

EDUCATION BUREAU CIRCULAR MEMORANDUM NO. 126/2025

From	: Secretary for Education	To	: Supervisors/Heads of all Aided (including
Ref	: 1125-2010-8060-9100-00006-P001		Special Schools), Government, Caput,
			Private Secondary Schools, and
Date	: 29 July 2025		Secondary Schools under the Direct
			Subsidy Schemes offering the local senior
			secondary curriculum

(Please circulate this Circular Memorandum to Economics panel heads and teachers)

Optimisation of Senior Secondary Economics and Release of the Economics Curriculum and Assessment Guide (Secondary 4-6) (with updates in 2025) and the Supplementary Document (with updates in 2025)

Summary

The purpose of this circular memorandum is to announce the optimising measures for the Senior Secondary Economics (“optimising measures”) and the release of the Economics Curriculum and Assessment Guide (Secondary 4-6) (with updates in 2025) (“Guide”) and the Supplementary Document (with updates in 2025) (“Supplementary Document”). The optimising measures will be implemented at Secondary 4 starting from the 2025/26 school year, applicable to the 2028 Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) Economics Examination and thereafter.

Background

2. The Education Bureau (EDB) announced the measures to optimise the four senior secondary core subjects in EDBCM No. 39/2021 “Measures to Optimise the Four Senior Secondary Core Subjects” following the recommendations made by the Task Force on Review of School Curriculum in the report “Optimise the curriculum for the future, Foster whole-person development and diverse talents” in order to create space for students and cater for learner diversity. Subsequently, optimising measures are being explored in other elective subjects (including Senior Secondary Economics).

3. The optimising measures for the Senior Secondary Economics were proposed by the Working Group on the Senior Secondary Economics Curriculum and Assessment under the Curriculum Development Council - Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (CDC-HKEAA) Committee on Economics. After thorough deliberations in relevant committees, the measures were agreed by the Curriculum Development Council to proceed with school consultation. Following the consultation, the optimising measures were reviewed and endorsed by the CDC-HKEAA Committee on Economics, the HKDSE Economics Subject Committee, and the Curriculum Development

Council Committee on Personal, Social and Humanities Education, and were finally accepted by the Curriculum Development Council.

Details

4. The optimising measures for the Senior Secondary Economics are as follows:

- **Curriculum:**

The curriculum contents of the Compulsory Part are fine-tuned and revised to align with the latest economic development and to enhance learning and teaching effectiveness. Moreover, in order to create space for students and cater for their diverse learning needs, students are allowed to choose not to study the Elective Part (i.e. the requirement for students to choose one of the two parts in the Elective Part is removed) and they can utilise the time released for focusing on their learning in the Compulsory Part to enhance learning effectiveness. In addition, the curriculum content of the Elective Part is slightly enriched for extending students' learning with a view to enhancing their abilities to understand and analyse data and graphs. [Remark: If students can achieve good performance in the questions of the Compulsory Part in the HKDSE examination, they may be awarded Level 5.]

For the revised curriculum contents, please refer to the “Guide” and “Supplementary Document” on the following website:

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



- **Assessment:**

In response to the changes in curriculum contents, adjustments will be made to the weighting of the Compulsory Part and Elective Part in the public assessment. The details are as follows:

			Weighting	Duration
Public Examination	Paper 1	Multiple-choice questions will be set on the Compulsory Part of the curriculum. All questions are compulsory.	30%	1 hour
	Paper 2	Section A: Short questions will be set on the Compulsory Part of the curriculum. All questions are compulsory.	26% (44 marks)	2 hours 30 minutes
		Section B: Structured/essay-type/data response questions will be set on the Compulsory Part of the curriculum. All questions are compulsory.	35%→33% (60 marks →56 marks)	

		Section C: Structured/essay type questions will be set on Elective Part of the curriculum. Candidates are to attempt the questions from one of the two elective parts.	9% → 11% (16 marks → 20 marks)	
--	--	---	-----------------------------------	--

[Remark: The HKEAA has developed a sample paper to illustrate the revised assessment framework and the changes in the curriculum contents following the optimising measures for Economics. For the sample paper, please refer to the HKEAA website below.]

HKEAA website:

https://www.hkeaa.edu.hk/en/hkdse/assessment/subject_information/category_a_subjects/hkdse_subj.html?A2&2&11



Support Measures

5. EDB will continue to develop learning and teaching resources and offer teacher professional development programmes to support schools in implementing the Senior Secondary Economics curriculum.

Enquiry

6. For enquiries, please contact Dr. WONG Kam-fung, Grace (Tel.: 2892 6513) of the Personal, Social and Humanities Education Section, Curriculum Development Institute, EDB.

CHAN Hong
for Secretary for Education

c.c. Heads of Sections – for information