

Completed Youth Development Initiatives (as at 28 February 2025)

Part A: Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint

Exploration - Enhance National Education, National Security Education and National Pride	
1.	Implement the Curriculum Framework of National Security Education in Hong Kong and the curriculum framework on National Security Education for 15 subjects, explaining details on the topics relating to national security, teaching objectives and learning elements in the primary and secondary school curricula. (Education Bureau (EDB))
2.	By the end of the 2022/23 school year, all publicly-funded primary and secondary schools will be required to assign a dedicated co-ordinator to lead the overall planning work and complete the onsite teacher workshops on national security education to improve the planning and implementation of national education on a whole-school approach. (EDB)
3.	Government schools will take the lead in adopting a whole-school and joint-school collaborative approach to launch the first edition of “Love Our Home; Treasure Our Country” series of inter-school activities in accordance with the “National Education - Event Planning Calendar” issued by EDB to commemorate key national events, such as the National Day and the National Security Education Day. School sponsoring bodies will also be encouraged to organise inter-school national education activities. (EDB)
4.	All publicly-funded schools will organise one or more activities relating to national education for parents every year. (EDB)
Exploration - Promote Vocational and Professional Education and Training	
5.	When selecting the courses to be covered by the Study Subsidy Scheme for Designated Professions / Sectors (SSSDP), we will give priority to applied courses that integrate school-enterprise co-operation and provide work-study connections such as workplace internships, and cover top-up degree courses for the first time. The goal is to construct a better vocational education advancing path. EDB will also streamline the implementation details of the SSSDP and the “Non-means-tested Subsidy Scheme for Self-financing Undergraduate Studies in Hong Kong” (NMTSS) to benefit students from different backgrounds, including students with vocational qualifications. (EDB)

6.	The Diploma of Applied Education Programme will be launched on a regular basis starting from the 2023/24 academic year, incorporating substantial VPET elements and providing a pathway for Secondary Six school leavers as well as adult learners to obtain a formal qualification. (EDB)
7.	We will enhance applied learning courses at senior secondary education by offering more programme options and support. (EDB)
Exploration - Promote STEAM Education	
8.	Promote Innovation and Technology (I&T) Learning “for all” — EDB will implement enriched coding education at the upper primary level and introduce I&T elements such as Artificial Intelligence in the junior secondary curriculum for adoption by the 2024/25 school year. (EDB)
9.	Strengthen Leadership and Co-ordination — Starting from the 2022/23 school year, all publicly-funded schools are required to designate co-ordinators to holistically plan Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) education within and beyond the classroom; and organise or arrange students to participate in quality STEAM activities of reasonable scale at the whole-school, inter-school, territory-wide or international level. (EDB)
10.	Enhance Professional Training — Arrange teachers to undergo professional training on STEAM in an orderly manner before the 2023/24 school year. (EDB)
Exploration - Enhance Post-secondary Education	
11.	Increase the number of the University Grants Committee-funded research postgraduate places by about 1 600, from the existing 5 600 to progressively 7 200 in the 2024/25 academic year. This, together with the gradual uplift of the over-enrolment ceiling from 70% to 100% from last year onwards, will increase in number of research postgraduate places by more than 50%. (EDB)
12.	The subsidy levels of the Mainland University Study Subsidy Scheme will be increased starting from the current academic year, with the introduction of a new subsidy item for travelling expenses, etc. (EDB)
13.	To ease the financial burden of loan repayers under the student financial assistance schemes for local post-secondary students, the Government will extend the current interest-free deferral of loan repayment for another year until 31 March 2025. (EDB)

14.	The Multi-faceted Excellence Scholarship provides full scholarships for students who excel in sports, arts and/or community service to pursue undergraduate studies in local universities and post-secondary institutions, with a view to promoting a culture of multi-faceted excellence. (Home and Youth Affairs Bureau (HYAB))
Exploration - Enhance Life Planning	
15.	Strengthen the implementation of life planning education in junior secondary schools and commence life planning education in upper primary schools starting from the 2021/22 school year. (EDB)
16.	EDB will organise two sharing sessions in the 2022/23 school year to invite schools to share school-based good practices and experience in organising diversified life planning activities. (EDB)
17.	Since the launch of the one-stop Life Planning Information Website in 2019, EDB has been updating and enriching the contents of the Website, including the insertion of information on different types of work from traditional and emerging industries. At present, the website covers the latest careers information of 290 types of work from different industries (including duties, career ladder, entry requirements as well as examples of related training and courses, etc.). In the coming two years, EDB will further provide the careers information of 20 types of work, with not less than half from emerging industries. In tandem, an additional thematic corner, titled “The Greater Bay Area”, will be set up to provide information on careers and further studies of the cities in the Greater Bay Area (GBA). (EDB)
18.	To further promote the co-operation between the business sector and schools, EDB has launched the Business-School Partnership Programme 2.0 in the 2022/23 school year. EDB is actively liaising with major chambers of commerce, professional bodies and the Industry Training Advisory Committees (including those of emerging industries) under the Qualifications Framework to encourage their member organisations to join the Programme and provide more and a wider range of career exploration and work experience activities for students to help them gain an initial understanding of the workplace. A series of Holiday Work Experience Programmes will be arranged during major school holidays (e.g. summer holidays, Christmas holidays and Easter holidays) to enable senior secondary students to gain first-hand experience of the actual operation of different industries as well as explore their interests and career aspirations. Study Tours to the GBA will also be launched to enhance the understanding of senior secondary students on the economic development, education as well as further studies, career development, etc., in the GBA. (EDB)

19.	Encourage various government departments and professional grades to form youth groups and organise activities regularly to enrich young people's understanding of these government departments and professions, and guide them in their career pursuits and experiencing team culture. (HYAB)
20.	The Security Bureau (SB) set up the SB Volunteer Services Team and launched the volunteer programme Sunshine Buddies in October 2022 to support children aged 11 to 14 from new arrival families in the following year to enhance their self-confidence, language and presentation skills, and encourage them to join the Government (particularly the disciplined services) and contribute to the community in the future. (SB)
Exploration - Understand Our Country and the World	
21.	Further promote the Students Mainland Exchange Programme, providing about 100 000 exchange quotas every year, which is sufficient for every student to join at least one Mainland exchange programme in the respective primary and secondary stages. To tie in with the senior secondary subject of Citizenship and Social Development, EDB fully subsidises students to participate in Mainland study tours once. (EDB)
22.	At present, there are around 780 publicly-funded primary and secondary schools establishing over 2 100 sister schools pairs with their Mainland counterparts. EDB is targeting to achieve an increase of 10% in the number of local schools participating in the Sister School Scheme by the end of 2023. Through participation in sister school exchange activities, more Hong Kong students will be able to enhance friendship with their sister schools' counterparts, broaden their horizons and deepen their understanding of the Mainland, so as to enhance their sense of national identity. (EDB)
23.	The Economic and Trade Offices (ETOs) in Singapore, Jakarta and Bangkok will encourage companies and organisations in the member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to offer suitable short-term internship placements to Hong Kong students, so that they can learn about the operation of relevant industries, as well as the economic and socio-cultural environment of the member countries. (Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (CEDB))
24.	To provide more opportunities for Hong Kong students to travel overseas to understand the working culture of different countries and broaden their horizons, CEDB has collaborated with local universities to arrange short-term internships for about 50 Hong Kong students in overseas ETOs. (CEDB)

25.	Formulate guidelines of good practices for youth internship and exchange programmes outside Hong Kong, and provide one-stop dissemination of information. (HYAB)
26.	For the financial services sector, opportunities will be provided for youths and students to interact directly with corporate leaders and conduct study tours to the Mainland, with a view to helping young people broaden their horizons, develop a proper global perspective and prepare for their future careers. (Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau (FSTB))
27.	The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) plans to explore with the RTHK the feasibility of co-producing thematic videos/training videos covering various professional environmental topics, including global environmental issues and sustainable development, environmental assessment and planning, climate change, air quality, waste management, water quality and noise control, etc., so that young people can acquire professional knowledge in different areas of environmental protection and understand the national and global trends in environmental protection. (Environment and Ecology Bureau (EEB))
Exploration - Improve Special Education	
28.	Starting from the 2022/23 school year, hospital schools will be provided with additional resources to provide hospitalised students suffering from injuries or diseases with a holistic senior secondary curriculum and enhanced life planning education, with a view to facilitating their re-integration into mainstream schools after recovery. The Strength-based Programme under the Project on Whole School Approach to Providing Tiered Support for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder will also be expanded to help senior secondary students with autism spectrum disorder unleash their potential and strengthen their life planning. This will benefit about 100 secondary schools. (EDB)
Hope - Capitalise on the Positioning of Hong Kong for Career Development	
29.	We will continue to organise “Set Sail for GBA - Scheme for Financial Leaders of Tomorrow” to help Hong Kong’s young people to understand the development of our country and encourage them to grasp the opportunities brought about by GBA development in their future career planning. (FSTB)
30.	To nurture more local maritime lawyers, we will launch a Maritime Services Traineeship Scheme to subsidise participating companies to provide traineeship programmes for young people who aspire to a career in maritime law, with a view to broadening the career development opportunities for youths in the high value-added maritime services industry and consolidating Hong Kong’s position as an international shipping centre. (Transport and Logistics Bureau)

Hope - Support Diversified Career Development	
31.	Since 2020, the Government has rolled out the support measure of “Support for Engineering, Architectural, Surveying, Town Planning and Landscape Sectors” under the Anti-epidemic Fund to subsidise private organisations to employ assistant professionals and graduates of the construction industry and offer employment opportunities to young people interested in pursuing relevant careers. We will consider to regularise the measure and determine the way forward. (Development Bureau (DEVB))
32.	Assist young people to receive professional training in construction and develop their careers in the construction industry while seizing the opportunities of future infrastructure development. DEVB will work with EDB to expand the government funding schemes to include more additional degree programmes relating to the construction industry, which will significantly reduce the financial and time burden on young people pursuing bachelor’s degree programmes. (DEVB)
33.	Introduce appropriate measures to increase job opportunities for small construction consultancy firms (many of which are founded by young architects). For example, requiring large consultancy firms and contractors to engage small consultancy firms in the design of projects for suitable consultancy contracts and “Design and Build” contracts. (DEVB)
34.	The Department of Justice (DoJ) plans to set up an in-house alliance of young lawyers, tentatively named “Friends of DoJ”, to enable young government lawyers who have been with DoJ for less than seven years to network and share their experiences, and to encourage their active participation in activities and development of the legal profession. (DoJ)
35.	In addition to the career talks already being conducted by DoJ at the three law schools, DoJ will consider arranging legal trainee recruitment talks at the Justice Place, for example, during the holidays for all interested parties not limited to law students. We will make arrangements for serving lawyers (including those at junior, intermediate and senior ranks, and DoJ’s internal young lawyers of the “Friends of DoJ” tentatively) to interact with attendees at the end of the talks. (DoJ)
36.	EPD is discussing with the Vocational Training Council (VTC) to consider launching an apprenticeship programme related to environmental protection to provide on-the-job training opportunities for students enrolled in vocational certificate, vocational diploma or higher diploma courses to gain practical environmental work experience through working in EPD’s waste treatment facilities and air quality monitoring stations, etc. (EEB)

37.	The Department of Health (DH) plans to continue to provide summer internship places for Hong Kong post-secondary students in 2023 to help them understand the operation and structure of the DH and to have the opportunity to participate in the core work of the Department during the epidemic. The practical work of the internship is very diverse and includes providing research and support to the DH's education activities; assisting in the management of social media platforms and related databases; and conducting information gathering on the latest situation of global epidemic, etc. (Health Bureau (HHB))
38.	The Hospital Authority (HA) will provide about 80 summer internship places for Hong Kong post-secondary students in 2022-23, with additional places to be provided progressively thereafter, for them to gain hands-on experience of the work of the HA in administration, finance, community relations and various clinical and allied health departments. (HHB)
39.	To nurture technology talents and encourage their development in technology research, the Innovation and Technology Commission consolidated the relevant programmes under the Innovation and Technology Fund in 2020 and launched the Research Talent Hub (RTH) in July of the same year to provide funding support to eligible organisations/companies to employ research talents (including fresh graduates of bachelor's, master's and doctoral programmes) to undertake R&D work. In view of the importance of human resources in promoting the I&T development in Hong Kong, we will enhance the Research Talent Hub by increasing the current maximum monthly allowance for holders of bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from \$18,000, \$21,000 and \$32,000 to \$20,000, \$23,000 and \$35,000 respectively for a maximum of three years. We will also provide a monthly living allowance of \$10,000 to doctoral degree holders under the scheme to enhance Hong Kong's attractiveness to I&T talents. (Innovation, Technology and Industry Bureau (ITIB))
40.	We will organise the first Hong Kong Performing Arts Market in 2024 to showcase our outstanding arts groups, including budding arts groups / artists and graduates of the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts. The Market will provide a platform for them to showcase their artistic work to audiences from different parts of the world, thereby opening up new opportunities for them in the Mainland and overseas. (Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau (CSTB))
Hope - Enhance Employability of Young People	
41.	The Labour Department (LD) is exploring with the ERB to strengthen collaboration on pre-employment and on-the-job training under the Youth Employment and Training Programme (YETP). Under the new arrangement, the ERB offers about 700 courses, including tailor-made courses for young people and vocational skills courses covering 28 trades, for trainees of the YETP. (Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB))

Hope - Support Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Youth	
42.	Continue to support local bazaars to create business opportunities for small business owners including young people. (HYAB)
43.	The Government will launch the \$10 billion “Research, Academic and Industry Sectors One-plus Scheme”. Starting from 2023, it will fund on a matching basis, at least 100 research teams in universities which have good potential to become start-ups to commercialise their R&D results. (ITIB)
44.	Through the Youth Development Fund, we will continue to provide support and incubation services to young people in Hong Kong to help them meet their initial capital needs. In particular, we will enhance and launch a new round of the Funding Scheme for Youth Entrepreneurship in the GBA to support more Hong Kong youths to engage in innovation and entrepreneurship locally and in Mainland cities of the GBA. Subject to resumption of cross-boundary travel, HYAB will later set up an Alliance of Hong Kong Youth Innovative and Entrepreneurial Bases in the Greater Bay Area and invite organisations in Guangdong and Hong Kong, including business start-up centres, universities, NGOs, scientific research units, professional bodies and venture capital funds, to join the alliance and establish a one-stop information, publicity and exchange platform to support Hong Kong youths to start their business in the GBA. (HYAB)
Hope - Facilitate Young People’s Integration into the Overall Development of Our Country	
45.	The Government launched the pilot “Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme” in 2021. The feedback from the participating enterprises and graduates was very positive. After review, the Government will regularise the scheme to encourage enterprises with operations in both Hong Kong and Mainland cities of the GBA to employ graduates from Hong Kong’s universities. We will launch the regularised programme in the first half of 2023, and the enhancement measures include: setting up a dedicated team to take forward the scheme and strengthening liaison with enterprises, post-secondary institutions, employer groups and other stakeholders; providing practical employment information in the GBA to potential graduates with interest earlier; following up on the employment situation of graduates during and after their participation in the programme; and stepping up publicity and promotion to share the success stories of participants so that Hong Kong youths can gain a better understanding of the development opportunities in the GBA. (LWB)

Hope - Address Youth's Housing Needs	
46.	We will re-launch the Starter Homes projects in the Land Sale Programme in the 2023-24 financial year. In the past, more than 85% of the applicants for SH were young people aged 40 or below, and more SH projects will help young people in home ownership. (Housing Bureau, DEVB)
Empowerment - Promote Sports, Arts and Culture	
47.	Continue to curate and provide different platforms for local young artists and graduates/prospective graduates from universities/academies to showcase their talents to various audience groups and to be the new forces in the arts industry. Furthermore, different types of light-hearted programmes and popular dances targeted for young audiences are organised, in order to promote performing arts and culture, as well as to develop their sense of creativity and diversified thinking. (CSTB)
48.	The Leisure and Cultural Services Department will organise more community arts activities targeting at young people, among them is the Youth Music and Dance Marathon which serves as a performance platform for young musicians and dancers. Plans are underway to allow more performers/ensembles to participate for showcasing their own works, offering performance opportunities for more young people to reach out to different communities, as well as opportunities for youngsters to join cultural activities and arts festivals staged in the Greater Bay Area and share experience with arts groups and artists of the region. These aim to broaden their horizons, cultivate and arouse their personal interests in the arts and cultural industry, and facilitate them to set up clear career goals and build up proper personal values. (CSTB)
49.	To organise "Love Your Life Film Festival" which consists of free community movie screenings and post-screening sharing sessions by film practitioners in Hong Kong, so as to cultivate the interest of young persons in movies, to enhance their appreciation of movies and to build audience in the young generations. Subsidised by the Film Development Fund, the project will select movies from Hong Kong, the Mainland and foreign countries with a theme on life so as to instil positive values to young people. Its target audience is students and members of the public. (CSTB)
50.	We would review the competition events and format of the biennially held Hong Kong Games. In order to further attract the young people to participate in the HKG, we will consider introducing new urban sports events which are popular among young people. We will also review the format of the individual sports competitions and consider adding age groups for aged under 18 so as to provide more opportunity for the participation of young people. (CSTB)

Empowerment - Promote Positive Values	
51.	We have implemented the “Values Education Curriculum Framework” (Pilot Version) in secondary schools. Building on the features and needs in students’ stages of development, the framework lists the learning expectations on their attitudes and behaviours in different domains (e.g. personal, family, community, national and global domains). On this ground, it is to develop students’ ability to, on the basis of positive values and traditional Chinese ethics, analyse objectively and make reasonable judgement in different issues they may encounter at different developmental stages so that they could take proper action when facing choices, and challenges and frustrations in their future life. Adopting the Chinese culture as the backbone, it provides schools with a framework across various disciplines/curriculum areas to promote values education. (EDB)
Empowerment - Enhance Youth Rehabilitation	
52.	To provide more comprehensive support for young persons in custody (PICs) who wish to continue their studies, the Correctional Services Department (CSD) signed a memorandum of understanding with the Hong Kong Metropolitan University (HKMU) on 24 October 2022 to affirm the long-term partnership between CSD and HKMU in education and development of strategies to assist the rehabilitation of inmates, including credit transfers and programme articulation for PICs who were/have enrolled in post-secondary programmes prior to their imprisonment, and financial assistance by HKMU to inmates enrolled in its programmes to help them complete their postsecondary studies. (SB)
53.	<p>In recent years, quite a number of persons who have committed crimes under the influence of radical ideas have been admitted to correctional institutions. CSD is actively implementing the Project PATH, under which a number of suitable rehabilitation programmes have been developed for PICs to help them rebuild positive values and face positively the challenges ahead. These new or enhanced programmes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● “Youth Lab” Psychological Counselling Programme: CSD has enhanced its existing psychological counselling services by setting up a new psychological counselling programme, Youth Lab, to helps young PICs manage emotions through mindfulness practice and art therapy, so as to enable them to undergo psychological rehabilitation and rebuilding, thereby enhancing their thinking process and respect of the law. The project was officially launched on 6 July 2022 at the Pik Uk Correctional Institution. ● “Change Lab” Community-based Psychological Service Centre: CSD also sets up a community-based psychological service centre, the Change Lab, to provide community-based psychological counselling for young PICs after release, assisting those young people under statutory supervision order to build up confidence and psychological resilience for overcoming difficulties and resisting temptations, as well as strengthen the relationships between supervisees and their families, thereby breaking the cycle of crime. The Change

	<p>Lab is located in the first multi-purpose family and rehabilitation service centre in Shau Kei Wan and has commenced service on 26 October 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● “The Project JET” Life Planning Project: In end-October 2022, CSD launched the Project JET, a life planning project, to arrange for various enterprises to participate in life planning programmes and provide more employment opportunities for young PICs and rehabilitated persons, including the arrangement of more professional internships such as accounting, management trainees and fashion design, so that they can further develop their potential and contribute to the community after release. The “Local Programme” will arrange for various local enterprises to provide local employment information and internship opportunities, while the “Greater Bay Area Programme” will invite businessmen and major enterprises with operations in the GBA to participate in the project and introduce the latest development and employment situation of the GBA to young PICs and rehabilitated persons who wish to work in the GBA. They will also be offered internship positions in the GBA to help them seize the development opportunities in the GBA after release. ● “Understanding History is the Beginning of Knowledge” Educational Initiative: In 2022, CSD has optimised the “Understanding History is the Beginning of Knowledge” educational initiative with the theme of “Road to Reunion”, encompassing online seminars and technological elements such as virtual reality (VR) and e-sports activities to help PICs understand Chinese history and culture, enhance their national identity and encourage them to treasure the opportunities and look to the future. (SB)
54.	LD is exploring with CSD on encouraging employers to provide on-the-job training for rehabilitated youths through the Youth Employment and Training Programme, so as to enhance their employability and help them integrate into society and become self-reliant. (LWB)
Empowerment - Promote Positive Thinking	
55.	Apart from the regular subvention to the 11 uniformed groups, HYAB will provide recurrent subvention to the Hong Kong Army Cadets Association from 2022-23 onwards to enhance support for youth development and national education. (HYAB)
Empowerment - Promote an Innovation and Technology Culture	
56.	Further enhance “Youth.gov.hk” with innovative ways to strengthen the dissemination of youth development-related information, especially content relating to entrepreneurship and career development, improve user experience and make good use of social media for promotion. (HYAB)

57.	The Subsidy Scheme for Encouraging Early Deployment of 5G programme aims to subsidise the early deployment of 5G by public and private organisations (including schools and start-ups) for enhancing operational efficiency and service quality. Over 160 projects have been approved with the subsidy, applying 5G in areas including STEM education, smart healthcare and teaching, AR/VR communication systems and 5G streaming of live music performances, etc. (CEDB)
58.	To enhance young people's understanding of 5G and its potential for applications, and to make use of 5G to improve learning environment, the Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA) plans to organise an inter-school competition on 5G application in 2023. The competition aims to promote the integrated application of 5G and STEM-related knowledge and skills among secondary school students, thereby fostering their innovative thinking, collaboration and problem-solving skills. Participating students are required to design solutions using 5G or 5G-enabled tools to improve the campus environment, learning environment, and the neighbourhood. (CEDB)
Empowerment - Make Use of Life-wide Learning Grant/Activities	
59.	Provide public sector schools (including special schools) with a recurrent Life-wide Learning Grant to support schools in taking forward life-wide learning with enhanced efforts. Depending on individual circumstances, schools may use the grant flexibly to organise more out-of-classroom experiential learning activities for students in different learning and curriculum areas, so that students can have more lively and enriched learning experiences for broadening their horizons, enhancing their motivation and interest in learning, and fostering their whole-person development. (EDB)
60.	Collaborate with various local organisations and NGOs to support schools in providing students with more diversified and all-round learning opportunities in areas of community service, physical and aesthetic development, career-related experiences, etc. Students are encouraged to take an active role in caring for the needy in the community, participate in more physical and aesthetic group activities that are beneficial to their physical and mental well-being, and broaden their horizons through out-of-classroom experiential learning activities, thereby enhancing their spirit to serve and sense of responsibility, and developing an active and healthy lifestyle as well as positive thinking. (EDB)
Empowerment - Support Non-Chinese Speaking Youth	
61.	EDB provides all-encompassing support for non-Chinese Speaking (NCS) students from pre-primary to secondary education through a series of measures. In addition to providing additional funding to schools as well as major curriculum-related learning and teaching resources, EDB offers teacher training and professional support, thereby strengthening the

	<p>support for NCS students to learn Chinese and fostering an inclusive learning environment. EDB has also implemented other supplementary measures, which include encouraging parents of NCS children to enroll their children in local kindergartens so that they would adapt to the local education system and gain exposure to the Chinese language and learn the language as early as possible; providing summer bridging programmes to help NCS students at the junior primary levels adapt to the classroom setting and consolidate their Chinese learning at the junior primary levels; and providing parent education programmes especially for parents of NCS students so that they would support and encourage their children to master the Chinese language and gain better understanding of the multiple pathways available to their children. Besides, career exploration activities have been offered to facilitate NCS students' preparation for further studies and career pursuits. NCS school leavers would also join dedicated courses on vocational Chinese Language to enhance their employability. (EDB)</p>
Contribution - Encourage Young People to Participate in Community Contribution	
62.	<p>Establish the Youth Community Contribution Committees in 18 districts for young people to offer their views on district development and works projects, and re-organise the existing District Youth Programme Committees into District Youth Development and Civic Education Committees. The two committees will be opened up for young people to nominate themselves to participate. (HYAB)</p>
Contribution - Establish Platform for Youth Engagement	
63.	<p>HYAB will create a brand new youth network to serve as a long-term platform for youth engagement. It will bring together past participants of various youth development programmes organised, funded or co-ordinated by HYAB. The youth network will enable young people to contribute to the community and develop their diverse talents through offering a range of opportunities for community involvement, volunteer work, talent development, diverse experience, etc. Our aim is to progressively develop the youth network to gather a group of vibrant, diverse and competitive young people who are committed to active engagement in community building. We will also make use of the youth network as a platform to disseminate government information to enhance young people's understanding of government policies. (HYAB)</p>
64.	<p>Launch a youth-based mobile application (app) to disseminate diversified information on various youth development programmes. It will also provide a one-stop platform for young people to explore different opportunities and activities according to their needs and interests, and foster engagement of the youth community. We will organise focus groups to take into account young people's views when designing the app that caters for them. (HYAB)</p>

65.	With the support of DEVB, the Construction Industry Council plans to set up the “Construction Youth Volunteers Teams” in its volunteer network under the Construction Industry Sports & Volunteering Programme to co-ordinate and support young people in the industry to participate in volunteer work in the community, including making use of their construction skills to help the needy in the community so that they will feel more empowered by themselves and the construction industry. (DEVB)
Contribution - Encourage Youth’s Participation in Volunteer Work	
66.	Actively promote youth’s participation in volunteer services. Newly launched measures include: creating a youth category in the Hong Kong Volunteer (HKV) Award jointly organised by HYAB and the Agency for Volunteer Service (AVS) to recognise and encourage more young people to participate in voluntary work; requiring youth tenants in the newly launched “Youth Hostel Scheme-Subsidy Scheme for Using Hotels and Guesthouses as Youth Hostels” to provide community or voluntary services to the neighbourhood community; and launching a new round of “United Nations Volunteers - Hong Kong Universities Volunteer Internship Programme” to provide local university students with valuable opportunities to undertake voluntary internships in overseas service units of agencies under the United Nations. (HYAB)

Part B: Policy Measures Related to Youth Development Introduced in 2023

Exploration	
1.	Organise on-site seminars on national security education for secondary schools to enhance teachers’ understanding of the “holistic concept of national security”. (EDB)
2.	Establish a Working Group on Patriotic Education under the Constitution and Basic Law Promotion Steering Committee within 2024 with a view to promoting patriotism. (Chief Secretary for Administration’s Office, Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau and relevant bureaux)
3.	Establish a Foot Drill and Flag Party of no less than 40 members under the Customs Youth Leaders Corps within 2024, so as to enhance the training on Chinese-style foot drill and flag-raising skills in preparation for flag-raising ceremonies and large-scale performances. (SB)
4.	Increase the total number of the Fire & Ambulance Services Teen Connect (FAST Connect) members from 300 to 800 and extend the coverage of FAST Connect to all 18 districts of Hong Kong by the end of the 2023/24 school year. (SB)

5.	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)
6.	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)
7.	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)
8.	Enrich science learning at junior secondary level by integrating the learning of innovation and technology in class; and launch support programmes for Mathematics curriculum to strengthen students' capability in applications of mathematics. (EDB)
9.	Enhance the existing staff provision of resource teachers for primary and secondary sections of aided special schools and extend it to schools for social development starting from the 2024/25 school year to facilitate special schools to provide students comorbid with Autism Spectrum Disorder with additional support in learning and development. (EDB)
Hope	
10.	Starting from the 2023/24 academic year, gradually increase training places of ancillary dental workers and provide tuition fee subsidies to attract more new entrants to the industry, thereby meeting development needs of the oral healthcare and dental care sectors in Hong Kong. (HHB)
11.	Starting from the year of assessment 2024/25, raise the deduction ceiling for home loan interest or domestic rents from the current \$100,000 to \$120,000 for taxpayers who will live with his/her first child born on or after 25 October 2023 until the child reaches the age of 18. (FSTB)
12.	Starting from the year of assessment 2024/25, provide tax deduction on assisted reproductive services under salaries tax and personal assessment, subject to the ceiling of \$100,000 per year. (HHB)

13.	Starting from April 2024, increase the rates of household and child allowances under the Working Family Allowance Scheme by 15% across the board. (LWB)
14.	Starting from the fourth quarter of 2024, double the number of service places under the Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project to about 2 000. (LWB)
15.	Starting from April 2024, increase the incentive payment at a standard rate of \$25 per hour for home-based child carers of the Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project. For carers of infants and young children aged zero to three or children with special learning needs, the rate will increase to \$60 per hour; for carers of children aged three to nine, the rate will increase to \$40 per hour. (LWB)
16.	Establish the Hong Kong Institute of Information Technology (by 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)
17.	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)
18.	Launch the "Greater Bay Area Career Exploration Tours" to allow secondary students to appreciate the latest development of various industries in the GBA in person to seize new opportunities for career development. (EDB)
Empowerment	
19.	Regularise the support services for ethnic minority (EM) youths as well as the District-based Programmes for Racial Harmony. (HYAB)
20.	Design more diversified learning materials under the Online Chinese Language Self-learning Resources for non-Chinese speaking (NCS) students. (EDB)
21.	Expand the Summer Bridging Programme to include NCS students progressing to Primary 5 and Primary 6 starting from the 2023/24 school year. (EDB)
22.	Increase the number of schools that provide school-based life planning education support services for NCS students. (EDB)

23.	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)
24.	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)
25.	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)
26.	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)
27.	Commence the renovation works of the new headquarters and training centre of the HKACC by the third quarter of 2024. (SB)
28.	CSD will establish the Ethics College by end-2023 to provide full-time continuing education courses for voluntary enrolment by adult persons in custody to help them equip themselves for re-integration into society. (SB)
29.	Expand the Project Lighthouse to no less than 10 participating schools and no less than 200 student participants by end-2023. (SB)
Contribution	
30.	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)
31.	Continue to implement the SB Youth Uniformed Group Leaders Forum, including establishing the Leaders Forum Alumni Association by end-2023, and organising at least one sharing activity every quarter to facilitate sharing of views and experience among former and current members of the Leaders Forum. (SB)