## EDB announces suspension of Territorywide System Assessment 2021

The Education Bureau (EDB) announced today (February 22) that in view of the volatility of the COVID-19 epidemic, the Territory-wide System Assessment (TSA) 2021 (including all speaking assessments and pen-and-paper assessments) will be suspended so that schools can make the most out of the remainder of the current school year to conduct face-to-face lessons.

The EDB will collaborate with the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (HKEAA) and Hong Kong Education City Limited (HKEdCity) again to roll out the "Gainful Use of Territory-wide System Assessment 2021 Materials" arrangement, enabling schools to make best use of the TSA materials already prepared and consolidated by the HKEAA with the original pen-and-paper mode or the online assessment mode provided on the Student Assessment Repository (STAR) platform, so as to understand the learning situation of students under the epidemic and follow up on their support needs.

A spokesman for the EDB said that having made reference to the experience from the "Gainful Use of Territory-wide System Assessment 2020 Materials" arrangement last year and views from schools, the EDB and the HKEAA were finalising the details of the arrangement this year with enhancement measures, enabling schools to gainfully use the TSA 2021 materials to inform learning and teaching and the EDB to collect system-level data to learn about the overall learning performance of students.

The EDB and the HKEAA will hold face-to-face or online briefing sessions in late April to brief schools on the arrangements and participation details. HKEdCity will also launch a series of new and enhanced functions on the STAR platform between March and April to complement the "Gainful Use of Territory-wide System Assessment 2021 Materials" arrangement and streamline administrative arrangements, as well as strengthen the support to schools, teachers and students in conducting online assessments, details of which will be introduced during the briefing sessions.