



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 ChinaSpecial Education Division, 14/F Wu Chung House, 213 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong.
香港灣仔皇后大道東 213 號胡忠大廈 14 樓特殊教育分部本局檔號 Our Ref.: EDB/(SE&KG)/13-30/2(3)
來函檔號 Your Ref.:電話 Telephone: 2892 6501
傳真 Fax Line: 3579 4054

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Clerk to Panel
(Attn: Ms Angel WONG)
Legislative Council Panel on Education
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms WONG,

Panel on Education
List of Follow-up Actions on
Boarding Places at Special Schools

I refer to the briefing by the Secretary for Education on the Chief Executive's 2017 Policy Address on 31 October 2017 and would like to provide the relevant statistics on the boarding places at special schools for children with visual impairment, physical disability, moderate and severe intellectual disability (no boarding places are provided in schools for children with mild intellectual disability) as follows:

Table 1: Supply of and demand for boarding places at special schools in the 2017/18 school year (as at 15 September 2017)

School Type	No. of boarding places	No of boarders	No. of students on waiting list*
Schools for Children with visual impairment (VI)	107	77	0
Schools for Children with physical disability (PD)	268	229	26
Schools for Children with moderate intellectual disability (MoID)	333	318	127
Schools for Children with severe intellectual disability (SID)	408	351	13

* The figures reflect the situation on the particular date of the school year which includes cases of various background such as those cases whose admission were already being processed, those cases whose admission had been deferred as requested by parents, those cases whose parents had declined the initial offer(s) and opted to wait for another offer, etc.

Table 2: Average waiting time for boarding places at special schools from the 2014/15 to 2016/17 school year

School Type	Average Waiting Time (Year)#
Schools for Children with VI	0.1
Schools for Children with PD	0.5
Schools for Children with MoID	1.4
Schools for Children with SID	0.2

For some cases, their parents had requested for deferment of admission near the break of a school term/school year so as to facilitate learning adjustment and smooth transition of the students. The time spent had also been counted.

The Education Bureau (EDB) has been closely monitoring the supply and demand of boarding places in special schools and exploring feasible ways to increase the supply with reference to the actual demand. Currently, the overall supply of boarding places for different types of special schools is sufficient to meet the demand, except for schools for children with MoID. In this connection, the EDB has made optimal use of the space available in the boarding sections of schools for children with MoID, where relevant ordinances and regulations permit, for provision of additional boarding places in recent years. In addition, we have explored new measures with a view to increasing the provision. For instance, in the 2017/18 school year, we have piloted the operation of two MoID classes with 20 boarding places in a school for children with SID.

Also, some new school projects are in the pipeline. Subject to the funding approval and the timely completion of the construction works, the number of boarding places for students with MoID will be increased to around 400 in the 2020/21 school year.

Yours sincerely,



(Godwin LAI)
for Secretary for Education