



Press Release

6/6/2021

**The Release of Survey “Implementation of National Security Education at Schools”
cum
“Future of Hong Kong Education in Post-National Security Law Era Forum”
Press Conference 2021**

In response to the ‘Curriculum Framework of National Security Education in Hong Kong’ issued by the Education Bureau (EDB) this year, Hong Kong Shine Tak Foundation conducted a survey on the ‘Implementation of National Security Education at Schools’ (as known as ‘the Survey’) between 28th April and 16th May 2021 to learn about the actual condition of implementation. A total of 218 schools have responded to the Survey, comprising 61 kindergartens, 80 primary schools and 77 secondary schools. The respondents included 165 principals, 15 vice-principals, 32 middle managers and 6 teachers.

Key findings of the Survey results:

- 1) The result of the Survey shows that 54% of the schools are ‘well-prepared for implementing National Security Education’ whilst 46% of the respondents indicated that they are ‘not ready for the implementation of National Security Education’ and they need more preparations on different aspects including curriculum design, concrete teaching materials as well as knowledge and mentality of teachers.
- 2) 78% of the schools said that the school sponsoring body/school management committee and school management of their school are clear about EDB's requirements for the implementation of National Security Education at schools, and 20% said that they are not clear. The schools surveyed generally held activities related to National Security Education in their schools, including singing the national anthem (84%), raising the national flag and regional flag (80%), and explaining the meaning of National Security Education Day (75%); as well as participated in activities/competitions related to the Basic Law (68%).
- 3) 42% of the schools indicated that the education in developing in students a sense of belonging to the country, an affection for the Chinese people, a sense of national identity, as well as an awareness of and a sense of responsibility for safeguarding national security is insufficient. A larger proportion believes that, when implementing National Security Education, respect for others, fostering sense of national identity, show respect for the rule of law and abide by the law, strengthening students’ understanding of the conditions of the country should be listed as short-term goals.
- 4) Regarding the ‘Curriculum Framework of National Security Education in Hong Kong’ issued by EDB, 18% of the interviewed schools felt that there are no difficulties; 79% of the schools found ‘challenging’ or ‘very difficult’ to carry out, but they can be resolved. At the same time, all surveyed kindergartens agreed that the ‘Curriculum Framework of National Security Education in Hong Kong’ serves as reference for kindergartens in promoting National Security Education in Hong Kong. Among them, 62% stated that there are not many references.
- 5) Most of the interviewed primary and secondary schools stated that when designing the curriculum and teaching materials for National Security Education, the main source of information is EDB’s Learning and Teaching Resources website. 57% of the surveyed schools think the information is sufficient, and the remaining 43% think the information is not enough and expect EDB to provide information includes (1) Classified by learning stage, the curriculum needs to be divided into ordinary school and special school; (2) Refer to the needs of students of different levels and abilities; (3) Provide complete teaching kits (including powerpoints, videos, lesson plans, student worksheets and simple interactive quiz games); (4) Provide curriculum sample materials and clips of different subjects; (5) Provide teaching plans and materials suitable for kindergarten level such as hand puppets,



story animations, posters, stickers, etc.; (6) Provide easy-to-understand and interesting teaching activities for primary school students, with more daily life examples; (7) Work with stakeholders from the industry to develop teacher's manuals for National Security Education.

6) In terms of teachers' training, 34% of the schools felt that the support on teacher development from EDB over the National Security Education is adequate, whilst 66% of them think the support it is not enough, and expect EDB to (1) Provide professional support includes organizing more thematic seminars, and provide sufficient number of sessions and participation places; (2) Provide training or workshops for middle management and other teachers, so that they can better understand the responsibilities and tasks of different positions and strengthen the effectiveness of National Security Education implementation in schools; (3) Arrange teachers to visit the Mainland, and strengthen the connection with sister schools.

7) 93% of the schools expect the government to provide teaching materials to assist in the implementation of National Security Education, accounting for the largest number; 67% of the respondents expect EDB to provide human resources, and 63% expect EDB to provide financial resources and professional support.

Mrs. Tung Ng Ling Ling, Chairman of the Hong Kong Shine Tak Foundation, said that the 'The Law of the People's Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (NSL)' has been implemented, and it is the schools' responsibility to implement National Security Education in school curricula. The Hong Kong Shine Tak Foundation has long been concerning about Basic Law education in schools and hopes that this survey results can let the public have a more comprehensive understanding of the actual condition of implementation of National Security Education at schools. She believes that the Education Bureau (EDB) will strengthen the support for schools so that National Security Education can be carried out smoothly.

Mr. Tong Sau Chai, Executive Vice Chairman of the Hong Kong Shine Tak Foundation and Former Chairman of the Committee on Home-School Cooperation, provides a total of 13 suggestions to EDB, including (1) creating middle-level positions in primary and secondary schools to coordinate the implementation of National Security Education in schools, lead and coordinate cross-curricular collaboration; (2) increasing the National Security Education subsidy to primary and secondary schools, because all the production of special teaching materials and teaching kits, school decorations and school atmosphere require financial support; (3) organizing a number of National Security Education activities in the 'School-based After-school Learning and Support Programmes' (Community-based Projects); (4) strengthening the communication with the school sponsoring bodies and support them to organize more National Security Education activities; (5) strengthening the explanations and response to kindergartens to ensure that relevant stakeholders in kindergartens can fully grasp the specific requirements of National Security Education.

"Future of Hong Kong Education in Post-National Security Law Era Forum" will be held by the Foundation at 2:30 pm on 25 June 2021 at the Sheraton Hong Kong Hotel in Tsim Sha Tsui. Mr. Tsang Yok Sing, the former President of the Legislative Council, will be the guest speaker and share the views on the impact on education after the implementation of NSL in Hong Kong. Primary and secondary school principals, school sponsoring bodies and parent representatives will attend the forum and share their responses and difficulties. The forum is now open for enrolment from school principals and teachers.