



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

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4 February 2021

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

Dear Ms WONG,

Panel on Education
Follow-up to the meeting on 8 January 2021

Thank you for your letter of 8 January 2021 requesting information on the 11 vacant school premises (“VSP”) in Tai Po which have been reviewed under the Central Clearing House Mechanism (“CCH Mechanism”). Our response is set out as follows.

It has all along been the Education Bureau (“EDB”)’s policy objective to put VSPs into gainful use. When there is a vacant or to-be-vacant school premises, EDB will assess the VSP’s suitability for school use having regard to factors including the size, location, physical conditions, etc., of the relevant premises, as well as the educational needs and relevant policy measures. When EDB confirms that a VSP is no longer required for its reallocation for

school use, it will, in accordance with the CCH Mechanism, inform the Planning Department (“PlanD”) and other relevant departments (such as the Lands Department and the Housing Department) for PlanD’s consideration of suitable alternative long-term uses.

The 11 VSPs in question were considered not required/ not suitable by EDB for reallocation for school use and have been reviewed by PlanD in accordance with the CCH Mechanism. Information on the 11 VSPs is as follows:

Item No.*	Former school name	Site area (m ²)	No. of Classrooms	School year in which the school ceased operation [^]
33	Tai Wo Public School	345	2	No information
34	Yat Sun School	65 [#]	1	1996/97
35	Yuk Yin School	400 [#]	5	2004/05
36	Lam Tsuen Public School	2 760	2	1988/89
37	Ming Tak School	3 270	6	1996/97
38	FMO Tai Po Primary School	2 760	7	1995/96
39	Shuen Wan Eu Tong Sen School	4 160 [#]	9	1995/96
40	Yau Sin School	268	1	1996
41	King Lam School	1 920	3	2003/04
42	Shing Ming School	1 340	6	1998/99
43	Wun Yiu Public School	127 [#]	7	1994/95

* The item number refers to those on the list of VSP sites reviewed under the CCH Mechanism as at end-December 2019.

The school site comprises both Government land and private land. The site area provided refers to that of Government land only.

[^] “School year in which the school ceased operation” refers to the year the school premises were ceased to be used by the original school on site.

EDB does not maintain any information pertaining to the current conditions and future uses of VSPs returned under the CCH Mechanism. According to the information published on the PlanD’s website, as at end-December 2019, the 11 VSPs concerned will be put to short-term uses pending permanent uses. Regarding the reasons for not reusing these school buildings for school use, it is pertinent to note that the 11 VSPs concerned fall short of

the prevailing standards of school building in terms of their sizes and facilities. Renovating these school buildings up to the prevailing standards for school use may not be cost-effective or viable. Having comprehensively assessed all relevant factors, the Administration has come to a view that the 11 VSPs should not be deployed for school use.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Philip HAR', written in a cursive style.

(Philip HAR)
for Secretary for Education