

SED on class suspension due to typhoon

Following is the transcript of remarks by the Secretary for Education, Mr Kevin Yeung, after attending the opening ceremony of Hong Kong Qualifications Framework International Conference 2018 today (September 17):

Reporter: When do you think it's safe to resume the schools? How do you respond to complaints from parents saying there are difficulties in arranging child care when school is suspended, and will you consider to partially open schools again?

Secretary for Education: Firstly, I must say that it's an exceptionally serious typhoon that we had experienced in the past two days. And the measure now is we have suspended classes but we have asked schools to remain open for the students whose parents who may not be able to find someone to look after their kids at home. So, that practice would facilitate those parents who need to go back to work, for example, so that their kids would not be left unattended.

Reporter: When can the schools be re-opened? Are some schools' structures damaged?

Secretary for Education: We are hoping that schools could re-open as soon as possible. But we also need the schools to have an assessment of their own conditions. We also need to have an overall assessment on the territory as a whole before we could decide when the schools will be opened.

(Please also refer to the Chinese portion of the transcript.)