

Education Bureau
Circular Memorandum No. 131 / 2019

From: Secretary for Education
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Date: 11 July 2019

To: Heads of all Secondary Schools
(excluding ESF Schools and
International Schools)

**Personal, Social and Humanities Education Key Learning Area (PSHE KLA):
The Revised History Curriculum Guide (Secondary 1-3)**

Summary

This circular memorandum aims to announce the Revised History Curriculum Guide (Secondary 1-3) as endorsed by the Curriculum Development Council (CDC) and its implementation details.

Background

2. The CDC Committee on Personal, Social & Humanities Education (PSHE) endorsed the formation of the “The Ad Hoc Committee for Revising Junior Secondary Chinese History and History Curricula (Secondary 1-3)” (hereafter “Ad Hoc Committee for Revising Curricula”) in November 2013 to conduct a holistic review of the existing History curriculum (Secondary 1-3). After years of discussion and two stages of consultation (September 2016 and November 2017 respectively) to collect views from schools and the academia in Hong Kong, the Ad Hoc Committee for Revising Curricula submitted the refined History curriculum framework (Secondary 1-3) in 2018 and was endorsed by the Ad Hoc Committee for Revising Curricula and its working group as well as the CDC Committee on PSHE and the CDC. The revised curriculum framework was announced on 24 May 2018, and it will be implemented progressively in all schools in Hong Kong, starting from Secondary 1 in the 2020/21 school year, to replace the syllabus for History (Secondary 1-3) released by the CDC in 1996.

Details

3. The CDC Committee on PSHE endorsed the formation of a new Ad Hoc Committee named “The Ad Hoc Committee for the Implementation of the Junior Secondary Chinese History and History Curricula (Secondary 1-3) (hereafter “Ad Hoc Committee for the Implementation of the Revised Curricula”) in November 2018. With reference to the announced History Curriculum Framework (Secondary 1-3), the Ad Hoc Committee for Implementing the Revised Curricula reviewed the History Curriculum Guide (Secondary 1-3) and provided professional advice and suggestions for the promotion and implementation of the revised junior secondary History curriculum so as to refine the junior secondary history education. After professional discussion and review, the History Curriculum Guide (Secondary 1-3) was submitted to and endorsed by the CDC Committee on PSHE and the CDC in May and June 2019 respectively.

4. The History Curriculum Guide (Secondary 1-3) is composed of 6 chapters, of which the contents of the first two chapters (namely Introduction and Curriculum Framework) mainly come from the announced Revised Curriculum Framework whereas Chapters 3 to 6 cover curriculum planning, learning and teaching, assessment and learning and teaching resources for the reference of school curriculum leaders. The learning and teaching strategies and assessment exemplars in the Curriculum Guide are provided by frontline teachers from over 20 schools which had tried out the revised curriculum.

5. The Revised History Curriculum Guide (Secondary 1-3) is an official guiding document. Schools should take into full consideration their school context, strengths and their students’ needs, adopt properly the suggestions provided in the Curriculum Guide. The Curriculum Guide can be downloaded from the website of PSHE Section of the Curriculum Development Institute (CDI):

<https://www.edb.gov.hk/en/curriculum-development/kla/pshe/curriculum-documents.html>

We suggest for school leaders who are responsible for the whole-school / KLAs curriculum planning and coordination and all History teachers to read this document.

Support measures for schools

6. To support schools and teachers in planning effectively and preparing for the implementation of the revised curriculum, the Education Bureau (EDB) has conducted a series of professional development workshops on curriculum interpretation and curriculum leadership, and on using information technology to enhance the effectiveness of learning and teaching in the 2018/19 school year. These workshops will be continued in the 2019/20 school year. The EDB, together with scholar experts, will continue to provide relevant learning and teaching resources (including learning and teaching practices developed from trial teaching, e-learning resources, relevant materials for new topics and teaching materials such as those designed for the mainland and local field studies etc). At the same time, the EDB will also help teachers form learning communities to share their experience in learning and teaching and disseminate good classroom practices.

7. Through various channels including meetings of the CDC Committee on PSHE and Ad Hoc Committee for the Implementation of the Revised Curricula, school visits, and focus group sharing sessions, the EDB will continuously collect different stakeholders' views on school support measures, as well as follow up and support the implementation of the Revised Curriculum of History (Secondary 1-3) in schools.

8. As for students, the EDB will also continue to organise distinctive student events such as e-learning Reading Award Scheme to promote history learning among students.

Enquiry

9. For enquiries, please contact Mr HO Man-shek, Alex on 2892 5867 of the PSHE Section.

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for Secretary for Education

c.c. Heads of Sections – for information