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EDB provides subsidy and support for schools in response to No. 5 alarm fire in Tai Po

An Education Bureau (EDB) spokesman today (November 28) said that, in view of the serious impact of the No. 5 alarm fire at Wang Fuk Court in Tai Po earlier this week, the EDB will provide a Special Incident Assistance Grant for schools in Tai Po District, continuing its full support for affected students and parents.

To support schools and students to cope with the incident, the EDB will offer \$100,000 to each primary and secondary school (including special schools) and \$50,000 to each kindergarten in Tai Po District under the Special Incident Assistance Grant. Schools may flexibly deploy the Grant to provide students, teachers and parents with appropriate assistance, which includes providing psychological counseling services and purchasing learning-related items for affected students.

In addition, the Hong Kong Jockey Club, with assistance of schools, will offer \$5,000 to each affected student through the Jockey Club Emergency Relief Fund to address their immediate learning needs, mitigating the impact of the incident on them.

The EDB will hold five online seminars on psychological support for special incidents (Chinese only) tomorrow (November 29) and on Sunday (November 30) for teachers and parents to assist school personnel and parents in taking care of students/children with traumatic experiences. Speakers include a psychiatrist, a psychologist and a social worker. For details of the seminars (Chinese only), please visit the "Mental Health@School" website (mentalhealth.edb.gov.hk).

If any school premises was damaged due to the fire, the EDB will provide repair services through emergency repair works as soon as possible to ensure its safety.

Educational psychologists and officers of the District School Development Sections of the EDB will continue to maintain close contact with the schools and provide necessary assistance.

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