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7 September 2012

To: Principals of HKDSE participating schools

Dear Principal

**Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) Examination  
Milestone Plan for 2013 Examination**

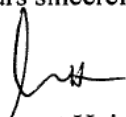
I am enclosing the milestone plan for the 2013 HKDSE Examination for your reference. Your attention is drawn in particular to the administrative arrangements for the examination in the following areas:

- (a) The September registration for Category A, Category B and Category C (Other Languages – June 2013 Series) subjects will be accepted via the HKDSE Examination Registration System from 19 September to 11 October 2012. Details are promulgated in the Examination Circular No. (2) dated 7 September 2012.
- (b) Applications for special examination arrangements for candidates with special needs sitting the 2013 and 2014 examinations are being accepted via the SEA Online Services from 5 to 24 September 2012.
- (c) To facilitate the HKEAA in arranging examination accommodation for the 2013 HKDSE Examination, schools will be requested to update the school information and facilities, and to confirm the availability of their examination venues for the conduct of the written and speaking examinations through the Examination Centre Management (ECM) System from 19 September to 28 September 2012.
- (d) Submission of the School-based Assessment (SBA) marks and samples of students' work for Secondary 6 students will take place from December 2012 to March 2013. The submission of SBA marks for Secondary 5 students will take place from May to July 2013. SBA Teachers' Conferences for the 12 subjects with SBA in 2013 HKDSE Examination will be held from October to November 2012.

In view of the positive feedback from schools on the 2012 HKDSE practice papers, the HKEAA has decided to produce the practice papers for Liberal Studies for the 2013 HKDSE cohort. After consultations with the Advisory Committee on Public Examinations Administration (comprising school principals and school teachers), it has been agreed that the Liberal Studies practice papers will be provided in electronic form and be uploaded to the HKDSE Examination Online Services at <https://www.hkdse.hkeaa.edu.hk>. Principals and School Examination Officers can login their designated user account to access and download the practice papers on 13 December 2012 and the marking schemes on 17 December 2012. The Authority will also arrange seminars for schools to learn how to set question papers and marking guidelines.

To foster our communication with schools, we will provide details on the major events listed in the milestone plan on a need basis. In case of enquiries, please contact Mr. K.W. Lok on 3628 8950.

Yours sincerely



Margaret Hui (Ms)  
General Manager, School Examinations and Assessment Division

## Milestone Plan for Schools for 2013 HKDSE (as at 7 September 2012)

Month / 2012	Activity
25 June to 13 July	June Registration for Cat C subjects (Nov 2012 series) and application for special examination arrangements (SEA) for Cat C Nov 2012 series
26 June	Briefing for schools on the use of the HKDSE Examination Registration System and SEA Online Services for June Registration
23 July	Payment deadline for June registration for Cat C subjects (Nov 2012 series)
27 August	Letter to schools on Guidelines for Processing Public Examination Irregularities
30 August	Circular on application for SEA for SEN candidates for 2013 and 2014 HKDSE
Late August to early September	E-survey on schools and candidates regarding the examination / administration of the 2012 HKDSE and the HKDSE Examination Online Services
5 to 24 September	Application for SEA for SEN candidates for 2013 and 2014 HKDSE
7 September	Circular on registration of school candidates for Cat A, B & C (Jun 2013 series) subjects
7 September	Circular on Examination Fee Remission for 2013 HKDSE
13 and 18 September	School briefings on HKDSE Examination Registration System, Examination Centre Management (ECM) System and SEA Online Services (13 September only)
19, 21 and 24 September	Hands-on training workshops for schools on the HKDSE Examination Registration System, ECM System and SEA Online Services
19 September to 11 October	Registration for Cat A, B & C (Jun 2013 series) subjects and application for examination fee remission Updating of school information, facilities and confirmation of availability of examination accommodation through Examination Centre Management System
September	Letter to schools on updating school information and examination accommodation
End September	Issue of Instructions to Candidates and admission form for Cat C (Nov 2012 series) examinations
October to November	Conduct of Cat C (Nov 2012 series) examinations Written: 17 October – 20 November; Speaking: 19, 20 and 27 October
October to November	SBA Teachers' Conferences for 12 subjects with SBA in 2013 HKDSE
19 October	Payment deadline for 2013 HKDSE registration (late payment with supplementary fee up to 27 October)
19 November to 7 December	Late entry/subject amendment to the 2013 HKDSE Examination
Late November	Circular on markers/oral examiners' recruitment
Early December	Issue of Handbook for Candidates for 2013 HKDSE
Early December	Provisional examination accommodation for written and speaking examinations for Cat A subjects

7 December	Deadline of submission of additional Examination Fee Remission applications
14 December	Payment deadline for 2013 HKDSE late entry/subject amendment
13 December	Delivery of Liberal Studies practice papers via HKDSE Examination Online Services
17 December	Release of Liberal Studies practice papers marking schemes via HKDSE Examination Online Services
December to March	Submission of S6 SBA marks and samples of students' work for 12 subjects with SBA in 2013 HKDSE
Mid January 2013	Final examination accommodation for written and speaking examinations for Cat A subjects (normal and special centres)
Late January to mid February	Issue of 2013 HKDSE examination admission forms to candidates: Practical Examinations: late January Written and Speaking Examinations: mid February  Release of Cat. C subjects (Nov 2012 series) examination results Application for rechecking and remarking of Category C subjects (Nov 2012 series) results
February to April	Physical Education practical examinations - mid February to late March Music practical examinations - late February to mid April
2nd week of March to late March	Chinese Language Speaking examinations
March	Update on 2015 Examination Regulations and Assessment Frameworks Issue of CS Handbooks and Notes for the Guidance for Invigilators (for all subjects)
March	CS Conferences and invigilators' briefings
March	Release of results for rechecking and remarking for Category C subjects (Nov 2012 series) examination
March to May	Conduct of Category C subjects (Jun 2013 series) examinations Speaking – March/April; Written – early May
2 April to 2 May	Conduct of 2013 HKDSE Cat A subjects written examinations
Early to late May	English Language Speaking examinations Written examinations for Cat C subjects (Jun 2013 series)
May to July	Submission of S5 SBA marks for 12 subjects with SBA in 2014 HKDSE
June / July	2016 Examination Regulations and Assessment Frameworks published
July	Circular on release of results and rechecking/remarking for 2013 HKDSE
15 July	Release of examination results for Cat A and B subjects (results release date for Cat C (Jun 2013 series) examinations on 21 July (tentative))
15 to 20 July	Applications for rechecking and remarking of results via Rechecking and Remarking Application System by 20 July for Category A and B subjects
21 July (tentative)	Release of examination results of Cat C subjects (Jun 2013 series) examinations
21 to 26 July	Applications for rechecking and remarking of results for Cat C subjects (Jun 2013 series) examinations
July	Application deadline for appeal review on examination irregularities
13 August (tentative)	- Release of 2013 HKDSE rechecking and remarking results for Cat A & B subjects (Release of rechecking and remarking results for Cat C subjects (Jun 2013 series) to be confirmed by CIE) - Release of results for appeal review on examination irregularities
20 August (tentative)	Application deadline for appeal review on rechecking and remarking
Mid September	Release of results for appeal review on rechecking and remarking