<u>Music Office's School Care Subsidy</u> <u>Scheme opens for applications from</u> <u>schools</u>

The 2021/22 School Care Subsidy Scheme is now accepting applications from schools. The deadline for applications is September 30.

Organised by the Music Office of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, the scheme aims to encourage music groups from kindergartens and primary, secondary and special schools as well as tertiary institutions to care for the community. It is hoped that students will extend their good wishes to special school students, hospital patients and the beneficiaries of social welfare organisations through free music performances, and thereby enhance social integration and harmony. Music performances can be held onsite or online, conveying the subsidy scheme's slogan "Music and Caring Without Boundaries". Through the activities, students can gain experience from performances while serving the community, as well as develop stronger team spirit and better organisational skills.

Each performance can receive a maximum subsidy of \$2,000 to cover costs including transportation, allowances for professionals and other miscellaneous items.

Successful applicants must complete their performances on or before March 31 next year. Outstanding teams will be invited to perform and share their experiences at the Gala Concert to be held in April or May next year. All participating teams will be awarded certificates of commendation during the concert.

Applications will be evaluated according to the proposed activity's feasibility, ingenuity and interactive elements, as well as the music group's prior experience in organising and performing at community events. Application forms are now available at all music centres of the Music Office and downloadable from the website (www.lcsd.gov.hk/musicoffice). Completed forms must be emailed to the Music Office at cnc@lcsd.gov.hk.

More than 350 school music groups have participated in the School Care Subsidy Scheme since its launch in 2009. The scheme is sponsored by the Sino Group. For enquiries, please call 2598 8335 or 3842 7775.