

香港特別行政區政府  
政務司司長辦公室轄下行政署



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29 December 2015

Miss Flora TAI  
Clerk to the House Committee  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central  
Hong Kong

Dear Miss Tai,

### **Special House Committee meeting on 4 December 2015**

Regarding the question about after-school care services provided by schools as raised by Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT at the special House Committee meeting on 4 December 2015, the reply of the Education Bureau (EDB) is as follows:

2. In general, primary and secondary schools organise after-school activities (generally referred to as “extra-curricular activities”) for their students after school until 5:30 pm. To cater for the needs of students, schools will collect the views of parents/students and consider their school-specific conditions before organising after-school activities. This explains the diversified range of after-school activities, which include homework guidance/tutorial classes.

3. In this connection, schools and non-government organisations (NGOs) may participate in the School-based After-school Learning and Support Programmes run by EDB and obtain funding for organising school-based and district-based after-school activities respectively for the disadvantaged

students to facilitate their whole-person development and personal growth. As the provision is complementary in nature, EDB encourages schools to deploy and consolidate existing resources (including the Operating Expenses Block Grant for schools provided by EDB, charitable trust funds and similar support provided by other organisations) flexibly to provide the disadvantaged students with suitable after-school activities according to their needs and achieve synergy through collaboration with NGOs for sustained development of this kind of support. In the long run, it is expected that service networks can be established at the community level to provide holistic support for the disadvantaged students.

4. In the 2015/16 school year, the total funding provision for the above programmes is about \$240 million while the provision for school-based and district-based after-school activities is about \$120 million each. A total of 889 schools participate in such programmes to provide school-based after-school activities (representing 90% of the total number of public sector and Direct Subsidy Scheme schools in Hong Kong). The number of student beneficiaries is around 188 100. As for the district-based after-school activities, a total of 511 programmes are provided by 175 NGOs, with about 103 000 student participants in total.

5. Under the Community Care Fund - After-school Care Pilot Scheme implemented by EDB from the 2012/13 to 2015/16 school years, schools and NGOs are provided with funding support for organising extended after-school activities for primary one to secondary three students from low-income families to enable the students to consolidate their classroom learning and relieve parents of the pressure of getting their children to do homework. For the 2015/16 school year, over \$32 million has been allocated to 89 primary and secondary schools as well as NGOs participating in the pilot scheme. It is expected that about 10 400 students will benefit from the scheme.

6. In addition, in 2014-15, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) provided more than 5 500 places under the After School Care Programme (ASCP) through 149 centres run by non-profit-making organisations. There are various ASCP sessions from Monday to Friday. In general, the morning session runs from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm; the afternoon session from 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm; and the late afternoon session normally from 3:00 pm or 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm or 8:00 pm. SWD also provides additional resources to some ASCP operators to extend the service hours on weekday evenings, Saturdays, Sundays and non-school days.

7. Moreover, the Government injected \$400 million into the Partnership Fund for the Disadvantaged in 2015, with \$200 million earmarked as dedicated fund to provide more after-school learning and support programmes for primary and secondary school students from grassroots families to

facilitate their whole-person development. SWD received 89 eligible applications in the first round of invitation, involving a total commitment of business contribution of over \$50 million. The overall funding for the after-school learning and support programmes will amount to \$100 million if they are all matched with the dedicated fund. Of all the programmes approved, over 70 have commenced from the start of the 2015/16 school year, whereas the rest are also expected to commence within the 2015/16 school year. It is estimated that about 20 000 primary and secondary school students from grassroots families will benefit from these programmes.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Miss Agnes Ho', written in a cursive style.

( Miss Agnes Ho )  
for Director of Administration

cc. Policy and Project Co-ordination Unit (Attn: Ms Angelina Kwan)