

12 March 2024

To: Principals of HKDSE Participating Schools

Dear Principal,

2025 and 2026 Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) Category C (Other Languages) Subjects

Examination schedule of language examinations of Category C subjects in the 2024 calendar year

I write to provide the registration and examination schedule of the language examinations which will be held in the 2024 calendar year. These examinations include French Language, German Language, Japanese Language, Korean Language, Spanish Language and Urdu Language examinations administered by the official organisations and are accepted for the HKDSE Category C subjects.

Starting from the 2025 HKDSE, candidates have to take the stipulated language examinations administered in Hong Kong by the official organisations for the HKDSE Category C subjects. Candidates should enroll themselves with the examination administrators of these language examinations according to the schedule of the respective language examinations.

The HKDSE accepts language examination results taken within two years prior to the candidates' sitting of the HKDSE. For example, for the 2025 HKDSE, language examinations taken from January 2023 to December 2024 are accepted. Similarly, for the 2026 HKDSE, language examinations taken from January 2024 to December 2025 are accepted. If candidates attain the specified minimum proficiency level or higher in these examinations, they have the option to incorporate these results into the HKDSE Category C subjects. During the registration period for the HKDSE, which takes place in September of the year preceding the examination, candidates are required to inform their school of their intention to enroll in the respective Category C subject. If candidates wish to include their results from the Other Languages examinations in the HKDSE, they should provide the results and upload relevant supporting documents during the HKDSE registration process for verification by the respective official organisations. It is, therefore, important for candidates to take note of the timeline for certificate/diploma issuance. Details about the registration for Category C subjects in the 2025 HKDSE will be provided in early September 2024. Candidates should also provide consent to the official organisations for the disclosure of their language examination results to the HKEAA for the above purposes.

For more information about the HKDSE Category C subjects in the 2025 exam and beyond, please refer to this link: https://www.hkeaa.edu.hk/en/HKDSE/assessment/subject_information/category_c_subjects/.

I would be grateful if you could disseminate the above information and those in the **Appendix** to teachers who are in charge of Other Languages subjects and students who are interested in taking these examinations.

In case of enquiries, please contact Ms Lydia Lai on 3628 8070.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours sincerely,



CHOY Siu-kwan

Head of Assessment Development

Appendix

Examination schedule (in the 2024 calendar year) of language examinations of Category C subjects

French Language

Diplôme d'Études en Langue Française (or Diploma of French Language Studies in English) (DEL F) and Diplôme Approfondi de Langue Française (or Advanced Diploma of French Language Studies in English) (DALF) is normally administered several times a year.

Candidates are required to attain DELF Junior or All public A2 or above (B1-B2), DALF All public C1-C2 in order for their DELF / DALF results to be included in the HKDSE Category C subject.

Exam	Level	Registration	Examination dates	Release of results	Issuance of certificate / diploma
DEL F (Junior)	A2	6 March - 6 April 2024	7-8 May 2024 09:00-16:30 Written test: 7 May 09:00-10:40	Results will be sent to candidates by email about 10 weeks after the exam.	Diplomas will be issued to candidates with 'passed' ('admis') results by the French Ministry of Education. This normally takes about 4 months after the results are sent to candidates.
DEL F (Junior)	B1	6 March - 6 April 2024	9-10 May 2024 09:00-16:30 Written test: 9 May 09:00-10:55		
DEL F (Junior)	B2	6 March - 6 April 2024	13-14 May 2024 09:00-16:30 Written test: 13 May 09:00-11:30		
DALF (All public)	C1	16 February - 16 March 2024	22-24 April 2024 09:00 - 16:30 Written test: 23 April 09:00-13:00		
DALF (All public)	C2	16 February - 16 March 2024	24-26 April 2024 09:00 - 16:30 Written test: 24 April 09:00-12:30		
DEL F (Junior)	A2	2 October - 2 November 2024	3-4 December 2024 09:00 - 16:30 Written test: 3 December 09:00-10:40		
DEL F (Junior)	B1	2 October - 2 November 2024	5-6 December 2024 09:00 - 16:30 Written test: 5 December 09:00-10:55		
DEL F (Junior)	B2	2 October - 2 November 2024	9-10 December 2024 09:00 - 16:30 Written test: 9 December 09:00-11:30		
DALF (All public)	C1	5 September - 5 October 2024	13-15 November 2024 09:00 - 16:30 Written test: 13 November 09:00-13:00		
DALF (All public)	C2	5 September - 5 October 2024	18-20 November 2024 09:00 - 16:30 Written test: 18 November 09:00-12:30		

Please contact Alliance Française Hong Kong for more information about DELF/DALF examinations:
For DELF Junior (age 11-17) - A2 to B2: <https://www.afhongkong.org/en/exams/delf-junior/>
For DELF/DALF All public - A2 to C2: <https://www.afhongkong.org/en/exams/delf-dalf/>

German Language

The Goethe-Zertifikat Fit in Deutsch is a German examination for young people between the age of 12 and 16. Students who are 17 or older can take the Goethe-Zertifikat, which is a German examination for adults.

Candidates are required to attain A2 or above (B1-C2) in order for their Goethe-Zertifikat results to be included in the HKDSE Category C subject.

Level	Examinations	Registration	Examination dates	Issuance of certificate / diploma
A2	A2	2 April - 20 April 2024 10 April - 28 April 2024 16 May - 3 June 2024	30 April 2024 8 May 2024 13 June 2024	The result announcement date is also the earliest certificate issuance date, but students receive their certificate usually 5 working days after the result is released.
	A2 Fit (Teenagers)	28 April - 16 May 2024	26 May 2024	
B1	B1	29 February - 18 March 2024 22 March - 9 April 2024 19 April - 7 May 2024 22 May - 9 June 2024	28 March 2024 19 April 2024 17 May 2024 19 June 2024	
	B1 Fit (Teenager)	19 March-6 April 2024	16 April 2024	
B2	B2	6 March - 24 March 2024 7 May - 25 May 2024	3 April 2024 4 June 2024	
B2/C1	TestDaF		26 March 2024 18 April 2024 6 June 2024	
C1	C1 digital	28 May - 15 June 2024	25 June 2024	
C2	C2	23 April - 11 May 2024	21 May 2024	

The examination schedule for July to December 2024 is yet to be decided. Please refer to the website of Goethe Institut Hong Kong for updated information.

Please contact Goethe Institut Hong Kong for more information about German Language examination:
<https://www.goethe.de/ins/hon/en/spr/prf/es2.html> .

Japanese Language

Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) is administered twice a year, with one in July and one in December.

Candidates are required to attain N3 or above (N2 and N1) in order for their JLPT results to be included in the HKDSE Category C subject.

Examination	Level	Registration	Examination date	Release of results	Issuance of certificate / diploma
JLPT	N1-N3	Mid to end of March 2024	7 July 2024	End of August 2024	Early - October 2024
JLPT	N1-N3	Mid to end of August 2024	1 December 2024	End of January (2025)	Mid - March (2025)

Please contact Society of Japanese Language Education, Hong Kong for more information about JLPT examination: <https://www.japanese-edu.org.hk/jp/jlpt/en/news.html>.

Korean Language

In the year 2024, paper-based TOPIK II will be held 3 times in Hong Kong.

Candidates are required to attain Grade 3 or above (Grades 4-6) in order for their TOPIK results to be included in the HKDSE Category C subject.

Examination	Registration	Examination date	Release of results
TOPIK II	15-25 January 2024	14 April 2024	30 May 2024
TOPIK II	29 April-9 May 2024	14 July 2024	22 August 2024
TOPIK II	15-25 July 2024	13 October 2024	28 November 2024

The TOPIK result can be checked through the TOPIK official website www.topik.go.kr on the test result release day. Candidates may print out further copies of the test results by themselves through the Korea TOPIK website within the validity period if needed.

Please contact Korean International School, Hong Kong for more information about paper-based TOPIK examination: <https://www.topik-hk.org/eng/news.asp?id=20221017>.

Starting from 2024, Internet-based TOPIK II are administered by the HKEAA. Information for IBT-TOPIK II is available at <https://www.hkeaa.edu.hk/en/IPE/TOPIK/TOPIK.html>.

Spanish Language

The Diplomas de Español (DELE) is administered twice by UOW College of Hong Kong and Spanish World Hong Kong in the year 2024.

Candidates are required to attain A2 or above (B1-C2) in order for their DELE results to be included in the HKDSE Category C subject.

Registration period provided by UOW College of Hong Kong and Spanish World Hong Kong	Examination date	Result announcement dates	Issuance of official DELE Diploma
From now to 3 April 2024	17 May 2024	15 August 2024	15 January (2025)
From now to 9 October 2024	22 November 2024	15 February (2025)	15 July (2025)

Please contact UOW College Hong Kong or Spanish World Hong Kong for more information about DELE examination:

<https://www.uowchk.edu.hk/study-at-uowchk/find-programmes/international-language-proficiency-tests/diplomas-de-espaol-como-lengua-extranjera-dele/> and;
<https://spanishworldgroup.com/hk/dele-exam/>.

Urdu Language

Urdu (International) is administered twice a year. Candidates need to attain Grade E or above in order for the results to be included in the HKDSE Category C subjects with effect from the 2026 HKDSE. For more information, please visit the websites of The Federal Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education (FBISE):

https://www.fbise.edu.pk/hongkong_papers.php and;
<https://www.fbise.edu.pk/Syllabus/HongKong/Power%20point%20presentation%20-%20Urdu%20International.pdf>.

For enquiries, please contact FBISE at the following email addresses: director@fbise.edu.pk and dsra@fbise.edu.pk.