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Dear Principal

Examination Regulations for 2009 HKCEE and HKALE

Each year, the HKEAA conducts a review of the examination procedures and regulations in light of the cases where candidates failed to follow the examination regulations in the previous examination. The examination regulations are updated annually and are expressly stated in the Handbook for Candidates for candidates' reference. In order to ensure a smooth running of the examinations, I would like to seek your assistance in reminding your students who will be sitting the 2009 HKCEE / HKALE to abide by the regulations stipulated in the Handbook, paying particular attention to the following important changes:

1. ***Sitting the listening tests in the "Special Room"***

Candidates taking the listening tests of language subjects [i.e. CE Chinese Language (Cantonese), CE English Language, AS Chinese Language & Culture (Cantonese) and AS Use of English] are required to listen to the broadcast via their own radio with earphones. A "Special Room" is set up in each examination centre to accommodate candidates who encounter problems with their own radio / earphones (e.g. poor reception of the radio, radio / earphones not working). Each special room is equipped with an ordinary radio. **Candidates who sit the listening tests in the "Special Room" must listen to the radio broadcast through the ordinary radio provided in the room and cannot use their own radio with earphones; otherwise, they may receive a mark penalty.** Details are given in *Annex 6* of the Handbook for Candidates.

2. ***Use of Calculators***

Electronic calculators may be used in any examination session, **except for the following language subject examinations:**

HKCEE Chinese Language, English Language, Putonghua and French
HKALE Chinese Language & Culture and Use of English

3. ***Removal of Barcode Labels from Examination Centre***

Candidates are **not** allowed to remove any examination materials, including unused barcode labels, from the examination centre. **Candidates who violate this regulation may receive a mark penalty.**

4. ***Answer books and supplementary answer sheets***

Changes have been made to the design of answer books and supplementary answer sheets. Candidates must follow the necessary instructions when **marking the question number box on each page** of the answer books and supplementary answer sheets. Details are given in *Annex 2* of the Handbook for Candidates.

5. ***Appeals at component level***

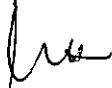
Starting from 2009, candidates may submit full appeal on a subject or component basis for the following subjects:

HKCEE	Chinese Language, English Language and Putonghua
HKALE	Chinese Language & Culture, Liberal Studies and Use of English

Penalty cases for 2008 examinations

Attached for your information are the statistics showing the penalties imposed on some of your students for not observing the examination regulations in the 2008 HKCEE / HKALE.

Yours faithfully



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