

Phone: 3628 8070
Ref.: DSE/SBA/HKDSE/GEN12/01

18 January 2012

To: Principals of HKDSE Participating Schools

Dear Principal,

Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) Examination Proposals for the Streamlining of School-based Assessment (SBA)

I refer to our earlier letter dated 18 November 2011 regarding the SBA streamlining proposals in the 2014 HKDSE examination and would like to thank you for your reply and valuable comments. I am pleased to inform you that the proposed streamlining arrangements were well received by the majority of schools. While there is general support for the streamlining proposals, some schools have expressed their views on the timeline for implementation of the streamlining proposals and of the deferred subjects (namely subjects with SBA scheduled to be implemented from 2014 to 2016 examinations). The Education Bureau (EDB) and the HKEAA have carefully considered these views and would like to further consult stakeholders on the following two proposals, to be put forward to the Public Examinations Board (PEB) for consideration if they are well-received:

- 1. Streamlining proposals for Chinese Language and Liberal Studies in the 2013 HKDSE examination.**
- 2. Proposed changes to the implementation schedule of SBA for the deferred subjects.**

Please refer to the consultation document attached regarding details of the two proposals. School principals are requested to bring this circular to the attention of the Academic Master/Prefect of Studies so they could help consult relevant subject teachers and to indicate on the Reply Form attached your school's consolidated views on the proposals. Please **return the completed Reply Form to us by fax (3628 8091) on or before Mon 6 February 2012**. The comments received, together with the result of the previous survey, will be presented to the PEB for their consideration in mid February 2012. The final arrangements will be made known to schools by the end of February after endorsement by the PEB.

Thank you for your cooperation. Should you have any queries, please contact Ms Maria Fung at 3628 8070. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a Happy Chinese New Year.

Yours sincerely,



TW Wan
Assistant General Manager – Assessment Development

Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination
School-based Assessment (SBA)
Streamlining Proposals in 2013 HKDSE and Implementation Schedule for Deferred Subjects

Streamlining Proposals in 2013 HKDSE

1. While there is general support for the 2014 streamlining proposals, some schools suggested bringing forward the proposed changes for various subjects to the 2013 examination cohort. The EDB and the HKEAA have re-considered the situation and evaluated the pros and cons as the implementation of SBA for 12 subjects is already underway in S5. On balance, in order to help alleviate S5 students' workload, considerations would only be given to bring forward the streamlining for the two core subjects of Chinese Language and Liberal Studies to 2013. The following guiding principles should be followed in adopting any SBA streamlining proposal in the 2013 examination:
 - (a) As the conduct of SBA for the 2013 cohort has already started in S5, the original 2011-12 SBA work schedule for S5 students should not be affected.
 - (b) The tasks/marks to be completed and submitted in S5 under the original SBA framework should not be affected.
2. For **Chinese Language**, as the 2014 streamlining proposal does not affect the conduct of SBA in S5, it is proposed that the streamlining be advanced for one year to the 2013 cohort. **Annex 1** shows the proposed streamlining arrangements for Chinese Languages in the 2013 HKDSE examination.
3. As for **Liberal Studies**, the 2014 streamlining proposal cannot be implemented in the 2013 examination since this would affect the Stage I work that many students have already started or even completed. To minimise the possible impact on S5 students, it is proposed that an interim measure be adopted for the 2013 cohort. Under this interim proposal, schools are required to submit the Process and Task marks for Stage I in May 2012 as originally scheduled. **In S6, schools only need to submit one mark for Process and one mark for Task covering both Stages II and III.** This proposal could preserve the original IES framework and at the same time help reduce the workload of both teachers and students by skipping the submission of a separate Data Collection Task and the related Task and Process marks at Stage II. **Annex 2** shows the proposed streamlining arrangements for Liberal Studies in the 2013 HKDSE examination.
4. For the three elective subjects History, Chinese History and Visual Arts, the streamlining proposals involve a change to the SBA tasks to be completed in S5, hence an earlier implementation of the streamlining proposals is not recommended. The streamlining in the two core subjects will already reduce the workload of S5 students.

Implementation Schedule for Deferred Subjects

5. According to the strategic implementation schedule, SBA is to be extended and implemented in 11 more subjects (the so-called deferred subjects) from the 2014 to 2016 HKDSE examinations (http://www.hkeaa.edu.hk/en/SBA/sba_hkdse/SBA_timetable.html).
6. You may be aware that the EDB, the Curriculum Development Council and the HKEAA are collaboratively evaluating the implementation of the New Senior Secondary (NSS) curriculum and the delivery of the first HKDSE examination in 2012, including SBA. This will be a comprehensive review of all the 24 NSS subjects, embracing both curriculum and assessment issues. The findings and recommendations from this review are expected to be available in early 2013. When the recommendations are adopted, they will likely impact on the 2016 HKDSE examination at the earliest as the learning and teaching of the revised curricula and assessment requirements will start in September 2013 for the 2016 examination cohort.
7. In light of the above considerations, it is considered practicable to implement the SBA of the deferred subjects in 2016 instead of 2014 according to the outcomes of the review of the first HKDSE examination, so that any changes can be aligned in one go. This proposal was considered acceptable by advisory committees including the SBA Advisory Group and the Principals' Liaison Meeting. **Annex 3** shows a revised implementation schedule, with the full implementation of SBA for the 11 subjects postponed to the 2016 HKDSE examination. During the transition years, it is deemed important to continue to gain experience and collect feedback through trial runs in order to enhance teacher-readiness.
8. School principals are requested to bring this circular to the attention of the Academic Master/Prefect of Studies and relevant subject teachers, and to indicate on the Reply Form attached their consolidated views on the proposals. As the comments from schools would contribute to the finalisation of the above proposals, it would be appreciated if school principals would complete and return the Reply Form by fax (3628 8091) to the HKEAA on or before **6 February 2012**.
9. The HKEAA and the EDB have a coordinated communication plan to enhance understanding and collect feedback from stakeholders on the above proposals. Apart from schools, views of the CDC-HKEAA Committees, professional bodies and other stakeholders will also be solicited. The final recommendation, together with the feedback collected, will be presented to the PEB for approval in mid February 2012.

**2013年香港中學文憑考試
中國語文
校本評核精簡建議**

精簡建議

1. 2013年香港中學文憑考試中國語文校本評核要求的修訂，和2014年考試的建議修訂完全相同，即：
 - 選修部分選修單元呈交的分數由 3 個減至 2 個。
2. 按精簡建議，中國語文校本評核的要求概述如下：

校本評核

包括必修部分及選修部分之校本評核，合共佔全科總分百分之二十。

評核內容

必修部分

閱讀活動呈交一個分數，日常課業及其他語文活動呈交一個分數。合共佔全科總分百分之八。

選修部分（兩個單元）

每個單元呈交一個分數，包括日常學習表現與單元終結表現。兩個單元合共佔全科總分百分之十二。

呈交分數概覽

評核項目		佔分比重	呈分數量	呈交學年
必修	閱讀活動	8 %	1	中六
	日常課業及其他語文活動		1	中六
選修	選修單元 1	12%	1	中五
	選修單元 2		1	中六

3. 按以上的精簡建議，學校須依照原先安排，於2011-12學年末提交中五學生一個選修單元的分數；而於中六學年提交的選修單元分數，則由 2 個減至 1 個。

Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination 2013

Liberal Studies

Proposal for the Streamlining of SBA

Proposed Changes

- The following changes to the requirements for Independent Enquiry Study (IES) in the 2013 HKDSE examination are proposed as an interim measure:
 - The number of marks to be submitted is reduced from 6 to 4 (from 3 to 2 for both Process and Task).
 - Only one mark for Process and one mark for Task covering both Stages II and III are to be submitted in S6.
- Under the streamlining proposal, the SBA requirements for Liberal Studies in the 2013 examination are summarised as follows:

School-based Assessment (for 2013 HKDSE examination)

The SBA for Liberal Studies accounts for 20% of the subject mark. Students are required to complete an Independent Enquiry Study.

Details of the assessment requirements are as follows:

Component	Process		Task		Mark submission
	No. of marks to be submitted	Weighting	No. of marks to be submitted	Weighting	
Project proposal	1	12.5%	1	12.5%	End of S5
Product	1	37.5%	1	37.5%	End of S6

- According to the above proposal, schools need to submit the Process and Task marks for Stage I in May 2012 as originally scheduled. In S6, schools only need to submit one mark for Process and one mark for Task covering both Stages II and III.
- This proposal will also be explained to teachers at the Briefing Sessions for Liberal Studies Practice Papers to be held from 31 January to 2 February 2012. Should the proposal be endorsed by the PEB in mid February 2012, seminars would be conducted by the end of March 2012 to further explain to teachers the adjustments that need to be made regarding the conduct of the IES for the 2013 examination cohort.
- It must be emphasised that the above streamlining proposal, if adopted, will only apply to the 2013 examination cohort. The original streamlining proposal for the 2014 examination will also be presented to the PEB for endorsement. For your easy reference, the streamlining proposal for the 2014 examination is shown below:

School-based Assessment (for 2014 HKDSE examination)

The SBA for Liberal Studies accounts for 20% of the subject mark. Students are required to complete an Independent Enquiry Study.

Details of the assessment requirements are as follows:

Component	Process		Task		Mark submission
	No. of marks to be submitted	Weighting	No. of marks to be submitted	Weighting	
Project proposal	1	20%	1	25%	End of S5
Product			1	55%	End of S6

Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination
Proposal on the Implementation Schedule of SBA for Deferred Subjects

Proposed Changes

1. The following changes to the implementation schedule of SBA for the 11 deferred subjects* (namely subjects with SBA scheduled to be implemented from 2014 to 2016 examinations) are proposed:
 - Full implementation of SBA for Chinese Literature, Economics, Ethics & Religious Studies, Geography, Health Management & Social Care, Technology & Living, Tourism & Hospitality Studies, Literature in English and Physical Education is postponed from 2014 to 2016 HKDSE examination.
 - Full implementation of SBA for Music is postponed from 2015 to 2016 HKDSE examination.
 - The school trial of SBA for Business, Accounting & Financial Studies will become optional for the 2014 examination.
 - An optional trial will be conducted for all 11 deferred subjects in the 2014 HDKSE examination.
 - A full school trial will be conducted for all 11 deferred subjects in the 2015 HKDSE examination.

2. Under the proposed schedule, the revised implementation of SBA for the 11 deferred subjects are summarised as follows:

Year of Examination	
2014	Optional Trial - Schools can opt for not submitting SBA marks or submitting marks for feedback. The SBA marks submitted will not be counted towards the subject result.
2015	School Trial – All schools will implement SBA and submit marks to the HKEAA for feedback. The SBA marks submitted will not be counted towards the subject result.
2016	Full Implementation – All schools will implement SBA and submit marks to the HKEAA. The SBA marks will be counted towards the subject result.

* **The Deferred subjects** are Chinese Literature, Economics, Ethics & Religious Studies, Geography, Health Management & Social Care, Technology & Living, Tourism & Hospitality Studies, Literature in English, Physical Education, Music and Business, Accounting & Financial Studies.

Reply Form

To: Assessment Development Division,

Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (Fax No: 3628 8091)

Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination School-based Assessment (SBA)

Streamlining Proposals in 2013 HKDSE and Implementation Schedule for Deferred Subjects

With reference to the school circular dated 18 January 2012, our views on the following three proposals for the streamlining of the SBA are as follows:

	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>
1 To implement the proposed streamlined SBA requirements for Chinese Language (see Annex 1) in the 2013 HKDSE examination	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2 To implement the proposed streamlined SBA requirements for Liberal Studies (see Annex 2) in the 2013 HKDSE examination	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3 To postpone full implementation of SBA for the 11 deferred subjects to the 2016 HKDSE examination (see Annex 3)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Notes: Please blacken (●) the appropriate circle for each item. If you choose 'Disagree' for any item, please put your remarks (if any) in the space provided. If extra space is required, please use additional sheets and attach them to this Reply Form.

Remarks:

Signature of Principal: _____

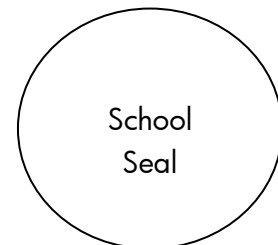
Name of Principal: _____

Name of School: _____

School Code:

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Date: _____



Please fax (3628 8091) the completed Reply Form to the HKEAA on or before 6 February 2012. Thank you.