



PRESS RELEASE

Contingency measures for the 2020 HKDSE

In response to the latest situation of infections caused by a Novel Coronavirus in the community, the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (HKEAA) announced today (6 February) a number of contingency and precautionary measures for the 2020 Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (HKDSE), devised to safeguard the health and interest of candidates and to maintain the integrity and quality of the HKDSE.

Written examinations of 24 HKDSE Category A subjects **will be held according to the published timetable** starting with the Visual Arts examination which is scheduled for 27 March 2020. Please refer to the [Examination Timetable](#) for details.

However, some of the examinations will be rescheduled:

- **Practical examinations of Physical Education (PE) and Music:** the practical examinations of PE (Paper 3) and Music (Papers 2 & 4B), originally scheduled for late February to late March, will be postponed to May 2020 (further details to be announced).
- **Speaking examinations of language subjects:** the speaking examinations of Chinese Language, originally set to be held between 11 and 19 March 2020, will be postponed to 18 – 26 May 2020, while the English Language speaking examinations will be conducted from 4 to 12 May 2020.

Regarding the School-based Assessment (SBA), the mark submission deadlines of all outstanding subjects will be extended to 31 March 2020. Schools are encouraged to submit SBA marks to the HKEAA as soon as completing the assessments concerned so as to facilitate timely processing of marks.

Due to the above changes in examination dates, the release of results for the 2020 HKDSE will be postponed from 8 July to 15 July (tentative).

The HKEAA and Education Bureau will closely monitor and assess the situation of the Novel Coronavirus infections. If the Education Bureau decides that it is still not suitable for schools to resume in late February, HKDSE written examinations, planned to start on 27 March, may be postponed for four weeks, while the speaking examinations and some or all of the practical examinations may be cancelled. Thus, the release of HKDSE examination results will also be deferred to a later date. The HKEAA will announce further details as soon as possible.

The HKEAA will ensure that candidates are equitably assessed under suitable conditions and a series of precautionary measures (refer to the Annex), based on the recommendations of the Centre for Health Protection, will be implemented during the examinations. Candidates are required to make declaration on their health condition and recent travel history. Candidates in quarantine and unable to attend the examinations should inform the HKEAA as soon as possible.

For enquiries, please contact the Public Examinations Information Centre at 3628 8860 during office hours (Monday - Friday: 8:30am - 5:30pm) or by email to: dse@hkeaa.edu.hk

–End–

Date: 6 February 2020

Annex: Highlights of Precautionary Measures

1. The HKEAA will remind examination and administration personnel, as well as candidates to take extra care of their personal hygiene, and maintain strict environmental hygiene at the examination centre. All examination and administration personnel and candidates are required to put on masks and are required to use alcohol sanitizers before entering the examination centre.
2. To monitor the body temperature of examination and administration personnel, as well as candidates, they are required to measure their body temperature every day and fill out a declaration form. In case they have fever and severe respiratory disease symptoms (such as cough or shortness of breath, etc.), they should not go to any examination centre.
3. Body temperature screening will be set up at the entrance of the examination centre. Candidates with body temperature exceeding 38°C are required to leave the examination venue for home or visiting a doctor.
4. Before the start of the first session of the examination each day, candidates are required to complete a declaration form indicating their body temperature and that they are not feeling unwell, and have not travelled to the Mainland in the last 14 days. Any false declaration made by candidates will be considered as violation of the examination regulations.
5. Candidates in quarantine and unable to attend the examinations should inform the HKEAA as soon as possible.
6. Candidates refusing to cooperate or making false declaration may receive penalty or even be disqualified from the whole examination.