

Education Bureau Circular Memorandum No. 99/2020

From: Secretary for Education
Ref.: EDB(SDCT)1/P-615 Pt.4
Date: 30 June 2020

To: Supervisors and Heads of All
Primary and Secondary Day Schools
(including Special Schools)

2021 Population Census

Summary

This circular memorandum aims to inform schools that the 2021 Population Census (“21C”) will be conducted during the period from late June to early August 2021. Schools are advised to take this significant event into account when drawing up the 2020/21 school calendar.

Background

2. Hong Kong will conduct a Population Census from late June to early August 2021 to obtain up-to-date benchmark information on the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the population and its geographical distribution. Such information is vital to the Government for policy planning and formulation, and to the private sector and the academia for business and research purposes.

3. The 21C will be a territory-wide operation involving the entire Hong Kong population, approximately 3.1 million units of quarters. The data collection would be conducted in two phases with the use of information technology. In the first phase (from late June to mid-July 2021), households can respond through completing an online questionnaire or calling the hotline of the 21C at 18 2021 for a telephone interview. For households receiving a paper questionnaire, they may also return the completed questionnaire by post. Enumerators will visit those households who have not yet responded to collect the required data in the second phase from mid-July to early August 2021 using mobile tablets.

4. The Census and Statistics Department (“C&SD”) will employ around 14 000 temporary field workers to assist in the data collection work in the second phase of enumeration. In this connection, C&SD will need to hire a number of

school premises to serve as field centres from 13 July to 4 August 2021 (tentative) for accommodating the large field force.

Details

Arrangements for School Holiday List and Student Learning Time

5. In view of the significance of the 21C, schools are advised to take due consideration of the schedule of this event in planning their year-end examination and summer activities in the 2020/21 school year. C&SD appeals to schools to facilitate the 21C operation by making available their school premises to serve as field centres as far as possible and release teachers to participate in the 21C operation as temporary field workers during the second phase of enumeration from mid-July to early August 2021.

6. In drawing up the school calendar for the 2020/21 school year, schools may make reference to the information about general holidays in the 2020/21 school year, the calculation methods of school holidays and school days, as well as an example of a whole-day school calendar, etc., which are available at the Education Bureau webpage at <http://www.edb.gov.hk/en/curriculum-development/resource-support/guidelines-school-calendar/index.html>.



Related Information

7. Apart from hiring of school premises to serve as field centres for the 21C from mid-July to early August 2021, C&SD will also require a number of school premises to serve as training centres from March to July 2021. In this regard, C&SD will approach relevant schools in the fourth quarter of 2020. Heads of schools are requested to render assistance and consider any waiver of charges as appropriate.

8. As with the past population census / by-census, a recruitment campaign for temporary field workers will be launched by C&SD in late 2020. Schools are called on to encourage their teachers to apply to be temporary field workers as this will not only contribute to the success of the 21C, but also help foster civic spirit. A separate Circular Memorandum on the recruitment of temporary field workers will be issued in late 2020.

9. In order to raise students' awareness of the 21C and to promote the use of online questionnaires, C&SD will organise the "2021 Population Census Mobile Messaging Application Sticker Design and Publicity Poster Design Competitions for Secondary and Primary Students". All secondary and primary students are welcome to participate and submit entries. Posters of these two competitions will be distributed to schools around October 2020. Details of the competitions will also be uploaded to the 2021 Population Census Website (<https://www.census2021.gov.hk>).

Enquiries

10. For enquiries, please contact the following C&SD officers –

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Office Telephone</u>
Hiring of School Premises	Mr John LEUNG	3705 3287
	Mr Nelson LEE	3428 2538
Recruitment of Temporary Field Workers	Miss Louisa YAU	3428 2566
Mobile Messaging Application Sticker Design and Publicity Poster Design Competitions for Students	Ms Apple LAI	3428 2578

KK LEE
for Secretary for Education

c.c. Section Heads – for information