

# **EDB holds territory-wide inter-school Basic Law competition celebrating HKSAR's 25th anniversary (with photos)**

The Education Bureau (EDB) held the 8th Basic Law cum the 25th Anniversary of Establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Territory-wide Inter-school Competition Kick-off cum Books Giving Ceremony today (January 5) and issued a circular memorandum to all primary and secondary schools in Hong Kong, encouraging more participation of schools and students as well as promoting national education in schools.

A spokesman for the EDB said, "The EDB has always attached great importance to the promotion of Basic Law education through diversified and ongoing measures, such as curriculum enrichment, teacher training, teaching resources and student activities. To celebrate the major milestone of the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR, this year's competition questions surround the historical developments and achievements since the founding of the People's Republic of China, the constitutional relationship between our country and the HKSAR and the development of Hong Kong since its handover to the motherland with a view to enhancing students' sense of belonging to our country and their sense of national identity."

Addressing the ceremony, the Secretary for Education, Mr Kevin Yeung, said he was thankful for the continuous support from Joint Publishing (Hong Kong) and expressed gratitude to Bauhinia Magazine for joining as a supporting organisation and donating a reader titled "National Laws Applicable to HKSAR: A Student Guide" to all primary and secondary schools offering local curriculum in Hong Kong for their reference.

Moreover, Mr Yeung received on behalf of schools the reader donated by Bauhinia Magazine and distributed the reader to the representatives of school councils and school heads' associations. Mr Yeung said that the reader can be used as reading material for the preparation of the competition this year. School principals are also encouraged to make good use of the reader to promote national education in schools.

The reader covers areas such as the Constitution, the Basic Law and the National Security Law, enabling students to deepen their understanding of the inseparable relationship between the country and the HKSAR, and to develop a sense of social responsibility and national identity and an affection for Hong Kong as well as to widen their international perspectives.

The territory-wide inter-school Basic Law competition consists of primary and secondary sections. Schools are encouraged to submit their entry form from January 10 to 21 via the website of Hong Kong Education City ([www.edcity.hk/basiclaw/reg](http://www.edcity.hk/basiclaw/reg)). The heats will be carried out in the form of an online competition from February 14 to 21. To encourage more participation of

schools, the heats will include the Most Active Participation Award and the District Outstanding School Award. The Final will be conducted in June with awards including First, Second and Third prizes and two Honourable Mentions for each section. Positions will be determined by scores in the Final. The Best Live Cheering Award will also be awarded to the school whose cheering team performs the best in the Final. For details of the competition, please visit the National Education One-stop Portal ([www.edb.gov.hk/en/neosp](http://www.edb.gov.hk/en/neosp)).

Other participants at the ceremony included the Permanent Secretary for Education, Ms Michelle Li; Member of the Board of Bauhinia Culture Group Mr Wu Baoan; the Managing Director of Joint Publishing (Hong Kong), Ms Janice Yip; and representatives of school councils and principals' associations.

Apart from the competition, there will be side programmes, such as school-based programmes co-ordinated by Basic Law Student Ambassadors. Details will be announced under "What's New" on the National Education One-stop Portal in due course.



## [SLW visits COVID-19 vaccination day in RCH](#)

The Secretary for Labour and Welfare, Dr Law Chi-kwong, visited the COVID-19 vaccination day of an elderly home in Mong Kok this morning (January

5) to take a closer look at the implementation of the Assess and Vaccinate Programme for residents' early vaccination. The Under Secretary for Labour and Welfare, Mr Ho Kai-ming, also joined the visit.

Accompanied by the elderly home operator, Dr Law first chatted with residents and healthcare workers. He then learnt more about the preparatory work prior to the vaccination day, including health assessments for unvaccinated residents conducted by the Visiting Medical Officer (VMO). Upon confirmation that the residents are suitable for receiving the Sinovac vaccine and their family members do not clearly oppose vaccination, VMOs will provide vaccination under residents' informed consent or that of their legal guardians. About 80 residents received vaccination in this round via the above programme. Together with residents vaccinated earlier, more than 70 per cent of residents in the elderly home have received vaccination.

Under the Assess and Vaccinate Programme, VMOs are arranged to carry out health assessments and vaccination at residential care homes (RCHs) for the elderly and persons with disabilities in various districts. The vaccination arrangements have been smooth so far and no residents have complained of feeling apparently unwell. Apart from outreach medical practitioners/VMOs arranged by RCHs, the Government will also arrange for health and medical organisations to provide health assessments and vaccination under the programme. From the implementation of the Assess and Vaccinate Programme on September 29, 2021, till January 2, 2022, about 5 300 residents had received the first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine through the outreach services.

Dr Law stressed, "In the face of the more transmissible mutant strains, relying on younger citizens alone to get vaccinated in building an immune barrier within the household is no longer sufficient to protect our elderly. The elderly's vaccination therefore provides them with the highest, most prudent and most effective protection. This programme provides health consultation by doctors to residents and their families in need so that they can better understand the vaccine effectiveness to allay their concerns. We appeal to the management of RCHs for active participation in the programme to provide early vaccination and enhanced protection for residents. This will reduce their risk of getting seriously ill or death upon infection."

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## [Land Registry releases statistics for 2021](#)

The Land Registry today (January 5) released its statistics for 2021.

Land registration

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\* The number of sale and purchase agreements for all building units received

for registration for 2021 was 96,133 (+31.1 per cent compared with 2020 and +28.5 per cent compared with 2019).

\* The total consideration for these agreements for 2021 was \$917.84 billion (+46.1 per cent compared with 2020 and +32.6 per cent compared with 2019).

\* The number of assignments of building units for 2021 was 117,459 (+32.0 per cent compared with 2020 and +27.8 per cent compared with 2019).

\* The total consideration for these assignments for 2021 was \$924.84 billion (+40.5 per cent compared with 2020 and +20.9 per cent compared with 2019).

Land search

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\* The number of searches of land registers made by the public for 2021 was 5,787,755 (+15.5 per cent compared with 2020 and +14.6 per cent compared with 2019).

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## **Second COVID-19 Mobile Vaccination Station to commence operation this Friday**

The second COVID-19 Mobile Vaccination Station (MVS) will commence operation on Friday (January 7) and provide vaccination services at Wong Tai Sin Temple Square for three consecutive days (from January 7 to 9) to enable people in the district, in particular elderly persons, to receive the BioNTech vaccine conveniently.

The Secretary for the Civil Service, Mr Patrick Nip, said today (January 5), "The second COVID-19 MVS will be operated in the form of a container. Having been retrofitted for vaccination purposes, the container will be transported by truck to designated locations where it will be placed on the ground. Members of the public can get vaccinated at the vaccination booths inside the container. It will assist people with impaired mobility to receive vaccination."

He stressed, "The spreading threat posed by mutant virus strains is a looming risk to Hong Kong. Hence, persons who are yet to receive vaccination should get vaccinated immediately, and persons who are eligible for a third dose should make reservations and receive vaccination as early as possible. There are various channels for the public to get vaccinated, such as Community Vaccination Centres (CVCs), COVID-19 Vaccination Stations at public hospitals, designated clinics under the Hospital Authority, private clinics, vaccination venues under private healthcare institutions and the like. We

will closely monitor the situation including the demand for vaccination and will make suitable adjustments."

Mr Nip said that the new MVS will provide the public with one more venue for getting vaccinated. The first MVS, which commenced operation last month, has provided services at Sun Chui Estate in Sha Tin, Lok Wah (South) Estate in Kwun Tong, Cheung Hong Estate in Kwai Tsing and Yan Tin Estate in Tuen Mun. A total of about 5 220 doses of vaccines have been administered. Moreover, the MVS has also provided vaccination services at secondary schools for students and staff members of schools.

The procedures for receiving vaccination at the MVSs are the same as those in CVCs. There will be temporary waiting and resting areas at open spaces next to the mobile stations and free medical consultation services will be available for people who are planning to get vaccinated on the spot.

Only one type of vaccine is provided at the MVSs each time, i.e. the Fosun/BioNTech Comirnaty vaccine or the Sinovac CoronaVac vaccine. Members of the public can receive their first, second or third dose of vaccination at the mobile stations.

The MVSs operate from 10am to 5pm. The last on-site registration time is 4.30pm.

Walk-in services for eligible persons are available. To reduce waiting time, prior booking through a hotline is welcome. The hotline for enquiries and bookings is 5193 0375 (from 9am to 5pm on weekdays except public holidays).

Members of the public can refer to the designated website for the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme for the service schedule of the MVSs ([www.covidvaccine.gov.hk/pdf/List\\_Mobile\\_Vaccination\\_Station\\_ENG.pdf](http://www.covidvaccine.gov.hk/pdf/List_Mobile_Vaccination_Station_ENG.pdf)), which will be updated from time to time.

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## **Hong Kong residents born in 1983, 1984, 1987 or 1988 should apply for new smart identity cards between January 19 and April 2, 2022**

The Immigration Department (ImmD) announced today (January 5) that Hong Kong residents born in 1983, 1984, 1987 or 1988 and holding the old form of smart identity card should bring along their identity cards and apply for new smart identity cards in person at a Smart Identity Card Replacement Centre

(SIDCC) (see Annex I) from January 19 (Wednesday) to April 2, 2022 (Saturday). The SIDCCs are open from 8am to 10pm and from Monday to Saturday (except public holidays).

The Territory-wide Identity Card Replacement Exercise covers all Hong Kong residents, who should apply for new smart identity cards in person at the SIDCCs during specified periods, whether they are permanent residents or non-permanent residents who are permitted to take up employment, make investment, reside or study in Hong Kong.

To avoid the gathering of crowds, the ImmD appeals to the applicants to make appointment bookings via the ImmD mobile application, the Internet ([www.gov.hk/newicbooking](http://www.gov.hk/newicbooking)), or the 24-hour telephone booking hotline 2121 1234. To download the ImmD mobile application or to make an appointment booking via the Internet, please scan the QR codes (see Annex II). The ImmD also appeals to applicants to pre-fill the application form when making appointment bookings through the mobile application or the Internet in order to enjoy faster identity card replacement service.

For this Replacement Exercise, the ImmD is also implementing a caring arrangement under which each eligible applicant for identity card replacement may bring along up to two family members or friends aged 65 or above and two persons with disabilities to replace their identity cards together during the same visit to an SIDCC.

For Hong Kong residents born in 1980, 1981 or 1982, their specified period for identity card replacement will end on January 18, 2022 (Tuesday). Those who have not yet applied for a new smart identity card should do so as early as possible. Eligible Hong Kong residents who are absent from Hong Kong during their call-up period can apply within 30 days upon their return to Hong Kong.

For details of the Replacement Exercise, please visit the website [www.smartid.gov.hk](http://www.smartid.gov.hk) or call the ImmD's enquiry hotline at 2824 6111.