

CDC News (November 2007)

The 25th CDC Meeting was held on 2 November 2007. Salient points of the discussion are as follows:

Report on the progress of the curriculum reform and the 2nd 5-year strategy

- Annual surveys conducted since 2003 to track the progress of the implementation of the curriculum reform. Advisory consultants and other local experts had been invited to give advice on the interim review. According to the findings, students had made notable improvement in their development of all 3 generic skills and their sense of national identity. Both schools and teachers had made great improvement in their practice.
- There was the challenge of further strengthening students' sense of national identity, and the impact of the socio-economic status (SES) on learning and teaching had to be further explored.
- For the 2nd 5-year plan, the focus would be building on the successful strategies and strengthening the less improved areas like assessment for learning.
- There was concern over the expected standard of the HKDSE and the problem of learner diversity, especially regarding the support for SEN students in order to help them meet the required standard.
- Commitment of teachers was of paramount importance in making the curriculum reform a success and the workload issue had to be tackled to give teachers more space to focus on learning and teaching.
- As the universities were planning the 4-year programme, interface between the senior secondary curriculum and the university study should be ensured and communications should be enhanced through concerted efforts.

Report on the progress of the development of the Draft Chinese Language Supplementary Guide

- The Guide was designed to help teachers adapt the curriculum and help the Non-Chinese Speaking (NCS) students integrate into the society. The executive summary of the Guide would be translated to different languages as necessary since readers are non-Chinese.