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The public has responded enthusiastically to the consultation documents. Throughout the consultation period, the Council has received 328 written submissions, which came from academics in the tertiary institutes; representatives from organizations or councils; students, teachers and principals as well as members of the public. Constructive comments and views have also been collected from various channels including the media and the consultation forums.

The public generally agrees with the direction of curriculum development and the importance of equipping our students with the generic skills for 'learning to learn'. The public also shares the same views with the Council on setting priority to the four key tasks, that is, reading for learning, importance attached to moral and civic education, IT in curriculum and project learning.

There are also positive feedback on the incremental approach (the ten year plan) to implementation, the possibility and modes of teacher development, the on-site support given to schools by the Government, the proper use of research and development projects for informed educational decision, and the partnership/collaboration with other bodies like the youth organizations or uniform groups in order to provide our students with life-wide learning.

The Council agrees that more work need to be done in connecting curriculum and assessment on the understanding that assessment is an integral part of the curriculum and understanding students' learning progress and needs helps effective learning. In this light, the Council will collaborate closely with the Hong Kong Examinations Authority to strengthen the link between the school curriculum and assessment.

More concrete plans to help teachers, e.g. on teacher education/development programmes, on teaching/learning resources, and on extra funding to schools, will further be discussed by the Council.

The Council would like to clarify the public's misunderstanding of promoting school-based curriculum means leaving everything to schools. The Council would like to reassure the public that the central curriculum remains as the 'main' curriculum. 'School-based' curriculum provides schools with the flexibility to adapt the main curriculum to suit the needs and interests of their students and serves supplementary functions only.

The Council will forward issues and suggestions beyond its terms of reference to the appropriate bodies concerned, for example ACTEQ on accreditation, the Educations Commission sub-group on issues Senior Secondary, for further deliberation.

The Council is fully aware of all the concerns and expectations of various parties, and is prepared to lend the greatest support. The Council would like to appeal to all parties concerned for their cooperation, collaboration and concerted efforts in the time of changes to make the implementation smooth and successful.
