



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 China

本局檔號 Our Ref.:  
來函檔號 Your Ref.:

電話 Telephone: (852) 2810 3781  
傳真 Fax Line: (852) 2110 1076

1 April 2021

Ms Angel WONG  
Clerk to the  
Subcommittee to Study the Development of Textbooks and Teaching  
Materials for Kindergartens, Primary and Secondary Schools  
Legislative Council Panel on Education  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms WONG,

**Panel on Education**

**Subcommittee to Study the Development of Textbooks and Teaching  
Materials for Kindergartens, Primary and Secondary Schools**

**Follow-up to meeting on 19 March 2021**

We refer to your letter dated 19 March 2021. With regard to the request made by the Subcommittee about the agenda item “Application of technology to assist teachers in using textbooks and teaching materials to meet curriculum aims and objectives”, our response is as follows.

The Education Bureau (EDB) has been enhancing schools’ information technology (IT) environment in terms of hardware, resources and

teacher training, thus enabling schools to devise school-based plans for practising e-learning in light of their school contexts and development needs, so as to make good use of IT to enhance learning and teaching effectiveness. When considering whole school planning and applying IT to teaching, schools may, having regard to the operational needs related to IT in education, flexibly deploy various subsidies, including the Composite Information Technology Grant and Information Technology Staffing Support Grant, for subscription of WiFi services, procurement of online learning resources as well as software and hardware for teaching, and strengthening of IT staffing support. Besides, the Policy Address this year has proposed that the Government will set aside \$500 million for supporting e-learning initiatives, including in the 2020/21 school year, to collaborate with the Hong Kong Education City Limited to explore and develop a more comprehensive and user-friendly teaching resources sharing platform to optimize the use of learning and teaching resources and encourage teachers to share quality teaching resources.

The EDB also organises professional development programmes (PDPs) for school leaders and teachers on an ongoing basis to equip them with the knowledge and skills needed for the implementation of e-learning. These programmes cover a wide range of topics, including pedagogical series, subject-related series, etc. We have conducted relevant PDPs to strengthen teachers' professional capabilities in using e-textbooks and other e-learning resources. Moreover, the IT in Education Centres of Excellence have been established to provide training and on-site/online remote support services. The EDB has also implemented a series of support measures to offer advice to teachers in need continuously and share good practices through the dedicated webpage, hotlines, mobile communication applications, online self-learning courses and webinars, etc.

The EDB fully understands the public's concern over the quality of teaching materials. It should be emphasised that part of the professional duties of teachers, as teaching professionals, is to exercise their expertise in selecting suitable teaching materials, making adaptation to the content of the materials, or even developing school-based materials on their own in accordance with the curriculum aims and objectives, and the standards and learning needs of their students. Nevertheless, there are both empowerment and accountability in school management. The school management (including the subject chairpersons) has the responsibility to understand and

monitor the resource materials selected and developed by teachers, and ensure that the contents and quality of the resources are aligned with the curriculum aims and objectives set by the Curriculum Development Council as well as the standards and learning needs of students, to enable them to construct knowledge, make analysis from different perspectives and express their views in an impartial and rational manner.

Yours sincerely

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

(Jeff SZE)  
for Secretary for Education