



## PRESS RELEASE

### Results of 2020 HKDSE Predicted Level Study

The Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (HKEAA) had completed the Predicted Level Study of the 2020 Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (HKDSE), and a school briefing was held today (21 September) to give an overview of the Study results.

The Study aimed at reviewing the accuracy of predicting school candidates' HKDSE results based on school internal assessment marks. School reports with feedback will be provided to teachers to promote assessment literacy. We also reviewed the feasibility of replacing public examination results with the predicted levels in case of cancellation of the HKDSE.

A total of 377 participating schools had submitted internal assessment marks of about 36,900 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 2020 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. The corresponding matching percentages for Chinese Language, Mathematics Compulsory Part and Liberal Studies are around 55%.

Meanwhile, 28% of the predicted levels are one level above or below candidates' actual levels in the English Language and the corresponding percentages for the other three core subjects are about 40%. In other words, around 95% of predicted levels lie within one-level deviation from HKDSE actual levels for the core subjects, showing that school assessments can basically 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 matched candidates' actual levels in the HKDSE, while at least 75% of the predicted levels lie within one-level deviation from HKDSE actual levels. Please refer to the annex for more details.

Dr So Kwok-sang, the Secretary General of the HKEAA, said, 'The Study shows that there are still some limitations in predicting candidates' HKDSE results based on their school internal assessment marks. Thus, the predicted levels would only be used as a last resort when the public examinations have to be cancelled. In that case, universities should exercise flexibility and consider relevant information about candidates' other performances for admission.'

The HKEAA will conduct the Predicted Level Study annually in the future with a view to collecting more internal assessment data to improve statistical models, and providing more useful feedback to schools for improving validity and reliability of their internal assessments.

We will provide schools with detailed reports listing the prediction results of each subject for schools' and teachers' reference. The reports may help enhance schools' design of their internal assessments to better reflect candidates' competencies.

–End–

Date: 21 September 2020

## Annex: 2020 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 (%)	Predicted Level 1 Level Above/Below Actual DSE Level (%)	Difference Between Predicted Level and Actual DSE Level Within 1 Level (%)
Chinese Language		374	35,717	<b>56.2</b>	40.0	<b>96.2</b>
English Language		377	36,652	<b>70.6</b>	28.6	<b>99.2</b>
Mathematics Compulsory Part		376	36,366	<b>54.3</b>	41.4	<b>95.7</b>
Liberal Studies		376	36,726	<b>53.9</b>	42.1	<b>96.0</b>
Mathematics Extended Part	Algebra and Calculus	257	3,435	<b>35.1</b>	45.9	<b>81.0</b>
	Calculus and Statistics *	175	1,767	<b>30.7</b>	44.6	<b>75.3</b>
Biology		355	10,040	<b>54.1</b>	41.8	<b>95.9</b>
Chemistry		349	9,405	<b>51.7</b>	43.7	<b>95.4</b>
Physics		347	7,627	<b>50.5</b>	44.3	<b>94.8</b>
Combined Science	Biology*	23	189	<b>47.3</b>	45.7	<b>93.0</b>
	Chemistry*	35	343	<b>48.1</b>	44.3	<b>92.4</b>
	Physics*	21	203	<b>41.4</b>	46.8	<b>88.2</b>
	Subject*	36	369	<b>51.9</b>	41.5	<b>93.4</b>
Integrated Science*		7	63	<b>49.2</b>	38.1	<b>87.3</b>
Information and Communication Technology		327	4,154	<b>52.5</b>	42.5	<b>95.0</b>
Visual Arts		298	2,510	<b>63.5</b>	34.2	<b>97.7</b>
Chinese Literature*		112	1,093	<b>39.4</b>	49.1	<b>88.5</b>
Literature in English*		23	214	<b>47.8</b>	43.1	<b>90.9</b>
Health Management and Social Care*		43	617	<b>48.9</b>	45.2	<b>94.1</b>
Design and Applied Technology*		41	352	<b>64.5</b>	32.7	<b>97.2</b>
Technology and Living	Food Science and Technology*	8	71	<b>50.7</b>	45.1	<b>95.8</b>
	Fashion, Clothing and Textiles*	3	12	<b>58.3</b>	25.0	<b>83.3</b>
Business, Accounting and Financial Studies	Accounting	291	5,346	<b>49.3</b>	43.0	<b>92.3</b>
	Business Management	128	2,063	<b>48.8</b>	45.1	<b>93.9</b>
Economics		352	9,444	<b>44.8</b>	45.4	<b>90.2</b>
Geography		340	6,668	<b>40.3</b>	46.6	<b>86.9</b>
Chinese History		324	4,316	<b>41.8</b>	45.9	<b>87.7</b>
History		247	3,871	<b>42.5</b>	46.0	<b>88.5</b>
Tourism and Hospitality Studies		169	2,737	<b>44.8</b>	45.0	<b>89.8</b>
Ethics and Religious Studies*		60	524	<b>47.2</b>	43.8	<b>91.0</b>
Physical Education*		88	808	<b>47.6</b>	43.7	<b>91.3</b>
Music*		64	153	<b>43.6</b>	38.4	<b>82.0</b>

\*small candidature subject