PRESS RELEASE
Results of 2021 HKDSE Predicted Level Study

The Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (HKEAA) had completed the Predicted Level Study of the 2021 Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (HKDSE), and an online school briefing was held today (8 October) to give an overview of the results to representatives of participating schools.

The Study aimed at reviewing the accuracy of predicting school candidates' HKDSE results based on school internal assessment marks. Detailed school reports listing the prediction results of each subject will be provided to the participating schools. The reports may help teachers better understand students' performance in public examinations and improve the design of their school assessments.

A total of 375 participating schools had submitted internal assessment marks of about 34,700 school candidates for the Study. With reference to schools' past HKDSE results, the HKEAA predicted these candidates' HKDSE levels based on the submitted marks, then compared them with the actual levels in the corresponding Category A subjects in the 2021 HKDSE.

Among the four core subjects, the outcome of English Language is more accurate with the predicted levels of 71% of candidates matching their actual HKDSE levels. About 28% of the predicted levels are one level above or below candidates' actual levels. In other words, more than 99% of predictions lie within one-level deviation from HKDSE actual levels.

For the other three core subjects, the percentages of exact matching with the actual HKDSE levels for Chinese Language, Mathematics Compulsory Part and Liberal Studies are about 51%, 58% and 54% respectively, while about 40% of the predicted levels lie one level above or below candidates' actual levels in the HKDSE. It shows that school assessments can in general reflect students' performance in the HKDSE.

The predicted levels for elective subjects are less accurate due to the smaller candidatures, fewer entries by schools in those subjects, the variations in school's HKDSE results over the years, etc. In most of the elective subjects, about 40%-50% of the predicted levels match candidates' actual levels in the HKDSE, while 79% or above of the predicted levels lie within one-level deviation from HKDSE actual levels. Please refer to the annex for more details.

In summary, the Study results for this year are similar to those of the 2020 Study. The HKEAA will continue to conduct the Predicted Level Study in 2022 and explore mechanisms to improve prediction accuracy, and provide more useful feedback to schools for improving validity and reliability of their internal assessments.

–End–

Date: 8 October 2021

Annex: 2021 HKDSE Predicted Level Study Results Summary

Subject		Number of Participating Schools	Total Number of Candidates from Participating Schools	Predicted Level Same As Actual DSE Level (%) [A]	Predicted Level 1 Level Above/Below Actual DSE Level (%) [B]	Difference Between Predicted Level and Actual DSE Level Within 1 Level (%) [A+B]
Chinese Language		365	33,156	**50.8**	42.7	**93.5**
English Language		367	34,134	**71.0**	28.2	**99.2**
Mathematics Compulsory Part		367	34,025	**58.4**	38.9	**97.3**
Liberal Studies		367	34,316	**53.8**	41.6	**95.4**
Mathematics Extended Part	Algebra and Calculus	252	3,135	**40.1**	47.1	**87.2**
	Calculus and Statistics *	177	1,715	**34.3**	46.5	**80.8**
Biology		353	9,478	**50.0**	44.4	**94.4**
Chemistry		341	8,648	**51.1**	43.5	**94.6**
Physics		342	7,001	**50.5**	44.2	**94.7**
Combined Science	Biology*	12	92	**45.7**	40.3	**86.0**
	Chemistry*	22	172	**44.1**	45.8	**89.9**
	Physics*	13	106	**41.5**	37.8	**79.3**
	Subject*	22	186	**48.9**	42.5	**91.4**
Integrated Science*		7	67	**37.3**	50.7	**88.0**
Information and Communication Technology		325	4,112	**49.1**	44.4	**93.5**
Visual Arts		287	2,563	**63.6**	33.7	**97.3**
Chinese Literature*		106	955	**36.7**	46.5	**83.2**
Literature in English*		26	226	**37.5**	45.8	**83.3**
Health Management and Social Care*		45	694	**45.9**	45.9	**91.8**
Design and Applied Technology*		39	373	**49.7**	42.3	**92.0**
Technology and Living	Food Science and Technology*	12	107	**50.5**	37.3	**87.8**
	Fashion, Clothing and Textiles*	4	26	**45.8**	41.6	**87.4**
Business, Accounting and Financial Studies	Accounting	281	4,895	**53.3**	41.8	**95.1**
	Business Management	123	2,010	**51.3**	43.0	**94.3**
Economics		346	8,706	**48.1**	45.1	**93.2**
Geography		330	6,243	**43.3**	45.5	**88.8**
Chinese History		326	4,348	**43.8**	45.4	**89.2**
History		240	3,672	**41.3**	45.8	**87.1**
Tourism and Hospitality Studies		160	2,614	**44.3**	45.5	**89.8**
Ethics and Religious Studies*		59	524	**45.6**	44.8	**90.4**
Physical Education*		83	824	**51.0**	44.6	**95.6**
Music*		42	102	**36.5**	47.0	**83.5**

*small candidature subject