This booklet is for parents whose children are taking the Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination Chinese Language and English Language. It explains the School-based Assessment (SBA) component, what it is and how parents can support their children to do well. It also provides guidelines that students should follow.

**What is SBA?**
- It is an assessment carried out by schools as part of the teaching and learning process, with student being marked by their subject teachers.
- Marks awarded will count towards students' public examination results.

**How will students benefit from the SBA?**
- Integrates teaching and learning with assessment.
- Offers a more comprehensive appraisal of students' performance.
- Helps students understand their strengths and weaknesses through quality feedback from teachers, leading to continuous improvement.
- Boosts students' confidence and motivation to learn.
- Enhances autonomous learning and
- enables students to achieve their best in more relaxed and familiar settings.
How is SBA implemented in schools?

Chinese Language:

- The assessment includes reading, writing, oral work, and other language activities.
- The learning outcomes are assessed in the form of various assignments, end-of-unit reports, and presentations.
- Schools need to tailor the assessment tasks and the language activities to the needs of their students.

English Language:

- Students take three tests (including books, films, and demonstrations) over the course of two years, and then participate in group discussions or make individual presentations on what they have studied.

In order to implement SBA effectively, schools need to assess their current situation and devise their own implementation plan. Therefore, specific implementation details will vary from school to school.

Teacher for SBA Implementation:

There is a phase in period for the implementation of HKEEC Chinese Language and English Language SBA between 2007 and 2009. Taking into account the circumstances within their school, principals should consult their teachers and parents to develop an appropriate implementation schedule for each subject, and communicate the schedule to the school’s election to parents and students.

How will fairness be ensured in SBA?

The SBEA will:

- provide detailed assessment criteria and examples to ensure consistency in teachers’ assessments;
- provide ongoing professional training to enhance teachers’ understanding of the SBA;
- use statistical methods to establish SBA marks with reference to students’ public examination scores. The SBA marks may be adjusted but the rank order determined by the school will not be changed.

What guidelines must students follow?

Students should:

- understand the requirements and procedures of the SBA;
- complete coursework or assigned activities on time;
- keep a record of their work;
- ensure the work done is their own. Any student found to be cheating or using plagiarized materials will face serious consequences. The most severe penalty is disqualification from the HKCEE examination.
How can parents support their children?

Parents should:
- Encourage their children to take part in language-related activities to enhance learning and broaden their horizons.
- Create a good environment for them to read and study at home.
- Develop their interest in reading and encourage them to choose appropriate books from libraries.
- Communicate with their children to stimulate active thinking and develop their language skills.

Parents should not:
- Assign overloads for their children.
- Force them to copy others’ work.

Frequently-asked Questions

1. Will students from different schools take different SBA tests?

SBA recognises the diverse needs of students studying in different schools. Therefore, schools need to devise their own teaching and assessment strategies to suit the learning. However, teachers have to follow the same assessment criteria provided by the HKCEE.

2. Do repeat or transfer students in S1 need to take part in the SBA?

Such students will follow the same SBA programme as the other S1 students in their class. Their marks will be proportionately adjusted.

3. Do repeat candidates need to take part in the SBA?

Private candidates will not need to complete the SBA component. Their subject marks will be derived entirely on their public examination results and their certificates will be awarded accordingly.

4. Is it unfair that some students will have SBA marks included in the HKCEE subjects result and some won’t?

No, candidates without SBA marks will have their public examination results adjusted. The overall subject results will be comparable whether SBA marks are included or not because similar students are being assessed in the public examinations and HKCEE.

5. What can parents do if their children have queries about their SBA marks?

They should encourage their children to talk to their teachers and express their views. Parents can approach the school administration. The school can look into the case following its existing complaint handling procedures and take any unresolved cases to the HKExA. The Authority has established grievance handling procedures with various complaints related to public examinations and will be able to handle cases regarding disputes over SBA marks.