

EDB introduces newly developed Curriculum Framework on Parent Education (Kindergarten)

The Education Bureau (EDB) today (September 2) introduced to kindergartens, kindergarten-cum-child care centres and schools with kindergarten classes (hereafter collectively referred to as kindergartens) the newly developed Curriculum Framework on Parent Education (Kindergarten) and encouraged them to make reference to the four core strands of the framework in designing relevant programmes and activities, so that parents can learn in a more systematic manner the necessary knowledge and skills for nurturing their children.

A spokesman for the EDB said, "In accordance with the recommendation of the Task Force on Home-school Co-operation and Parent Education, the EDB commissioned the School of Continuing Education of Hong Kong Baptist University to form a Project Team, comprising professionals in the fields of early childhood education, social work and paediatrics, to jointly develop a curriculum framework on parent education applicable to parents of children at kindergarten level. Kindergartens can make reference to the Curriculum Framework, and select, arrange and design parent education activities according to the school's context. Other organisations, such as post-secondary institutions and non-government organisations, can also make reference to the Curriculum Framework to design and provide parent education programmes that meet the needs of parents. In addition, parents can learn the knowledge on various aspects of parent education through the Curriculum Framework and understand child development and children's learning needs more systematically."

The spokesman added that the newly developed Curriculum Framework includes four core strands (see Annex): "Understanding of Child Development", "Promotion of Healthy, Happy and Balanced Development of Children", "Promotion of Parents' Physical and Psychological Well-being" and "Fostering Home-school Co-operation and Communication".

On "Understanding of Child Development", the Curriculum Framework highlights the need of the parents to understand the scope, nature, processes, directions and influencing factors on child development so that they can make proper provisions in protection and care, and in fostering child development with realistic expectations. For "Promotion of Healthy, Happy and Balanced Development of Children", it points out that parents play essential roles in guiding children to achieve their full potential in cognitive functioning, physical health, mental well-being and socio-emotional and spiritual development, and the child-centred parenting approach can foster children's autonomy, initiative, and creativity. In the aspect of "Promotion of Parents' Physical and Psychological Well-being", it highlights that parents' well-being and child development have a mutual influence on

each other across development, and it is important to promote physical and psychological well-being of parents. In addition, the strand of "Fostering Home-school Co-operation and Communication" includes the key contents that parents should work closely with the kindergarten concerning the needs of children and also get involved in school activities in supporting their children to maximise the good impact of home-school co-operation.

At present, a variety of programmes and activities on home-school co-operation and parent education are organised by kindergartens and other relevant organisations, including parent-teacher associations, Federations of Parent-Teacher Associations, post-secondary institutions and non-government organisations. The EDB encourages kindergartens and different organisations to make reference to the four core strands of the Curriculum Framework when designing related programmes/activities, so that parents with children at kindergarten level can understand holistic child development; promote healthy, happy and balanced child development; enhance parents' physical and psychological well-being; and foster home-school communication and co-operation.

The spokesman said that parents play key roles in their young children's holistic development. The EDB has all along been supporting home-school co-operation, forging home-school partnership and promoting parent education through kindergartens as well as primary and secondary schools (including special schools). To take forward the recommendation of the Task Force, the EDB has started to develop a curriculum framework on parent education in phases for parents of students of kindergartens, primary schools and secondary schools, which should be able to meet the needs of parents at each stage, and equip them with the knowledge and skills necessary for bringing up their children at different stages.

To provide more information on the design and details of the Curriculum Framework to kindergartens and other stakeholders, three briefing sessions will be conducted on September 25, 28 and 30.

For further details on the Curriculum Framework, please visit the EDB "Smart Parent Net" webpage (www.parent.edu.hk/en/article/framework_kg).