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Responses from the Hong Kong Subsidized Secondary Schools Council (HKSSSC) on
(1) The Third Strategy on Information Technology in Education, &
(2) Upgrading of the Web-based School Administration and Management System

(1) The Third Strategy on Information Technology in Education
The HKSSSC supports the Third Strategy on Information Technology in Education on the whole, but would like to reiterate our views in the following aspects:

(a) With respect to the theme of the 3rd Strategy on IT in Education, "Right Technology at the Right Time for the Right Task", we think that this should be applied not only to the teachers, but also to the students.   We suggest that on top of the 6 Actions proposed, the EDB should include one more Action: "To enhance ethical education for students on application of Information Technology" to advocate the Government's concern on the needs to tackle with the trend of improper use of IT among students.

(b) For Action No. 5 "To strengthen technical support to schools and teachers", we strongly emphasize the needs for the provision of a permanent IT technician post with promotion prospect because this will definitely provide better job security to the staff concerned, and hence, will be useful in keeping the suitable personnel for a relatively longer period of time to enable better continuity in technical support for the IT facilities in schools.   We would also like to point out that as the provision of block grant or specified grant like CITG is adjusted in accordance with the Consumer Price Index annually without making reference to the pay scales in the employment market, heavy financial burden would be imposed to schools when the pay packages rise with surging salary scales in the employment market, resulting in a rapid staff turn over when schools cannot afford such financial burden.

2.   Upgrading of the Web-based School Administration and Management System

The HKSSSC strongly supports the needs for replacement of hardware and upgrading of system software for the WebSAMS in response to the changes related to NSS.   We think that as more and more schools are relying on this system for important functions, such as the release of public examinations results and timetabling, the Government should be held responsible to provide better supportive measures and a better back-up system to ensure un-interrupted service for schools.