacher Education Institutions (TEIs) have introduced preparation courses for potential candidates for the Language Proficiency Assessment for Teachers.</p>
<p>6. <u>Study on teaching in small classes</u></p> <p>6.1 Strategies and practices of variable group teaching</p>	16.2.04	The Administration undertook to provide more information and references on the strategies and practices on variable group teaching.	<p>Response awaited.</p> <p><u>Latest Position</u> The Administration's response was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2844/03-04 on 17 June 2004.</p>

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<p>7. <u>Information Technology in Education - way forward</u></p> <p>7.1 Comparison with other jurisdictions in the use of IT in education</p>	<p>19 April 2004</p>	<p>The Panel requested the Administration to provide relevant information on the use of IT in education in Hong Kong in comparison with the figures in other jurisdictions.</p>	<p>Response awaited</p> <p><u>Latest Position</u> An information note will be prepared in due course taking account of the "Overall Study on Reviewing the Progress and Evaluating the IT in Education Projects 1998/2003" which is targeted for completion by end 2004.</p>
<p>8. <u>Consolidation of high cost and low utilization primary schools</u></p> <p>8.1 Policy and follow-up measures for schools not allocated primary one class in the 2004-05 school year</p>	<p>19 April 2004</p>	<p>The Panel requested the Administration to provide an information paper on its long-term policy and follow-up measures on primary schools which would not be allocated a P1 class, and provide an estimate on the number of primary schools which would be affected by the policy.</p>	<p>Response awaited</p> <p><u>Latest Position</u> The information paper to be prepared in due course taking into account the outcome of the legal implications of the various reviews in progress.</p>