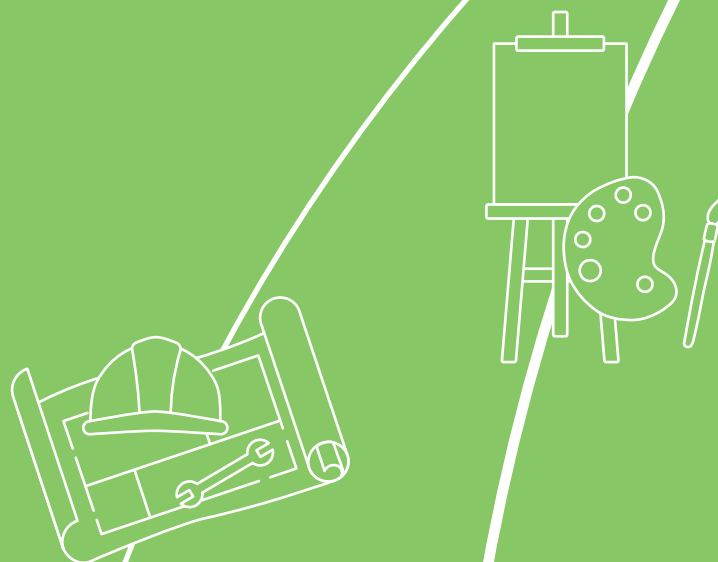
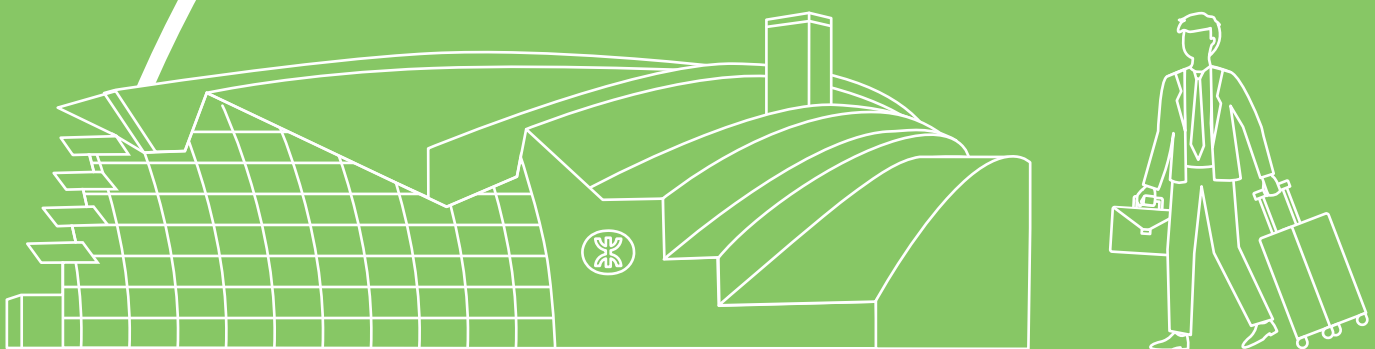


“ **Let young people realise
their full potential and build
Hong Kong into a talent hub** ”





**Hong Kong will Prosper
Only When its
Young People Thrive**





7

Hong Kong will Prosper Only When its Young People Thrive

Building an International Hub for Post-secondary Education

Increasing the non-local student quota of publicly-funded institutions

- Double the non-local student quota of publicly-funded post-secondary institutions (applicable to taught programmes) to 40% (of the local student places) starting from the 2024/25 academic year. Post-secondary institutions may, having regard to their own conditions, progressively attract more students from abroad and the Mainland to pursue education in Hong Kong. (EDB)

Expanding scholarship schemes

- Increase the quota of the Belt and Road Scholarship by 50% starting from the 2024/25 academic year. (EDB)
- Gradually increase the quota of the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme from 300 places to 400 places per academic year starting from the 2024/25 academic year so as to attract more outstanding talents to study and conduct research in Hong Kong. (EDB)

- Continue to implement the Hong Kong Scholarship for Excellence Scheme, which subsidises 100 outstanding local students each year to pursue studies in world-renowned universities outside Hong Kong, with a view to broadening the global perspective of local students. (EDB)

Increasing hostel places

- The University Grants Committee (UGC)-funded universities will continue to take forward a number of hostel projects, in order to increase hostel places by about 13 500 in total by 2027. (EDB)

Supporting self-financing institutions

- Launch a new round of the Land Grant Scheme and Start-up Loan Scheme within 2024 to support self-financing post-secondary institutions to develop and improve campuses in support of more teaching activities. (EDB)

Development of post-secondary education in the Northern Metropolis

- Proactively take forward the development of the Northern Metropolis University Town by encouraging post-secondary institutions to strengthen co-operation with renowned Mainland and overseas institutions, and achieve greater synergy through resources sharing and complementary industry development within the region. (EDB)

Promoting multicultural learning experiences

- Starting from the 2023/24 academic year, the UGC will inject an additional \$100 million into the Funding Scheme for Mainland and Global Engagement and Student Learning Experience to encourage publicly-funded universities to provide more exchange and learning opportunities outside Hong Kong, and to promote a diversified and inclusive international learning environment. (EDB)

Enhancing learning and value-added opportunities for international students

- Starting from November 2023, temporarily exempt full-time non-local postgraduate students studying in Hong Kong from the restriction on taking up part-time jobs, so as to enhance their personal experience and understanding of working in Hong Kong, and increase their incentive to stay in Hong Kong for development after graduation. The arrangement will be implemented on a trial basis for two years. (LWB)

Developing Universities of Applied Sciences

- Draw up the criteria for qualifying as universities of applied sciences (UAS) cover admission, curriculum, accreditation, career pathway, and industry engagement, in conjunction with the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications, and with reference to international experiences. (EDB)

- Support appropriate self-financing institutions to develop into UAS by providing financial and related support, including according priority to eligible programmes of UAS for inclusion under the Study Subsidy Scheme for Designated Professions/Sectors; and providing additional subsidies to encourage institutions to offer more applied degree programmes in professional and technical disciplines and enhance the enrolment incentive. (EDB)
- Set aside start-up funding to support prospective post-secondary institutions to set up an alliance of UAS for joint promotion to enhance the status of vocational and professional education and training in society and among parents and students. (EDB)

Expanding Our Vocational Talent Pool

Establishing the Hong Kong Institute of Information Technology

- Establish the Hong Kong Institute of Information Technology (by the Vocational Training Council (VTC)) to provide dedicated pre-employment and in-service training for the information technology (IT) sector, with a view to strengthening Hong Kong's IT capabilities and meeting the manpower and development needs. The programmes will be launched in the 2024/25 academic year. (EDB)

Increasing allowance of the Apprenticeship Scheme

- The VTC to implement a three-year pilot scheme from the 2024/25 academic year to provide training allowance for registered apprentices and subsidise graduated apprentices in undertaking upskilling courses of relevant trades. (LWB)

Enhancing mutual recognition of cross-boundary qualifications

- Collaborate with the relevant Mainland authorities to take forward the mutual recognition of sub-degree level qualifications, including the Higher Diploma qualification, and try out such arrangements on a pilot basis. (EDB)

High-quality Education Services

STEAM Education

- Introduce a subject on science in primary schools to strengthen students' scientific and creative thinking; and earmark a total of about \$200 million to provide a one-off grant for publicly-funded primary schools to upgrade facilities and equipment. (EDB)
- Enrich science learning at junior secondary level by integrating the learning of innovation and technology (I&T) in class; and launch support programmes for Mathematics curriculum to strengthen students' capability in applications of mathematics. (EDB)
- Continue to strengthen Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) related professional training programmes to help teachers keep abreast of the latest development in I&T. (EDB)
- Promote the setting up of a school-based student talent pool in schools; enhance collaboration with the Hong Kong Academy for Gifted Education to arrange students with potential in STEAM to participate in systematic training and competitions of reasonable scale. (EDB)

Teacher and student support

- Introduce new awards under the Chief Executive's Award for Teaching Excellence to encourage teachers to embrace innovation in teaching. (EDB)

- Subsidise all serving and prospective teachers of primary and secondary schools in taking the "National Putonghua Proficiency Test" with the Language Fund to further encourage teachers to enhance their mastery of Putonghua. (EDB)
- Launch the "Guangdong-Hong Kong Sister Kindergarten Exchange Programme" in the 2023/24 school year to strengthen connection between the Mainland and Hong Kong in early childhood education, with a focus on fostering teachers' professional exchanges and collaboration. (EDB)
- Establish the first teacher training and exchange base in collaboration with relevant Mainland education authorities and institution in the 2023/24 school year to organise regular training programmes, exchanges and collaboration projects in the Mainland, and facilitate teachers' learning of the experience and latest practices in applying technology in educational research in the Mainland through visits and exchanges. (EDB)
- Commission non-governmental organisations or tertiary institutions to organise courses on physical and mental health for teachers to help them enhance their work capacity. (EDB)
- Set up a one-stop hotline and offer online counselling services in the 2023/24 school year to provide students and parents with advice on and support in handling conflicts among peers or school bullying. (EDB)
- Launch Mainland study tours in the 2023/24 school year for promoted teachers and continue to offer more such places for newly-joined teachers and serving teachers so that they can have more opportunities to visit the Mainland to gain first-hand experience of the development of the country. (EDB)
- Continue to promote the "Guidelines on Teachers' Professional Conduct" and provide training resources so as to facilitate teachers' integration of their pursuit of professionalism and commitment to upholding high moral standards as well as assisting them to accomplish the mission of cultivating values and nurturing students. (EDB)

- Implement small class teaching in 48 additional public sector primary schools within the 2023/24 and 2024/25 school years, thereby raising the percentage of schools implementing small class teaching beyond 90%. (EDB)
- Regularise the Relocation Grant for Kindergartens starting from the 2024/25 school year to encourage more kindergartens to apply for relocation to government-owned premises. (EDB)

Fostering parent education on a sustained basis

- Continue to promote positive parent education among the public and organise a territory-wide Positive Parent Campaign Activity Day in end-2023. (EDB)
- Launch the Curriculum Framework on Parent Education (Secondary School) and provide a one-off grant of \$200,000 to each publicly-funded secondary school within 2024 to support schools to embark on structured school-based parent education programmes or activities. (EDB)
- Organise parent education courses and develop electronic learning resources for parents of kindergarten and primary school students in accordance with the curriculum frameworks on parent education. (EDB)

Promoting Youth Development

Youth Development Summit

- Organise the Youth Development Summit in mid-2024 as the opening and highlight of the 2024 Youth Festival and invite participation of guest speakers and youth groups from the Mainland and overseas. (HYAB)

Implementing the Youth Development Blueprint

- Follow up on the implementation progress of over 160 measures outlined in the Youth Development Blueprint, and continue to listen to the feedback from young people on the blueprint and constantly review and enrich its content. (HYAB)
- Launch the Youth Dashboard to consolidate youth-related data and trends for keeping better tabs on the pulse of young people. (HYAB)
- The number of participating committees in the Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth has been increased from some 60 in 2022 to 85, with the target of increasing the number of participating committees to no less than 180 within the current-term of the Government. (HYAB)

Financial planning for the youth

- Launch a pilot scheme to provide young people with financial planning and counselling services as well as information on financial management, saving and investment that suits their individual needs, so as to assist young people in developing an effective financial management plan. (HYAB)

Youth innovation and entrepreneurship

- Launch the “Greater Bay Area Career Exploration Tours” to allow secondary students to appreciate the latest development of various industries in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) in person to seize new opportunities for career development. (EDB)

- Launch the Funding Scheme for Experiential Programmes at Innovation and Entrepreneurial Bases covering various Mainland provinces and municipalities, so as to encourage young people to explore entrepreneurial opportunities in the enormous Mainland market. (HYAB)
- Launch a new round of Funding Scheme for Youth Entrepreneurship in the GBA to provide capital subsidy and comprehensive support services to Hong Kong young people interested in starting their businesses locally and in Mainland cities of the GBA. (HYAB)
- Establish the Alliance of Hong Kong Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurial Bases in the GBA as a one-stop information, publicity and exchange platform for supporting Hong Kong young people in pursuing entrepreneurship in the GBA. (HYAB)

Youth engagement

- Engage youth participants of various government activities through the Youth Link, offering them opportunities to develop diverse talents through participating in seminars, different types of large-scale government activities, exchange visits to the Mainland and overseas, etc. and strengthening their communication, interaction and trust with the Government. (HYAB)
- Study the possibility of utilising suitable facilities to provide Youth Link participants with a platform for constant interaction, including multi-function areas, a youth culture and creativity bazaar, and spaces for small-scale performances. (HYAB)
- Launch a youth-based mobile application to disseminate diversified information on youth development and enable young people to explore different activities and development opportunities. (HYAB)

- Leverage online media and channels to bring young people together and tell good stories of Hong Kong. (HYAB)

Broadening young people's horizons

- Continue to implement various youth exchange and internship programmes outside Hong Kong to enable young people to gain first-hand understanding and experience of the latest development in the Mainland and the world. (HYAB)
- Continue to strengthen support for youth uniformed groups to enhance youth development and national education through the provision of one-off funding. (HYAB)
- Continue to implement the Multi-faceted Excellence Scholarship Scheme by providing full scholarships for students who excel in sports, arts and/or community service to pursue undergraduate studies in Hong Kong, with a view to promoting a culture of multi-faceted excellence. (HYAB)

Youth Hostel Scheme

- Continue to implement the “Subsidy Scheme for Using Hotels and Guesthouses as Youth Hostels”. Three projects with the provision of about 480 hostel places have been approved since its launch in early 2023. (HYAB)
- Continue to implement the Youth Hostel Scheme (YHS). In addition to the two completed projects providing a total of 1 700 hostel places, the construction of three other projects, which will provide about 1 000 additional hostel places, are in progress. By promoting youth tenants’ participation in community outreach or volunteer services, the scheme seeks to nurture talents with an aspiration to serve the community. (HYAB)

- Set aside a site in Tung Chung under the Land Sale Programme whereby developers will be required to reserve a certain number of flats to support the YHS on a pilot basis. (HYAB, DEVB)

Enhancing positive thinking

- Following the launch of the first round of the Funding Scheme for Youth Positive Thinking Activities and the Funding Scheme for Youth Adventure Training Activities at end-2022, some sponsored organisations have progressively rolled out relevant activities for a period of two years since the summer of 2023. (HYAB)
- Strengthen cohesion among the youth by launching the youthfest@HK from 2023 and inviting different sectors of the community to jointly organise a wide spectrum of activities to nurture positive thinking, facilitate development of potential and enhancement of knowledge, promote experience sharing, etc. (HYAB)

Deepening Participation of Government Departments and Civil Service Grades in Youth Work

- Provide short-term internship opportunities in the Government and public organisations for young people to help them equip themselves and accumulate social experience. (CSB)
- Attract more young people to join the civil service so that the Government can build up a diverse talent pool. (CSB)

Taking forward the second phase of the Security Bureau's Project Lighthouse

- Expand the Project Lighthouse to no less than 10 participating schools and no less than 200 student participants by end-2023. (SB)

Continuing to implement the Security Bureau Youth Uniformed Group Leaders Forum

- Arrange the Leaders Forum to tender advice to the Security Bureau on matters including enhancing young people's sense of national identity and national security awareness, as well as select new members by end-2023. (SB)
- Establish the Leaders Forum Alumni Association by end-2023, and organise at least one sharing activity every quarter to facilitate sharing of views and experience among former and current members of the Leaders Forum. (SB)

Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps

- Bring in the Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps (HKACC) as a youth uniformed group subsidised by the Government Flying Service and provide flight simulator or virtual reality training for at least 100 cadet members within 2024, with a view to enhancing their aviation education. (SB)
- Commence the renovation works of the new headquarters and training centre of the HKACC by the third quarter of 2024. (SB)

The ICAC ELITE Youth Leadership Programme

- Organise training and engagement activities under the ICAC ELITE Youth Leadership Programme to nurture young people to become future leaders who possess an international perspective, embrace integrity and uphold the rule of law. (ICAC)