

Super:

Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (HKDSE)

VO:

The Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority introduced the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (HKDSE) in 2012 for secondary school graduates in Hong Kong

Super:

Academic, Vocational, Language Development, Science and Technology

VO:

It aims to enhance the academic, vocational, and language development of secondary school graduates and cultivate their interest in Science and Technology
Over the decade, around 800,000 candidates have taken this high-stakes examination seeking a crucial qualification for further education or career opportunities both locally and abroad

Super:

Recognition of the HKDSE

(Countries shown on the world map)

Canada, The USA, The UK, Ireland, Spain, France, Belgium, Germany, The Netherlands, Switzerland, Austria, New Zealand, Australia, Singapore, Korea, Japan, Malaysia, Thailand

600 overseas institutions

(Examples of renowned universities)

The USA - Yale University

The UK - University of Cambridge, UK, University of Oxford

Australia - Australian National University

Canada - University of Toronto

VO:

Universities, higher education institutions and employers highly recognise the HKDSE

About 600 overseas institutions have published their entry requirements for HKDSE holders on the HKEAA website

These institutions are from popular English-speaking regions such as the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, and the United States and they also include over 300 German public universities and tertiary institutions in Europe and Asia Pacific

Super:

4 Core Subjects:

Chinese Language, English Language, Mathematics, Citizenship and Social Development

2 to 3 elective subjects:

Category A Senior Secondary subjects,

Category B Applied Learning subjects,

Category C Other Languages subjects

VO:

The HKDSE encompasses three categories of subjects

In general, candidates take four core subjects and

two to three elective subjects from the three categories

Super:

Category A Elective Subjects:

Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Chinese Literature, Literature in English, Chinese History, History,

Ethics and Religious Studies, Geography, Economics, Tourism and Hospitality Studies,

Business, Accounting and Financial Studies, Design and Applied Technology,

Health Management and Social Care, Information and Communication Technology,

Technology and Living, Music, Visual Arts, Physical Education

VO:

Various elective subjects have been developed based on a balance of interrelated factors such as content rigour, relevance to users and lateral coherence across the subjects

Students can choose a range of subjects to develop their interests and abilities

Super:

Category A; Senior Secondary Subjects

Standards- referenced Reporting

Maximum Score

5** : The highest-achieving level 5 candidates

5* : The next highest-achieving level 5 candidates

VO:

Standards-referenced Reporting is adopted

to report candidates' assessment results in Category A subjects

Candidates' performance is reported in five levels, with 5 being the highest

To provide finer discrimination of candidates' ability at the top end

to facilitate tertiary institutions and employers to select suitable candidates

level 5** is awarded to the highest-achieving level 5 candidates

Level 5* is awarded to the next highest-achieving level 5 candidates

Super:

Level Descriptors

(Abstracts of the level descriptors of level 5)

Comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the curriculum

Ability to analyse, synthesise and evaluate information from a wide variety of sources

Ability to communicate ideas and express views concisely and logically

(Abstracts of the level descriptors of level 4)

Good knowledge and understanding of the curriculum

Ability to analyse, synthesise and interpret information from a variety of sources

Ability to communicate ideas and express views logically

VO:

A set of descriptors is written for each subject to describe what a typical candidate performing at a given level can do

Teachers can assist students in achieving a higher level of performance with a clear target

The level descriptors also enable tertiary institutions or employers to better understand

the performance of candidates at different levels to make appropriate selection decisions

Super:

Citizenship and Social Development

Attained

Unattained

VO:

Citizenship and Social Development results are reported in one level, 'Attained'

Achievements below 'Attained' are designated as 'Unattained'

In addition to the public examination,

some Category A subjects have a School-based Assessment (SBA) component

SBA is an assessment carried out by schools with students assessed by their subject teachers

The SBA marks are counted towards the HKDSE results

It integrates learning and teaching with assessment and

comprehensively appraises students' performance

Super:

Category B Applied Learning Subjects

Applied Science, Services, Engineering and Production, Media and Communication

VO:

Category B Applied Learning curriculum covers over 50 subjects

tailored to meet students' evolving career aspirations

Super:

Attained

Attained with Distinction (I)

Attained with Distinction (II)

VO:

Three levels of performance are reported

Performance of 'Attained with Distinction (I)' is comparable to level 3 while "Attained with Distinction (II)' is comparable to level 4 or above of the Category A subjects of the HKDSE

Super:

Category C Other Languages Subjects

French, German, Japanese, Korean, Spanish, Urdu

VO:

HKDSE adopts a progressive approach to fostering an inclusive community and enriching student learning experiences

This includes introducing the Other Languages examinations to increase multicultural awareness of students, preparing them to pursue higher education in Hong Kong and abroad

Super:

Category C Other Languages Subjects

(Logos of the official organisations of the six stipulated language examinations)

VO:

Starting from the 2025 HKDSE, candidates will have to take the stipulated language examinations administered in Hong Kong by the official organisations of the respective countries. Candidates' results obtained in these examinations at the stipulated minimum proficiency level or above will be included in the HKDSE Category C results

VO:

Robust and rigorous quality assurance measures are in place for different stages of the HKDSE

This includes the application of Onscreen Marking (OSM)

to enhance marking reliability and quality

The progress and outputs of marking can be monitored in real-time

The relevant system also allows easy retrieval of scripts for appeal processing and research
Marking irregularities can also be identified and remedied as soon as possible

Super:

Quality Assurance Framework

Continuous Improvement, Safeguarding of Standards,

Compliance and Quality of Delivery, HKDSE Recognition,

Conduct of Examinations, Development of Examination Papers,

Processing and Reporting of Results, Post- examination Review Mechanisms

VO:

The HKEAA is dedicated to upholding the professional standards of the HKDSE

Through the administration of the Quality Assurance Framework

we are committed to ensuring recognition, continuous improvement,

exceptional quality, and compliance

Super:

More Details about the HKDSE

Please check the website: www.hkeaa.edu.hk

Special thanks to Education Bureau for photos on Applied Learning subjects

Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority logo