

EDUCATION BUREAU CIRCULAR MEMORANDUM
No. 32/2022

From:	Secretary for Education	To:	Heads of Secondary, Primary
Reference:	EDB(CD/MCNE)/ADM/60/1/3(13)		and Special Schools
			(excluding ESF Schools and
Date:	3 March 2022		International Schools)

Cultivating Students' Virtue of Diligence
“My Pledge to Act’: Let’s Do It!” School-based Award Scheme

Summary

The purpose of this circular memorandum is to invite schools to launch the “My Pledge to Act’: Let’s Do It!” School-based Award Scheme, and to inform schools of the learning and teaching resources for supporting schools to cultivate students’ virtue of diligence and encourage them to put it into action, thereby promoting their whole-person development.

Background

2. The EDB released the Values Education Curriculum Framework (Pilot Version) in November 2021 to further forge a consensus in the community and schools in strengthening values education. “Diligence” has been as the tenth priority value and attitude¹ in response to students’ development and societal changes to foster students’ whole-person development.

3. Our traditional culture has always attached great importance to the virtue of diligence. Chinese sayings such as “業精於勤荒於嬉，行成於思毀於隨”，“人生在勤，不索何獲” and “天道酬勤”， all regard diligence as a critical factor of success. Many schools in Hong Kong adopt the virtue of diligence as their school motto, such as “Achieve through diligence”, “Labour omnia vincit (Work conquers all)”, “To think critically and act vigorously” and “In Constantia Fortitudo (Perseverance)”, which emphasise not only promoting students’ diligence but also putting it into action and fulfilment of responsibilities. As such, nurturing the virtue of diligence in students is one of the important goals of values education. In addition, Labour Day, which is celebrated on the first of May every year, is also a good

¹ Other priority values and attitudes are "perseverance", "respect for others", "responsibility", "national identity", "commitment", "integrity", "care for others", "law-abidingness" and "empathy".

opportunity for cultivating students' positive values and attitudes, including diligence, respect for others and responsibility, by paying tribute to different classes (including the working class) who have devoted unremitting efforts to the prosperity of society. To support schools in promoting diligence, the EDB invites schools to launch the “My Pledge to Act’: Let’s Do It!” School-based Award Scheme in this academic year by tapping relevant learning and teaching resources, to foster students’ diligence and promote their positive attitude of appreciating the working class for their contribution to our society.

Details

4. The progress of society and the development of technology are the result of hard work of generations. Even with advanced technology, people’s hard work cannot be replaced. Diligence is to put what we have learnt into practice in daily life. In this regard, schools should encourage students to put what they have learned into action. Through practical experiences in real-life situations, students will recognise and be grateful for the hard work and contribution of different classes (including the working class), and understand the meaning and importance of diligence to everyone in society. They will also learn to be grateful and treasure what they have, demonstrate the virtue of diligence, and become diligent, proactive, helpful and responsible people working hard for and contributing to the future of society.

5. Values education lays emphasis on practice. Students are encouraged to put positive values and attitudes into action, such as being grateful and treasuring what they have, staying positive and optimistic, being perseverant and diligent, at the personal, family, school and community levels. During the severe epidemic situation, positive thinking is particularly important, which can motivate teachers and students to fight the epidemic together. To further support schools in promoting values education both online and offline, within and beyond the classroom, the EDB invites schools to launch the **“My Pledge to Act’: Let’s Do It!” School-based Award Scheme**. Schools may encourage students to continuously participate in different types of activities at home and at school during and after the special holiday in March and April this year and keep a record in the “My Pledge to Act’: Let’s Do It!” Handbook. Schools may also commend those students who actively participate and have excellent performance with the **“My Pledge to Act’: Let’s Do It!” School-based Award Scheme Certificates** by downloading them from the EDB website. Please refer to **Appendix 1** for details.

6. We recommend schools should make good use of the learning resources provided by the “My Pledge to Act’: Let’s Do It!” School-based Award Scheme, to develop self-motivated attitude and habit in students. Even though students have to stay home for a long period of time due to the epidemic, they should study diligently with self-discipline and take the initiative to help with housework, to cultivate the virtues of diligence and perseverance. Schools may also incorporate the “Active Students, Active People” Campaign (“ASAP” Campaign) into the school-based award scheme, encouraging students to participate in both meaningful programmes, to help them develop a habit of doing exercise regularly for the sake of maintaining good health (Please refer to **Appendix 2** for the details of the “ASAP” Campaign and Physical Activity Logbook).



7. Prior to Labour Day, schools are also recommended to make good use of various platforms, to explain to students the **origin and meaning of Labour Day** through online or offline mode (Please refer to **Appendix 3** for details). Schools may also adopt the content of the school vision and mission, school motto, school song, reading materials and stories of athletes and celebrities related to the virtue of diligence. The EDB has developed a series of **learning and teaching resources** to support schools **in promoting the virtue of diligence** (Please refer to **Appendix 2** for details). In addition, schools should provide students with comprehensive learning experiences by holistically planning various learning activities with the integration of online and offline learning, learning of different subjects, service learning and the creation of a positive campus atmosphere, in order to cultivate students’ positive values and attitudes and put them into action (Please refer to **Appendix 4** for examples of cultivating the virtue of diligence through different subjects and life-wide learning activities).

Enquiry

8. For enquiry, please contact the Moral, Civic and National Education Section, Curriculum Development Institute at 2153 7493.

(Dr Andy TAM)
for Secretary for Education

c.c. Heads of Sections – for information

“My Pledge to Act’: Let’s Do It!” School-based Award Scheme

Introduction

To cultivate students’ good habits in daily life and study, and to practise positive attitudes toward life, such as being grateful and treasuring what they have, staying positive and optimistic, being perseverant and diligent, the EDB invites schools to launch the “My Pledge to Act’: Let’s Do It!” School-based Award Scheme.

Diversified Learning Activity

To integrate the theme of “My Pledge to Act - Be grateful and treasure what we have, stay positive and optimistic” (Please refer to EDBCM No. 85/2021 for the details of “My Pledge to Act - Be grateful and treasure what we have, stay positive and optimistic”) and the theme of Labour Day paying tribute to the working class who have contributed to society (especially those people from all walks of life who have continuously contribute in fighting against the epidemic), schools may launch the “My Pledge to Act’: Let’s Do It!” School-based Award Scheme **by organising school-based learning activities for cultivating the virtue of diligence** during and after the special holiday in March and April this year. For instance, students can be encouraged to do housework, tidy up their rooms and do exercise during the special holiday and home learning period. After the resumption of whole-day face-to-face classes, they can be arranged to participate in school services, such as campus cleaning and decoration, library services, gardening, collection and distribution of homework as well as other online and offline service learning activities, to nurture in them the virtues of diligence and responsibilities for their families, schools and society, through putting it into action in their daily lives.





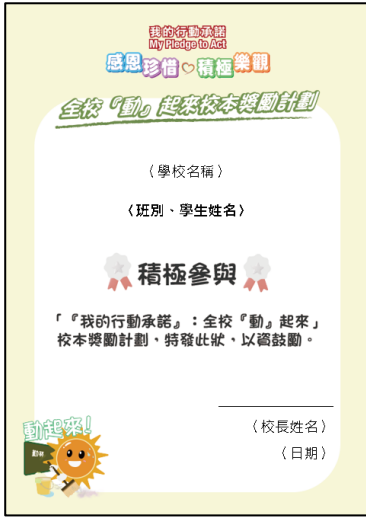
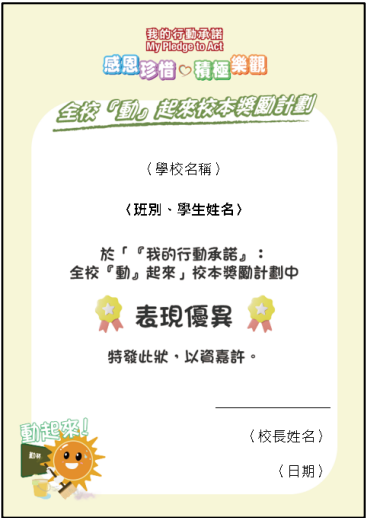




“Let’s Do It!”

Schools are recommended to make good use of the “My Pledge to Act’: Let’s Do It!” Handbook developed by the EDB and encourage students to **record the content and reflection of their action and services** in the log, with the feedback from teachers and parents, to develop their good character and the positive attitudes of being grateful, treasuring what they have and diligence. Schools may commend those students who have remarkable performance in fulfilling personal pledges and putting into action the virtue of diligence, and appoint them as MPA Ambassadors with the









“My Pledge to Act’: Let’s Do It!” School-based Award Scheme Certificates developed by the EDB and uploaded to the “My Pledge to Act” webpage.

Schools may refer to the following URL for details of the above programme.

Content	URL
My Pledge to Act - Be grateful and treasure what we have, stay positive and optimistic	
EDBCM No.85/2021	
“My Pledge to Act’: Let’s Do It!” School-based Award Scheme	
“My Pledge to Act’: Let’s Do It!” Handbook (Chinese Only)	
<p>“My Pledge to Act’: Let’s Do It!” School-based Award Scheme Certificates (Chinese Only)</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div data-bbox="322 1088 689 1603">  <p>我的行動承諾 My Pledge to Act 感恩 珍惜 積極樂觀</p> <p>全校「動」起來校本獎勵計劃</p> <p>〈學校名稱〉 〈班別、學生姓名〉</p> <p>積極參與</p> <p>「我的行動承諾」：全校「動」起來，校本獎勵計劃，特發此狀，以資鼓勵。</p> <p>_____ (校長姓名) _____ (日期)</p> </div> <div data-bbox="695 1088 1062 1603">  <p>我的行動承諾 My Pledge to Act 感恩 珍惜 積極樂觀</p> <p>全校「動」起來校本獎勵計劃</p> <p>〈學校名稱〉 〈班別、學生姓名〉</p> <p>於「我的行動承諾」：全校「動」起來，校本獎勵計劃中</p> <p>表現優異</p> <p>特發此狀，以資嘉許。</p> <p>_____ (校長姓名) _____ (日期)</p> </div> </div>	<p>The Most Active Participation Award</p>  <p>Outstanding Performance Award</p> 

Learning and Teaching Resources on Diligence (Examples)

Title	Category	URL
自己動手執書包 (Primary)	Life Event Example	
我會照顧自己的起居 (Primary)	Life Event Example	
幫助做家務 (Primary)	Life Event Example	
《致知達德：小學中華傳統美德語文學習軟件》 (Primary)	Website	
中國歷史人物小故事 (Primary)	Short Video	
傑出運動員 (Primary)	Life Event Example	
我欣賞的服務人員 (Primary)	Life Event Example	
《小學中國語文校本課程及學習單元設計示例》單元「學趣無窮」（示例十） (Primary)	Teaching Plan	
Learning and Teaching Materials on Promoting Positive Values and Attitudes through English Sayings of Wisdom (SOW) (Primary)	Teacher Resource Bank	
中華經典名句 (Secondary and Primary)	Short Video	
Poster of Priority Values and Attitudes – Diligence (Secondary and Primary)	Posters	
體能活動日誌 (Secondary and Primary)	Log Book	
中華經典名句網上自學平台 (Secondary and Primary)	Self-learning Platform	
勤勞創造的幸福 (Secondary and Primary)	Life Event Example	

Title	Category	URL
「談『美德』·論『價值』德育教材手冊」網站(Secondary and Primary)	Theme-based Resources Website	
我幫助了有需要的人 (Secondary)	Life Event Example	
我獨自在家裡 (Secondary)	Life Event Example	
我養成了好習慣 (Secondary)	Life Event Example	
My Effective Time Management (Secondary)	Life Event Example	
《郁文華章——中華文化學與教資源套》(中學篇)「為學」單元設計 (Secondary)	Teaching Plan	
e-Resource Kit on Inspirational Speeches (Secondary)	Teacher Resource Bank	
Learning and Teaching Materials on Promoting Positive Values and Attitudes through English Sayings of Wisdom (SOW) (Secondary)	Teacher Resource Bank	

Remarks: Teachers may flexibly adapt the above learning and teaching resources taking into consideration the school vision, school development priorities, students' developmental and learning needs, etc., and may also recommend them to parents and students for browsing and reading.

Information of Labour Day

Origin

“Labour Day”, also known as “International Labour Day”, originated from the labour movement in the late 19th century. After the founding of the People's Republic of China, 1 May was designated as the statutory Labour Day in December 1949. (Teachers may scan the QR code on the right to watch the video about the origin of Labour Day.



<https://haokan.baidu.com/v?pd=wisenatural&vid=4616074812643158036>

Meaning

Labour is the basis for the survival and development of human society, and it is one of the traditional virtues of the Chinese nation. The prosperous development of our society and our country today relies on the diligent and unremitting efforts of all sectors of society. Every









year on 1 May, the whole country celebrates, in order to recognise the labourers who have contributed to society and the country. In Hong Kong, 1 May is also a statutory holiday, which means that people of different walks of life can enjoy a pleasant holiday and take a break after working hard.



Although the times have changed, the Chinese spirit of labour is still passed down from generation to generation, and the virtue of diligence is still what we respect and pursue. Through Labour Day, we hope to enable students to understand the importance of hard work to the development and progress of individuals, families, society and the country, and through different learning activities, to educate students to study diligently, to put what they have learnt in practice with both hands-on and minds-on in their daily lives, to respect those who contribute to our society, and to cultivate the virtues of diligence from an early age, through different learning activities.

Strategies for Cultivating the Virtue of Diligence through Different Subjects and Life-wide Learning Activities (Examples)

Learning Activities of Different Subjects (Examples) 【Schools may switch the activities to online mode subject to the situation】

Subjects	Strategies	URL
中國語文科 (Chinese Only)	<p>學校可在校園張貼有關與勤勞主題相關的「中華經典名句」，營造氛圍，讓學生通過吸收傳統經典智慧，培養勤勞的美德，並鼓勵他們身體力行，在家分擔家務，並為學校和社會服務。</p> <p>課外閱讀方面，初小學生可通過閱讀《好忙的蜘蛛》，明白「蜘蛛」由早到晚辛勤、專注地織網，不受周遭的引誘，最後達成目標，享受付出努力後所得的快樂。中學生可閱讀《孔子的生活智慧》、《活在當下》、《野地果》、《影響世界的中國人》等，從中認識和學習勤勞的美德。（各學習階段之參考書籍目錄可參閱右列二維碼）</p>	  初小  高小  初中  高中
Mathematics	<p>Primary schools are encouraged to conduct reading activities in Mathematics. For example, schools may encourage students to read stories of mathematicians, and make self-reflection through activities such as doing book reports, making comic strips or producing short video clips. Through these activities, students will be motivated to nurture their diligence and perseverance in learning when they have a deeper understanding of how mathematicians unfailingly studied and handled challenging problems in mathematics.</p>	<p>—————</p>
Physical Education	<p>Schools may encourage students to use the Physical Activity Logbook to record their daily physical activity level, thereby developing a habit of doing exercise regularly. Through exercising and sweating, students can train their willpower, as well as nurture positive values and attitudes such as diligence and perseverance. (Please refer to the QR code on the right to download</p>	

Subjects	Strategies	URL
	the electronic version of the Physical Activity Logbook)	
Arts Education Key Learning Area	<p>Music</p> <p>Teachers share the stories of musicians, sing Chinese folk songs and create music with students, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many musicians were diligent and resilient, e.g. the striving life of Xian Xinghai who has made significant contributions to Chinese modern music such as writing the widely-popular “Yellow River Cantata”; J.S. Bach made the gruelling journey of a few hundred kilometres on foot to attend the organ recital of Buxtehude and to learn from him. • There are many Chinese folk songs depicting the diligent lives of the people, e.g. “採茶燈” and “川江船夫號子” . These songs reflect positive, optimistic and perseverance attitudes towards life. • Students create short phrases with lyrics by using the musical elements of the abovementioned folk songs and the theme – diligence, and perform in groups. 	<p>_____</p>
	<p>Visual Arts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Visual Arts, teachers guide students to engage in exploring and experimenting with media and materials, such as pottery, printmaking, ink painting for art-making, and enjoy the pleasure and satisfaction of being diligent. • Senior secondary students build visual arts portfolios through continued observation, study, reflection, appreciation of artwork, as well as relentless experimentation with media, materials, skills, techniques and images, thus developing diligence and perseverance in taking action to materialise ideas into artworks for expressing messages. 	<p>_____</p>

Subjects	Strategies	URL
Science Education Key Learning Area	Biology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By arranging students to watch the documentary "Soybean Homecoming" in the series "The Research Journey of Scientists – Accomplishment and Perseverance", students can understand that Professor LAM Hon-ming of the School of Life Sciences, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, has devoted himself to improving the agricultural technology on marginal lands in China by combining innovative technology and traditional wisdom. Through genomic analysis and cross-breeding, he and his research team have dedicated themselves to formulating new strategies to improve in soybean cultivation under adverse environmental conditions, such as aridity and high salinity. 	 <p>Chinese Version</p>  <p>English Version</p>
	Chemistry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By arranging students to watch the documentary "The BRIGHT Future of Scientific Research" in the series "The Research Journey of Scientists – Accomplishment and Perseverance", students can understand that Professor YAM Wing-wah Vivian of the Department of Chemistry, the University of Hong Kong, has dedicated herself to exploring new functional molecular materials, with her passion to scientific research, innovative mind and truth-seeking spirit regardless of difficulties and failures. Her achievements have been well recognised by the scientific community and she has made remarkable contributions to the development of OLEDs. 	 <p>Chinese Version</p>  <p>English Version</p>
	Physics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By arranging students to watch the documentary "A New Dimension of Communication" in the series "The Research Journey of Scientists – Accomplishment and Perseverance", students can understand how scientists transform theories into 	 <p>Chinese Version</p>  <p>English Version</p>

Subjects	Strategies	URL
	daily applications to contribute to the country and the world with their endeavour and perseverance.	

Life-wide Learning Activities (Examples) 【Some activities can be conducted in onsite or online mode, if applicable】

Activities	Content
Service Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools may arrange students to participate in various service learning activities, such as serving as on-duty students, prefects, monitors, as well as participating in uniformed teams, flag selling activities, volunteer services, etc., to nurture in them the virtue of diligence and pleasure in engaging in physical work. Through ongoing participation, planning and implementation of the activities, a harmonious, safe and orderly learning environment is established for students to contribute to society. Their sense of belonging and identity to school and society, and commitment are also enhanced. Schools may also engage students in service learning activities related to sports, such as serving as helpers or sports leaders in the swimming gala and on sports day, so that students can provide assistance to schools in promoting sports activities.
Mainland Study Tours	In line with the Citizenship and Social Development curriculum, schools may arrange Mainland study tours complemented with appropriate learning and teaching activities, for example, visiting museums and successful enterprises to enable students to understand that the country's socio-economic achievements are created by the diligent efforts of the people. Students should also be encouraged to contribute to society through putting this value into practice.
Music Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools may encourage students to attend concerts organised by different arts organisations, and to write reflective reports, thus developing their habit of music appreciation. Students will understand that the performers pursue excellence through persistent and intensive practices. Schools may also offer music learning activities, such as instrumental and choral performances, to cultivate the quality of persistence by continued practices, to raise the standards of performing and choral singing skills, and to develop positive

Activities	Content
	values and attitudes of perseverance and diligence.
Visual Arts Activities	Schools may arrange students to visit masters of traditional crafts, such as paper craft, dough doll and wood craft, to learn about the history and artistic values of traditional crafts. Through direct interaction with the masters, students learn to appreciate the masters' exquisite craftsmanship, as well as to understand the process, and positive attitudes of consistent hard work, dedication and striving for excellence. This nurtures in students the attitude to cherish the traditional crafts and respect the masters.