

CDC News (February 2011)

The 36th CDC Meeting was held on 18 February 2011 (Friday). Salient points of the discussion are as follows:

Report on the Development of the General Studies (GS) for Primary Schools Curriculum Guide (P1-P6)

- The Curriculum Guide was not a new guide but an enrichment to the curriculum content to keep abreast of the latest developments. The updated guide placed emphasis on aligning the direction with the curriculum reform; deleting the outdated content; enriching the content related to anti-drug education, sex education, national education, information technology education and sustainable development; providing suggestions on improving curriculum planning, learning and teaching, assessment and use of resources; and updating the appendices. The exemplars in the enriched GS Curriculum Guide would be compiled into a standalone resource package to facilitate teachers' easy reference and continuous updating to meet the changing needs of society.

Progress of the Development of the Subject of Moral and National Education (MNE)

- The MNE Core Group was formed on 15 November 2010 and a meeting had been held to discuss the directions and design of the subject. The MNE curriculum framework was based on the agreed principles from the Core Group. With reference to the existing MCE, the life event and value-based approach would be adopted. The aim was to help students to develop positive values and attitudes through specific themes. MNE would provide a framework for schools to develop students' values and attitudes systematically, and to adapt in order to align with their existing curriculum. MNE would not be an examinable HKDSE subject. It was most critical to find teachers who had the commitment and experience to teach MNE.
- It was remarked that other subject teachers could continue infusing MNE elements into their learning/teaching to promote positive values and attitudes. If MNE was to be offered as a standalone subject, curriculum mapping between the MNE curriculum and other curricula should be conducted to ensure that there was no overlapping.
- The draft was expected to be ready and distributed for consultation in May 2011.

Report on the New Senior Secondary (NSS) Subject Information Survey 2010

- It was observed that there was a drop in the number of elective subjects taken by students in S5. There was also a comparatively larger percentage drop of student enrollment in Integrated Science and Technology and Living in S5. However, the number of subject combinations offered in schools was rather stable for the 2 cohorts of students.