

**HONG KONG DIPLOMA OF SECONDARY EDUCATION EXAMINATION 2020**  
**Examination Circular No. (7) 2019/2020**  
**2021 Examination Timetable and Date of Release of Results**

1. This circular is to inform schools of the examination schedule for the 2021 Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (HKDSE) and the tentative date of release of results, and to seek schools' support and co-operation to ensure the smooth conduct of the examinations.
2. In drawing up the 2021 HKDSE examination schedule for Category A subjects (*Annex 1*), consideration has been given to the extended class suspension in the school year 2019/20, the school holidays for the year 2020/21, the subject combination statistics for the 2019 and 2020 examinations as well as the general pattern of the previous years' examination. The main features of the 2021 examination timetable are as follows:
  - (a) As the 2021 Easter public holidays and Ching Ming Festival fall between 2 and 6 April, the core subject examinations (i.e. Chinese Language, Liberal Studies, English Language and Mathematics Compulsory Part) will be held after the Easter school break, i.e. from 12 to 19 April.
  - (b) The Chinese Language speaking examinations will be held in late March and the English Language speaking examinations in mid-May.
  - (c) In view of the large entries of the core subjects and the special venue requirements for listening component of the two language subjects, some schools will have to suspend classes so as to free up their classrooms as examination venues. While the possible class suspension could be up to five days, the majority of these schools would only be required to suspend classes for about two days.
  - (d) For elective subjects, those with an SBA component or options requiring equating will be examined earlier. Subjects without SBA will be examined later. Simulations of the subject combinations have been conducted with a view to minimising the number of candidates who have to sit examinations on two or three consecutive days.
  - (e) Three examination dates have been tentatively earmarked for Design and Applied Technology (DAT), Technology and Living (TL), Physical Education (PE) and Music examinations. Two or more of these subjects will be scheduled on the same day only if there is no overlap of candidates. In case no examination is scheduled for 11 May, it will be used as a reserve examination date. In addition, 12 May 2021 will be reserved for contingency purposes.
3. The examination timetable for Category C (Other Languages) subjects for the 2021 HKDSE (i.e. November 2020 series) is shown in *Annex 2*.

**Date of Release of Results**

4. The date for the release of the 2021 Categories A and B examination results is tentatively scheduled for **Wednesday, 14 July 2021**. For Category C examinations, the exact date for the release of results will be announced in January 2021.

## Support from schools

5. To ensure the smooth conduct of the 2021 HKDSE, the cooperation and collaborative support from all participating schools is indispensable. Schools are requested to note the highlights of the 2021 examination timetable *in paragraph 2 above* when planning their calendars and activities for 2020/21.
6. Over the years, schools have been our important partners in examination administration through their provision of invigilation staff and school premises for the conduct of examinations, which is a requirement of schools' participation in the public examinations. Despite the declining candidature in recent years, we still encounter great difficulty in securing sufficient venues for the written examinations of the core subjects for both normal and SEN candidates. As a result, some of your candidates have to be allocated to examination centres other than their choice of district. To minimise the number of schools that have to suspend classes and to cater for the choice of district of your candidates, we earnestly request schools' continued support by **making available their school halls and/or classrooms for the conduct of the core subject written examinations with the largest entries**:

Written examinations	Chinese Language	Monday, 12 April 2021 (AM)
		Tuesday, 13 April 2021 (AM)
	Liberal Studies	Wednesday, 14 April 2021 (AM)
	English Language	Friday, 16 April 2021 (AM)
		Saturday, 17 April 2021 (AM)
Mathematics Compulsory Part	Monday, 19 April 2021 (AM)	

7. Although the number of examination centres required for speaking examinations of the language subjects is much smaller than that for written examinations, the acute shortage of suitable school venues has become a major concern in recent years. Owing to the unavailability of examination centres in some districts, oral examiners and candidates have to be assigned to examination centres located not in their chosen districts. To facilitate our planning for the 2021 HKDSE, schools are urged to **make their classrooms available for the conduct of the speaking examinations for both normal and SEN sessions** on the dates shown below:

Speaking examinations	Chinese Language	23 March – 31 March 2021 (tentative) (Mon – Fri, 5:00 pm – 8:30 pm)
	English Language	10 May – 18 May 2021 (tentative) (Mon – Fri, 5:00 pm – 8:30 pm)
	Sessions for SEN candidates (including Chinese Language and English Language)	21 May – 26 May 2021 (tentative) (Mon – Fri, 5:00 pm – 8:30 pm)

## Proposed Timeframe for Examination Accommodation

8. Instead of inviting schools to reserve their venues for the 2021 HKDSE in late June/early July 2020, the accommodation requirements for the 2021 Examination will be sent to schools in September 2020. The three-year plan for the provision of venues for the speaking examinations will also be reviewed.
9. Schools are requested to draw the attention of their teachers and students concerned to the contents of this circular.

MARGARET HUI (MS)  
General Manager, School Examinations and Assessment Division

To: Principals of Participating Schools

2021 年香港中學文憑考試時間表  
Examination Timetable for 2021 HKDSE

日期及時間 Date & Time		應考科目 Subjects to be examined	
四月九日(星期五) Apr. 9 Fri	AM PM	Visual Arts 1,2	視覺藝術 (一) 及 (二)
四月十二日 (星期一) Apr. 12 Mon	AM PM	Chinese Language 1,2	中國語文 (一) 及 (二)
四月十三日 (星期二) Apr. 13 Tue	AM PM	Chinese Language 3 (Listening and Integrated Skills)	中國語文 (三) (聆聽及綜合能力考核)
四月十四日 (星期三) Apr. 14 Wed	AM PM	Liberal Studies 1,2	通識教育 (一) 及 (二)
四月十六日 (星期五) Apr. 16 Fri	AM PM	English Language 1,2	英國語文 (一) 及 (二)
四月十七日 (星期六) Apr. 17 Sat	AM PM	English Language 3 (Listening and Integrated Skills)	英國語文 (三) (聆聽及綜合能力考核)
四月十九日 (星期一) Apr. 19 Mon	AM PM	Mathematics Compulsory Part 1,2	數學 必修部分 (一) 及 (二)
四月二十日 (星期二) Apr. 20 Tue	AM PM	Technology & Living 1,2 (Note 2) / Design & Applied Technology 1,2 (Note 2) / Music 1A & 1B (Note 2)	科技與生活 (一) 及 (二) (註 2) / 設計與應用科技 (一) 及 (二) (註 2) / 音樂 1A 及 1B (註 2)
四月二十一日 (星期三) Apr. 21 Wed	AM PM	Physics 1,2 / Combined Science (Physics)	物理 (一) 及 (二) / 組合科學 (物理)
四月二十二日 (星期四) Apr. 22 Thu	AM PM	Chinese Literature 1,2	中國文學 (一) 及 (二)
四月二十三日(星期五) Apr. 23 Fri	AM PM	Information & Communication Technology 1,2	資訊及通訊科技 (一) 及 (二)
四月二十四日 (星期六) Apr. 24 Sat	AM PM	Literature in English 1 / Design & Applied Technology 1,2 (Note 2) Literature in English 2	英語文學 (一) / 設計與應用科技 (一) 及 (二) (註 2) 英語文學 (二)
四月二十六日(星期一) Apr. 26 Mon	AM PM	Biology 1,2 / Combined Science (Biology)	生物 (一) 及 (二) / 組合科學 (生物)
四月二十七日(星期二) Apr. 27 Tue	AM PM	Health Management & Social Care 1,2	健康管理與社會關懷 (一) 及 (二)
四月二十八日(星期三) Apr. 28 Wed	AM PM	Integrated Science 1,2 / Chemistry 1,2 / Combined Science (Chemistry)	綜合科學 (一) 及 (二) / 化學 (一) 及 (二) / 組合科學 (化學)
四月二十九日(星期四) Apr. 29 Thu	AM PM	Ethics & Religious Studies 1,2	倫理與宗教 (一) 及 (二)
四月三十日(星期五) Apr. 30 Fri	AM PM	Business, Accounting & Financial Studies 1,2	企業、會計與財務概論 (一) 及 (二)
五月三日(星期一) May 3 Mon	AM PM	Geography 1,2	地理 (一) 及 (二)
五月四日 (星期二) May 4 Tue	AM PM	Physical Education 1,2 (Note 2) / Music 1A & 1B (Note 2) / Technology & Living 1,2 (Note 2)	體育 (一) 及 (二) (註 2) / 音樂 1A 及 1B (註 2) / 科技與生活 (一) 及 (二) (註 2)
五月五日(星期三) May 5 Wed	AM PM	History 1,2	歷史 (一) 及 (二)
五月六日(星期四) May 6 Thu	AM PM	Mathematics Extended Part Modules 1,2	數學 延伸部分 單元 (一) 及 (二)
五月七日 (星期五) May 7 Fri	AM PM	Tourism & Hospitality Studies 1,2	旅遊與款待 (一) 及 (二)
五月八日(星期六) May 8 Sat	AM PM	Economics 1,2	經濟 (一) 及 (二)
五月十日(星期一) May 10 Mon	AM PM	Chinese History 1,2	中國歷史 (一) 及 (二)
五月十一日 (星期二) May 11 Tue	AM PM	Physical Education 1,2 (Note 2) / Music 1A & 1B (Note 2) / Reserve	體育 (一) 及 (二) (註 2) / 音樂 1A 及 1B (註 2) / 後備
五月十二日 (星期三) May 12 Wed	AM PM	Reserve	後備

註：

- Note:**
- 2021 年 5 月 1 日(勞動節)  
1 May 2021 (Labour Day)
  - 設計與應用科技、科技與生活、體育及音樂科的考試日期，將會在 2020 年 11 月，即一般報考日期完結後落實，倘沒有重覆考生報考，兩個或以上科目將會被安排於同日進行考試。  
The examination dates for Design & Applied Technology, Technology & Living, Physical Education and Music will be finalised in November 2020 after the normal closing date of registration and two or more subjects will be scheduled on the same day only if there is no overlap of candidates.

**實習考試/口試日期 Examination Period for Practical/Speaking Examinations**

體育（實習考試）	:	2021年2月中旬至3月下旬
Physical Education – Practical	:	mid-February – late March 2021
音樂（實習考試）	:	2021年2月下旬至4月中旬
Music – Practical	:	late February – mid-April 2021
中國語文（口試）	:	2021年3月23至31日(星期一至星期五)(暫定)
Chinese Language – Speaking	:	23 – 31 March 2021 (Monday to Friday) (tentative)
英國語文（口試）	:	2021年5月10至18日(星期一至星期五)(暫定)
English Language – Speaking	:	10– 18 May 2021 (Monday to Friday) (tentative)

**放榜日期(暫定) Date of Release of Results (tentative)**

約於2021年7月14日  
Around 14 July 2021

**Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination 2021  
Category C (Other Languages) Subjects  
Examination Timetable**

The examinations for the 2021 HKDSE Category C (Other Languages) subjects will be conducted in October 2020. As announced by Cambridge Assessment International Education (Cambridge International), the examination timetable is as follows:

<b>Date of Examination</b>	<b>Subject/Paper</b>	<b>Examination Time</b>
1 October 2020 (Thursday)	Hindi 3 Urdu 3	1:00 pm to 2:30 pm
7 October 2020 (Wednesday)	French 2 German 2	8:30 am to 10:15 am
13 October 2020 (Tuesday)	Japanese 2 Spanish 2	8:30 am to 10:15 am
14 October 2020 (Wednesday)	French 3 German 3	8:30 am to 10:00 am
19 October 2020 (Monday)	Hindi 2 Urdu 2	1:00 pm to 2:45 pm
21 October 2020 (Wednesday)	Japanese 3	8:30 am to 10:00 am
27 October 2020 (Tuesday)	Spanish 3	8:30 am to 10:00 am

The speaking examinations of the above subjects (except Hindi and Urdu Languages) will be held between 1 and 18 October 2020. (*Note: There is no speaking component for the Hindi and Urdu examinations with effect from the 2020 HKDSE.*)

The examination results will be released in late January 2021.