

EDUCATION BUREAU CIRCULAR MEMORANDUM NO. 125/2023

From: Secretary for Education
To: Heads of Primary and Secondary Schools
Ref: EDB(CD/MCNE)/ADM/55/3/14(7)
Date: 2 August 2023

(Note: This circular memorandum should be read by heads and teachers of primary and secondary schools)

National Education – Event Planning Calendar (2023/24 school year)

Summary

This circular memorandum aims to inform primary and secondary schools of making arrangements for school-based learning activities related to national education (including Constitution, Basic Law and national security education) on the key dates in the 2023/24 school year, and making effective use of the web-based resource platform “National Education One-stop Portal” for the implementation of national education.

Details

2. National education is an important component of values education, a key learning goal in schools and an indispensable part of the school curriculum. The Education Bureau (EDB) has been adopting diversified and specific measures¹ to fully support schools in planning and promoting national education in a holistic and systematic manner, through the approaches of “organic integration”, “natural connection”, “diversified strategies”, “mutual coordination”, “learning within and beyond the classroom” and “whole-school participation”. Starting from 1 January 2022, all primary and secondary schools (including special schools) must display the national flag on each school day and conduct a national flag raising ceremony weekly with the playing and singing of the national anthem to show their respect for the country, so as to strengthen students’ sense of belonging to our country, their affection for the Chinese people, as well as their sense of national identity.

3. Schools should refer to the annex “National Education – Event Planning Calendar (2023/24 school year)” for planning appropriate school-based national education activities holistically in the new school year. Schools are advised to arrange learning activities outside the

¹ These include enriching and optimising the school curriculum, developing learning and teaching resources, strengthening teacher training, and organising life-wide learning activities for students (e.g. Mainland exchange programmes for teachers and students, subsidising sister schools-related activities).

classroom on the key dates in tandem with the teaching of related subjects, so as to deepen students' understanding of the major historical events and figures of our country, enable them to grasp accurately the constitutional order established by the principle of "One Country, Two Systems", the Constitution and the Basic Law as well as the significance of national security, and understand the history and spirit of the national flag, the national emblem and the national anthem. All these will help cultivate students' respect for the national symbols and signs and enhance their self-awareness of safeguarding national security.

4. The EDB continuously enriches the content of the web-based resource platform "National Education One-stop Portal" (please visit www.edb.gov.hk/en/neosp, or scan the QR Code on the right) in relation to various themes, such as Constitution, Basic Law and national security education, national symbols and signs (including the national flag, the national emblem and the national anthem), Chinese culture and museum learning, to facilitate reference and learning by teachers and students. The resources on the platform would enable teachers and students to deepen their understanding of Chinese culture and reinforce their sense of belonging towards our country, thereby cultivating an affection for our country and Hong Kong.



5. The EDB Educational Multimedia (please visit <https://emm.edcity.hk>, or scan the QR Code on the right) online platform also provides students and teachers with various types of multimedia resources, including short videos, animations, nursery rhymes, e-books, interactive games and picture books. Schools are encouraged to make flexible use of them and design learning and teaching activities to enrich students' learning experiences.



Enquiry

6. For enquiries, please contact the Moral, Civic and National Education Section 2 of the Curriculum Development Institute, EDB on 3698 3187.

Ms Grace LAW
for Secretary for Education

National Education – Event Planning Calendar (2023/24 school year)

Year	Date	Key Dates in 2023/24 School Year	Examples of School-based Learning Activities
2023/24 school year		<p>Schools should refer to this Event Planning Calendar and other school key dates (including open days, speech days, sports days, swimming galas and the school anniversary ceremony) to plan and arrange national education activities throughout the year.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Make arrangements for the raising of the national flag, and the playing and singing of the national anthem on key dates specified in this Event Planning Calendar apart from the school’s regular arrangement. ● Share topics such as the recent development of our country, Chinese culture, Chinese history and the significance of the national anthem/ the national flag/ the national emblem/ the regional flag/ the regional emblem through “the speech under the national flag” after the raising of the national flag, and the playing and singing of the national anthem. ● Organise displays on school/ classroom bulletin boards, thematic book exhibitions, visits, talks, inter-class/ form Constitution and Basic Law competitions, patriotic films appreciation, historical drama performances, Chinese culture days/ weeks, reading and reciting literary pieces (e.g. “On the Young China”), as well as playing and singing Chinese style songs (e.g. “My Motherland and I”), so as to enable students to explore different aspects of our country, such as our country’s recent development, Chinese culture, Chinese history, the meaning of national symbols and signs (including the national flag, the national emblem and the national anthem). ● Arrange for students to participate in national education activities organised by the EDB, various government departments or non-

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			<p>governmental organisations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nominate students to join the Constitution and Basic Law Student Ambassadors Training Scheme organised by the EDB, and guide student ambassadors to assist teachers in organising activities and promoting the Constitution, the Basic Law and national security in schools.
2023	1 September	School Opening Ceremony	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Make arrangements for the raising of the national flag, and the playing and singing of the national anthem.
	3 September	Victory Day of Chinese People's War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Organise thematic book exhibitions in the school library. ● Engage students in sharing film reviews on the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression. ● Make arrangements for observing a moment of silence in the school to commemorate the casualties of the war.
	18 September	September 18 Incident Memorial Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Discuss with students the September 18 Incident during Chinese History/History lessons.
	29 September	Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival (the 15 th day of the eighth month in the lunar calendar)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Organise festive activities such as lantern riddle activities and lantern design competitions. ● Make arrangements for reading and reciting literary pieces about the Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival and the moon.
	30 September	Martyrs' Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Engage students in doing a film review on patriotic films. ● Make arrangements for observing a moment of silence in the school to commemorate the martyrs of the war.
	1 October	National Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Organise celebration activities including the raising of the national flag, and the playing and singing of the national anthem on National Day or the school day before or after National Day. ● Introduce the development of our country (e.g. sports, technology, transport, construction) on school bulletin boards.

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Engage students in collecting information/ project learning/ sharing on the recent development of our country (e.g. aerospace engineering, Guangzhou - Shenzhen - Hong Kong High Speed Rail, and Guangdong - Hong Kong - Macao Greater Bay Area).
	4 December	Constitution Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introduce the Constitution and the Basic Law and their constitutional order on school bulletin boards. ● Organise inter-class or inter-form quizzes on the Constitution and the Basic Law.
	13 December	Nanjing Massacre National Memorial Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Explain the historical facts of Nanjing Massacre in school assemblies or related classes (such as General Studies for primary schools, Chinese History, History and Citizenship and Social Development for secondary schools). ● Make arrangements for observing a moment of silence in the school to commemorate the victims.
2024	1 January	New Year's Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Organise celebration activities including the raising of the national flag, and the playing and singing of the national anthem on New Year's Day or the school day before or after New Year's Day.
	10 February	Lunar New Year's Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Organise festive activities such as red packet design competitions, and Lunar New Year food and dishes design competitions. ● Arrange experiential activities of writing "fai chun". ● Engage students in collecting information/ project learning on the origins and customs of Lunar New Year to understand the meaning of Lunar New Year.
	8 March	International Women's Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Design message cards to send blessings to females. ● Introduce on school bulletin boards that equality between men and women is a basic national policy, and

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			contributions of females in different aspects of our country (e.g. science, education, literature and sports).
	4 April	Commemoration Day for the Promulgation of the Basic Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Organise slogan, writing, drama and poster design competitions.
		Ching Ming Festival	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Make arrangements for reading and reciting literary pieces about the Ching Ming Festival to ensure students understand the meaning of “paying careful attention to the funeral rites of parents and showing reverence for ancestors”.
	15 April	National Security Education Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Organise talks, project learning activities and school bulletin board design competitions.
	1 May	Labour Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Engage students in collecting information/ project learning on the origin and meaning of Labour Day. ● Make arrangements for reading and reciting literary pieces about diligence.
	4 May	May Fourth Youth Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Arrange for learning activities such as exhibitions, storytelling, and public speaking.
	10 June	Tuen Ng Festival (the fifth day of the fifth month in the lunar calendar)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Arrange experiential activities of making rice dumplings and dragon boat design competitions. ● Understand the patriotic spirit of Qu Yuan.
	30 June	The Fourth Anniversary of the Promulgation of the Hong Kong National Security Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introduce the Hong Kong National Security Law, conduct talks and project learning activities.
	July	Speech Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Make arrangements for the raising of the national flag, and the playing and singing of the national anthem.
	1 July	The 103 rd Anniversary of the Founding of the Communist Party of China	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Organise thematic book exhibitions in the school library. ● Engage students in doing a film review on patriotic films. ● Understand the development of the Communist Party of China through Chinese History / History lessons.
		HKSAR Establishment Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Organise celebration activities including the raising of the national

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			<p>flag, and the playing and singing of the national anthem on the HKSAR Establishment Day or the school day before or after the HKSAR Establishment Day.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Make arrangements for students to participate in activities related to the 27th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR.
	7 July	July 7 Incident Memorial Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Discuss with students the July 7 Incident during Chinese History / History lessons. ● Engage students in sharing film reviews on the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression.
	1 August	Chinese People's Liberation Army Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Engage students in collecting information/ project learning on the Chinese People's Liberation Army/ the Chinese People's Liberation Army Hong Kong Garrison.

Remarks: Teachers should make suitable adaptations or selections of learning activities and learning and teaching resources based on students' age, learning progress and other school-based factors.