Tel : 2810 2022 Fax : 2840 0569 Your Ref : CB2/HS/2/04

24 April 2008

Dr Hon Cheung Chiu Hung, Fernando Legislative Council 8 Jackson Road Central

Dear Dr Cheung,

Subcommittee to Study Issues Relating to the Provision of Boarding Places, Senior Secondary Education and Employment Opportunities for Children with Special Educational Needs

Education for non-Chinese-speaking children with special educational needs

The Financial Secretary has asked me to thank you for your letter of 9 April 2008.

Provision of education opportunities for children with special educational needs (SEN) is an integral part of the overall education system. Our established policy is to implement integrated education for students with SEN, including those non-Chinese-speaking children with SEN, in mainstream public sector schools. For children with severe, profound or multiple disabilities who are unable to benefit from mainstream education, they may attend special schools. The Administration is committed to providing all eligible children, irrespective of ethnic origin and physical or intellectual ability, with the opportunity to enjoy basic education in public sector schools. The Financial Secretary has asked the Secretary for Education to reply to you and explain the policy in detail. We understand that the Education Bureau is considering the views and suggestions raised

at the Subcommittee's meeting of 3 April 2008. We will deal with any improvement measures requiring additional resources in accordance with the established procedures of resource allocation.

Yours sincerely,

(Freely K Cheng) Administrative Assistant to Financial Secretary

c.c. Secretary for Education
Secretary for Labour and Welfare