

PRESS RELEASE

2021 Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (HKDSE) Updated Contingency and Precautionary Measures at Examination Centres & Admission Forms for Private Candidates

1. Updated Contingency and Precautionary Measures at Examination Centres

To safeguard the health of candidates, examination personnel and all involved in the administration of the examinations, a series of precautionary measures and contingency arrangements will be implemented at the examination centres. According to the announcement by the Education Bureau, schools providing examination venues for the 2021 HKDSE should suspend face-to-face classes during the core subject examinations (i.e. 26 to 30 April and 3 May 2021) to facilitate centre schools in implementing the step-up precautionary measures.

With a view to further mitigating the risk of infection of the COVID-19, the contingency and precautionary measures for the 2021 HKDSE have been updated, based on the latest advice from the Centre for Health Protection (CHP). Step-up measures include reminding candidates, who are awaiting test results of COVID-19 compulsory testing on the day of the examination, not to go to the examination centre unless they have received a negative result; maintaining good indoor ventilation (open the windows as far as possible) in examination venues; keeping at least 1.5 metres standard seating distance between candidates (including front, back and sideways); dividing the hall and classroom centres into different zones for crowd control purposes and arranging candidates to use different toilets; and updated arrangements for the sessional break, etc.

In addition, candidates must check their body temperature, and submit a duly completed <u>Declaration Form on Health</u> (to be printed out by candidates) on each examination day. Candidates are also required to put on a surgical mask properly before entering the examination centres.

The updated *Contingency and Precautionary Measures at Examination Centres* is available on the HKEAA website:

www.hkeaa.edu.hk/DocLibrary/MainNews/Instructions_to_Candidates_Precautionary_Measures_at_Exam_Centre_Eng.pdf

We will continue to communicate with the CHP and closely monitor the development of COVID-19. If further step-up measures are required, we will update relevant guidelines.

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2. Admission Forms for Private Candidates

The admission forms for private candidates of the 2021 HKDSE have been sent by post.

Candidates should carefully check the information printed on the admission forms, including personal data, subject(s)/paper(s)/module/language version entered, names and addresses of the examination centres. Any private candidate who does not receive his/her admission form by 29 March 2021 should contact the School Examinations and Assessment Division of the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (HKEAA) immediately.

Address: 12/Floor, Southorn Centre, 130 Hennessy Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong

Tel: 3628 8860 Email: dse@hkeaa.edu.hk

Office hours: Monday-Friday 8:30am – 5:30pm

(Closed on Saturday and Sunday)

Candidates are strongly advised to read the 2021 HKDSE *Handbook for Candidates* (www.hkeaa.edu.hk/en/hkdse/admin/student_s_handbook/) for important information on examination regulations.

Candidates are reminded to attend the examinations according to the dates, time and centres as specified on the admission forms. They must present the original of their admission form and Hong Kong Identity Card (or another valid identification document) at every examination session they attend.

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Date: 17 March 2021