

# Pilot Scheme on the Use of School Venues by Arts Groups opens for application

The Pilot Scheme on the Use of School Venues by Arts Groups is open for arts groups' application today (May 2). Arts groups may hire the school venues for rehearsals during after-school hours.

Booking applications are accepted from May 2 to 31 and mid-September to October in 2024. Each round of booking will be closed at 5.30pm on the last working day of the month of May or October. Arts groups are required to submit confirmed venue booking details as a proof that the rehearsal is related to a public performance within the next 12 months. Details including the list of participating schools, information on facilities opened and rate of hire charges, etc are available at the Scheme website ([www.lcsd.gov.hk/en/programmes/programmeslist/schoolvenuesbyartsgroups.html](http://www.lcsd.gov.hk/en/programmes/programmeslist/schoolvenuesbyartsgroups.html)).

The Scheme was announced in the 2023 Policy Address. It aims to open parts of school venues for rehearsals by arts groups during after-school hours on a pilot basis to provide more venues for arts groups. At the same time, it fosters the development of the arts and cultural industries as well as promotes arts education through the provision of more opportunities for students to access artistic creations. The Scheme is jointly taken forward by the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, and the Education Bureau.