

CE chairs summit on quality education (with photos)

The Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, chaired the Chief Executive Summit on Quality Education today (June 2). With the theme of "Teachers' Professional Development: Striving for Teaching Excellence", the Summit included a keynote speech delivered by an education expert from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Mr Andreas Schleicher. Representatives of different stakeholders of the education sector shared experiences and suggestions in respect of teachers' professional development in the panel discussion.

The Summit was attended by nearly 500 guests representing stakeholders of the education sector including teachers and principals of kindergartens, primary and secondary schools, school sponsoring bodies, school councils, university academics and parent organisations.

In her opening remarks, Mrs Lam said that talent was the most important element in Hong Kong's continued development and education was the key to nurturing talent. The Government's expenditure on education is therefore the most significant investment for the future. Mrs Lam has promised new education resources amounting to \$5 billion annually, covering different areas ranging from kindergarten to university. It is the Government's key objective to create a stable, caring, inspiring and satisfying teaching and learning environment for our students, teachers, parents and principals. She hoped that through the concerted efforts of all, Hong Kong's future generations would become quality citizens who are socially responsible and equipped with a sense of national identity, a love for Hong Kong and an international perspective.

The Director for the Directorate of Education and Skills, and Special Advisor on Education Policy to the Secretary-General of the OECD, Mr Andreas Schleicher, gave a keynote speech under the theme of "Educating students for their future, not our past – insights from international comparisons", analysing education policies around the world and looking at strategic studies made with a view to advancing educational development in different countries. Through reviewing the results of international assessments of different countries and regions, Mr Schleicher analysed how big data assists governments, schools and educators in promoting education changes and paradigm shifts in order to cultivate in students core competencies to take up future challenges.

Following the keynote speech was a panel discussion on nurturing talents for a quality education profession moderated by the Honorary Director of the Education Policy Unit of the Faculty of Education of the University of Hong Kong, Professor Cheng Kai-ming. Other speakers joining the discussion included the Choh-Ming Li Professor of Educational Psychology of the Chinese University of Hong Kong and Convenor of the Sub-committee on Teachers' Professional Development of the Committee on Professional Development of

Teachers and Principals (COTAP), Professor Hau Kit-tai; former principal of St Paul's Co-educational College and council member of the Education University of Hong Kong, Dr Chan Wong Lai-kuen; Assistant to the Episcopal Delegate for Education, Catholic Diocese of Hong Kong, Mr Julian Yip; and teacher of St Francis' Canossian School and awardee of the Chief Executive's Award for Teaching Excellence, Ms Chong Yan-wai. They spoke on their experiences and exchanged views in respect of teachers' professional development from multiple perspectives.

In the second half of the Summit, Mrs Lam; the Secretary for Education, Mr Kevin Yeung; the President of the Education University of Hong Kong, Professor Stephen Cheung; and the Chairperson of the Task Force on Professional Development of Teachers and Chairperson of COTAP, Dr Carrie Willis, exchanged ideas with the guests on education policies and measures. Participating guests expressed their views enthusiastically on different education issues such as the use and planning of resources, training and professional development.

Following a new initiative put forward in the election manifesto of the Chief Executive and pledged in her first Policy Address as "New Style Through Active Listening", the Chief Executive Summit on Quality Education today enabled the Chief Executive to listen to diverse views of the education sector, bring about closer interactions between the Government and the education sector and establish better connection and communications among stakeholders to help the Government improve teachers' professional development, refine related education policies and build a teaching profession with higher quality. Various Task Forces, which were set up to review certain areas of education policy following the Chief Executive's 2017 Policy Address, will consider views expressed by the participants. Among them, the Task Force on Professional Development of Teachers will commence a two-month consultation later this month on the directions of recommendations, and submit a report and recommendations afterwards.





[Special traffic arrangements for race meeting in Sha Tin tomorrow](#)

Police advise motorists that special traffic arrangements will be implemented in Sha Tin to facilitate the race meeting tomorrow (June 3).

The arrangements will come into effect two hours before the start of the first race and will last until the crowds have dispersed after the race meeting.

Appropriate traffic signs will be put up and police will be on hand to guide motorists.

The Police also appeal to people going to Sha Tin Racecourse for the race meeting and to Happy Valley Racecourse for cross betting to make maximum use of public transport.

Parking spaces at the two racecourses are available only to holders of appropriate permits issued by Hong Kong Jockey Club and any vehicles illegally parked will be towed away.

[Red flags hoisted at several beaches](#)

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (June 2) that due to big waves, red flags have been hoisted at Stanley Main Beach, Turtle Cove Beach, Shek O Beach and Big Wave Bay Beach in Southern District, Hong Kong Island; Silverstrand Beach, Clear Water Bay First Beach and Clear Water Bay Second Beach in Sai Kung District. Beach-goers are advised not to swim at these beaches.

Regional flag day today

Three charities have been issued Public Subscription Permits to hold flag sales from 7am to 12.30pm today (June 2). They are, on Hong Kong Island, the Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation; in Kowloon, Light and Love Home Limited; and in the New Territories, Tin Shui Wai Residents Services Association Fund Committee Limited, a spokesman for the Social Welfare Department (SWD) said.

Arrangements have been made with the charities to help people distinguish between the three flag-selling activities.

Information on the three flag-selling organisations on June 2 is as follows:

Region	Name of Organisation	Colour of Collection Bag	Colour of Flag
Hong Kong Island	The Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation	Yellow	Light Yellow
Kowloon	Light and Love Home Limited	Blue	Blue
New Territories	Tin Shui Wai Residents Services Association Fund Committee Limited	Blue	White

For enquiries, please call the SWD's hotline at 2343 2255, or the Charitable Fund-raising Control Team at 2832 4311 during office hours. Information on the flag days of the month is available at the SWD's website (www.swd.gov.hk/en/index/site_whatsnew/). Permits for flag days containing contact information of the flag-selling organisations and information on the approved flag-selling activities have also been uploaded to the SWD's website (www.swd.gov.hk/en/index/site_pubsvc/page_controlofc/sub_recentlyap/). For enquiries about the detailed flag-selling arrangements, please contact the individual flag-selling organisations.

Details of the charitable fund-raising activities covered by the Public Subscription Permit issued by the SWD have also been uploaded to the GovHK website (www.gov.hk/fundraising).

In the case of suspected fraudulent flag day activities, people should not make any donation and should immediately report the matter to the Police, the spokesman added.

[FS continues Dublin visit to promote Ireland-Hong Kong collaboration \(with photos\)](#)

The Financial Secretary, Mr Paul Chan, in Dublin today (June 1, Dublin time) sought closer co-operation between Hong Kong and Ireland.

On the second day of his visit, Mr Chan first attended a roundtable discussion with the Minister of State at the Department of Finance and the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform of Ireland, Mr Michael D'arcy and a group of key figures in Irish financial services, to discuss the latest development of green finance in both places.

Mr Chan said that a number of measures were launched in the Budget this year to promote the development of green finance in Hong Kong, including a Government Green Bond Programme with a borrowing ceiling of \$100 billion for funding green public works projects; and a Green Bond Grant Scheme to subsidise qualified green bond issuers in using the Green Finance Certification Scheme. He said that given the well-developed financial services in Ireland, there are clear synergies for Hong Kong and Ireland to work together in green finance.

He then met with the Minister for Finance and Public Expenditure and Reform of Ireland, Mr Paschal Donohoe, to exchange views on global and Europe's economic prospect. Both sides looked forward to further collaboration between Hong Kong and Ireland in financial services, trade and other sectors.

In the afternoon, Mr Chan met with senior management of the National Treasury Management Agency and shared experience in management of public finances. Following this was a meeting with members of the Banking & Payments Federation Ireland as well as the Fintech & Payments Association of Ireland. Mr Chan said that Hong Kong strives to provide an enabling environment for developing innovation and technology and Fintech. In terms of payment system and infrastructure, the Hong Kong Monetary Authority will launch a Faster Payment System that allows banks and Stored Value Facility service providers to provide real-time, round-the-clock, cross-institution payment and fund

transfer service to their business and personal customers.

Earlier today, Mr Chan paid a courtesy call on Chinese Ambassador to Ireland, Dr Yue Xiaoyong.

Concluding the visit to Dublin, Mr Chan will return to Hong Kong in the morning of June 4 (Hong Kong time).

