

CDC News (December 2007)

The 26th CDC Meeting was held on 17 December 2007. Salient points of the discussion are as follows:

Discussion on the Applied Learning curriculum framework

- Applied Learning (ApL) aimed at offering learning programmes to cater for the diverse learning needs of all students to complement the existing school curriculum and the NSS subjects from 2009 onwards. The curriculum framework of ApL was built around the curriculum components of foundation skills, thinking skills, people skills, values and attitudes, and career-related competencies, with different professional and vocational fields as the learning context.
- A rigorous quality assurance mechanism is being put in place to ensure the consistency of standards across courses and providers. HKEAA, in collaboration with CDI and course providers, would ensure that the levels of attainment of the ApL courses could be mapped to appropriate levels of HKDSE. There would be public assessments for the ApL courses but not in the form of public written examination.
- Around 200 schools had participated in the piloting of ApL, the majority indicated their intention to offer ApL courses within the NSS curriculum.

Discussion on the progress of Moral and Civic Education in the Curriculum Reform

- Promotion of Moral and Civic Education (MCE) was accorded as one of the four Key Tasks in the Curriculum Reform since 2001. Five priority values (**PVs**), namely Perseverance, Respect for Others, Responsibility, National Identity, and Commitment, were identified as the entry points for students' values development.
- Schools could adapt the proposed MCE framework according to their own context and were expected to have a clear direction and systematic planning in the promotion of MCE. The framework has spelt out the developmental needs of students at different Key Stages to facilitate teachers' planning in schools.
- Seminars and professional development courses on the revised MCE framework would be organised for school heads, MCE co-ordinators and teachers.
- The Curriculum Development Institute was encouraged to provide workable guidance to schools on how to promote MCE and allow sufficient flexibility for schools to adopt the approach that best fits their needs.