

Parents reminded to choose primary schools

Children who have joined the Primary One Admission (POA) System for 2019 but have not yet secured a discretionary place can take part in the Central Allocation process by making their choice of schools on either Saturday (January 26) or Sunday (January 27).

"By participating in Central Allocation, these students will be allocated a government or aided primary school place," a spokesman for the Education Bureau said today (January 21).

"The School Places Allocation Section of the bureau has sent letters to the parents concerned inviting them to make their choice of schools at a specified Central Allocation Centre. Each centre will operate from 9.30am to 12.30pm and from 1.30pm to 4.30pm on January 26 and January 27.

"A completed Choice of Schools Form must be returned to the same centre on either of the two days," the spokesman said.

"Parents who have not yet received the invitation letter should call the School Places Allocation Section at 2832 7700 as soon as possible."

Parents who have recently moved or have plans to move in the near future are required to inform the School Places Allocation Section as soon as possible so that they can make school choices in the POA School Net where their new home is located. Parents should fill in the actual residential address of their child. If a false address is given by parents to secure a Primary One (P1) place for their child under the POA System, the application will be rendered void and the P1 place allocated will be withdrawn.

The bureau has put in place a monitoring mechanism to verify the residential addresses of children as given by the parents. Random checks of applicant children's addresses are also being stepped up. The public are encouraged to report suspected cases of individuals using a false address to the School Places Allocation Section by calling the hotline at 2832 7700. As in previous years, the bureau will take appropriate action against false address cases.

For enquiries about the procedures for Central Allocation, please call the bureau's 24-hour automatic telephone enquiry service at 2891 0088.

Central Allocation is composed of two parts. Part A, which takes up 10 per cent of the P1 places earmarked for Central Allocation, is for unrestricted school choices. Parents can choose up to three government or aided primary schools anywhere in Hong Kong. Part B takes up the remaining 90 per cent of the P1 places earmarked for Central Allocation. Parents of applicant children residing in the school net concerned are to select schools from the "Choice of Schools List for Central Allocation" of their school net,

while parents of applicant children residing in the Mainland are to select schools from the "Choice of Schools List for Central Allocation (For Applicant Children Residing in the Mainland)". Parents should fill in the Choice of Schools Form in the order of their preference.

The computer-programmed Central Allocation will first process the school choices in Part A and then the school choices in Part B. For oversubscribed schools, the order of priority in allocating places will be determined by random numbers generated by the computer for individual applications. This is to ensure fairness to all applicant children.

For applications for participation in POA 2019 after January 27, parents need to complete the necessary procedures with the School Places Allocation Section of the Education Bureau. The Education Bureau will separately arrange P1 places for the applicant children this June.

The results of Central Allocation are scheduled for release on June 1.

Temporary suspension of Leisure Link computerised booking system and related special booking arrangements

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) announced today (January 21) that the Leisure Link computerised booking system, including counter booking, Internet booking and self-service kiosks, will be suspended during the following periods in order to carry out system maintenance and data centre electrical repair works. Details are as follows:

Period of Leisure Link service suspension	Affected services
10pm, January 26 till 7am, January 28	Internet booking services
9pm, February 4 till 7am, February 8	All services of the Leisure Link computerised booking system (including counter booking, internet booking and self-service kiosks)

Due to the above temporary service suspension, the LCSD will implement the following special booking arrangements for leisure facilities:

(1) To use leisure facilities between February 11 and 16, members of the public can make advance booking through various Leisure Link booking channels

on a first-come, first-served basis. Details are as follows:

Date of using leisure facilities	Date of booking (Starting from 7am; first-come, first-served)
February 11 and 12	February 2
February 13 and 14	February 3
February 15 and 16	February 4

(2) All balloting arrangements for turf soccer pitches originally held during January 25 to 27 and February 3 to 7 will be cancelled. The affected sessions will be available for booking through various Leisure Link booking channels on a first-come, first-served basis. Details are as follows:

Date of using turf soccer pitches	Cancelled balloting date	Date of booking (Starting from 7am; first-come, first-served)
February 7	January 25	January 29
February 8	January 26	January 30
February 9	January 27	January 31
February 16	February 3	February 4
February 17	February 4	February 8
February 18	February 5	February 9
February 19	February 6	February 10
February 20	February 7	February 11

(3) To use leisure facilities available on February 7 (third day of Lunar New Year), members of the public should make advance bookings between January 29 and February 4 (before 9pm), otherwise they are required to make bookings in person at the corresponding booking counters of the facilities concerned on that day.

The booking services of the Leisure Link computerised booking system will all resume as normal from 7am on February 8. For enquiries, please call the Leisure Link hotline at 2679 6822 or browse the [relevant website](#).

[Opening hours of LCSD's public museums](#)

during Lunar New Year holidays

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department today (January 21) announced the special opening hours for its 12 museums (excluding the Hong Kong Museum of Art and the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence, which are currently closed), Oi!, the Hong Kong Film Archive and the Hong Kong Visual Arts Centre during the Lunar New Year holidays.

Details of the opening hours are as follows:

February 4 (Lunar New Year's Eve)

The Hong Kong Museum of History, the Hong Kong Heritage Museum, the Hong Kong Science Museum, the Hong Kong Space Museum, the Flagstaff House Museum of Tea Ware, the Hong Kong Railway Museum, the Sam Tung Uk Museum, the Sheung Yiu Folk Museum, the Fireboat Alexander Grantham Exhibition Gallery, the Dr Sun Yat-sen Museum, the Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb Museum, the Law Uk Folk Museum, Oi!, the Hong Kong Film Archive and the Hong Kong Visual Arts Centre will close at 5pm.

February 5 and 6 (the first two days of the Lunar New Year)

All the aforementioned venues will be closed.

February 7 (the third day of the Lunar New Year)

Apart from the Hong Kong Visual Arts Centre, which will remain closed, all the aforementioned venues will open as usual.

February 8 (the fourth day of the Lunar New Year)

All the aforementioned venues will resume normal opening hours.

Opening arrangements for LCSD recreation and sports facilities

during Lunar New Year holidays

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) announced today (January 21) that its parks and playgrounds will remain open during the Lunar New Year holiday period.

However, sports centres, various fee-charging land-based facilities, swimming pools and water sports centres will be closed during the first three days of the Lunar New Year (February 5 to 7). Services at gazetted beaches will also be suspended. Stadia and all sports grounds will be closed unless advance bookings have been made.

Holiday camps will be closed during the first three days of the Lunar New Year and lodging will not be provided on Lunar New Year's Eve (February 4).

But for public convenience some sports centres, turf pitches, squash courts, tennis courts, the archery range at Ngau Chi Wan Park, the indoor bowling greens at Island East Sports Centre, the Green Education and Resources Centre at Kowloon Park, the Tuen Mun Recreation and Sports Centre and the Queen Elizabeth Stadium will reopen on the third day of the Lunar New Year (February 7). To use leisure facilities available on February 7, members of the public should make advance bookings between January 29 and February 4 (before 9pm) through Leisure Link Booking System. For details of facility booking service, please visit the [Leisure Link website](#).

Leisure Link booking counters at venues will not operate when the venues are closed. For venues scheduled to reopen on February 7, the corresponding Leisure Link booking counters will provide enquiry service and handle bookings of the facilities at the venues concerned which are yet to be taken up on that day.

Details of the opening arrangements for LCSD recreation and sports venues during the Lunar New Year holidays have been posted at all venues and uploaded to the [department's website](#).

Opening hours of LCSD performance venues and URBIX outlets during Lunar New Year

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) will implement special opening hours at its performance venues and URBIX outlets during the Lunar New Year holidays, an LCSD spokesman announced today (January 21).

Details are as follows:

February 4 (Lunar New Year's Eve)

Performance venues and URBTEXT outlets	Opening hours
Hong Kong Coliseum and Queen Elizabeth Stadium (including the Leisure Link Booking Office) and their URBTEXT outlets	Open as usual
URBTEXT outlets at Parsons Music Yau Tong Branch, Youth Square and Tai Kwun	Open as usual
URBTEXT outlets at HKICC Lee Shau Kee School of Creativity and Hong Kong Arts Centre	To close at 3pm
URBTEXT outlets at all Tom Lee branches	To close at 4.30pm
Hong Kong Cultural Centre, Hong Kong City Hall, Ko Shan Theatre, Sai Wan Ho Civic Centre, Ngau Chi Wan Civic Centre, Sheung Wan Civic Centre, Yau Ma Tei Theatre, Sha Tin Town Hall, Tsuen Wan Town Hall, North District Town Hall, Kwai Tsing Theatre, Tai Po Civic Centre, Tuen Mun Town Hall, Yuen Long Theatre and their URBTEXT outlets	To close at 5.30pm
Ko Shan Theatre New Wing	To close at 5.30pm
URBTEXT outlet at Ko Shan Theatre New Wing	Closed
Remarks: The Hong Kong Cultural Centre Piazza will be partially closed for rehearsal of the Chinese New Year Night Parade.	

February 5 (the first day of the Lunar New Year)

Performance venues and URBTEXT outlets	Opening hours
Hong Kong Coliseum and its URBTEXT outlet	Open as usual
Ko Shan Theatre	6pm to 11pm
URBTEXT outlet at Ko Shan Theatre	6pm to 9.30pm
Ko Shan Theatre New Wing and its URBTEXT outlet	Closed
Other performance venues and their URBTEXT outlets	Closed
URBTEXT outlets at all Tom Lee branches, HKICC Lee Shau Kee School of Creativity, Hong Kong Arts Centre, Youth Square, Tai Kwun and Parsons Music Yau Tong Branch	Closed
Remarks: The Hong Kong Cultural Centre Piazza will be closed from noon for rehearsal and performance of the Chinese New Year Night Parade.	

February 6 (the second day of the Lunar New Year)

Performance venues and URBIX outlets	Opening hours
Hong Kong Coliseum and Hong Kong City Hall Low Block and their URBIX outlets	Open as usual
Queen Elizabeth Stadium	8am to 7pm
URBIX outlet at Queen Elizabeth Stadium	10am to 6.30pm
Leisure Link Booking Office at Queen Elizabeth Stadium	Closed
Hong Kong Cultural Centre	2pm to 11pm
URBIX outlet at Hong Kong Cultural Centre	2pm to 9.30pm
Ko Shan Theatre	9am to 6pm
URBIX outlet at Ko Shan Theatre	10am to 6pm
Ko Shan Theatre New Wing and its URBIX outlet	Closed
Other performance venues and their URBIX outlets	Closed
URBIX outlets at all Tom Lee branches, HKICC Lee Shau Kee School of Creativity, Hong Kong Arts Centre, Youth Square, Tai Kwun and Parsons Music Yau Tong Branch	Closed

February 7 (the third day of the Lunar New Year)

Performance venues and URBIX outlets	Opening hours
Hong Kong Coliseum, Queen Elizabeth Stadium, Hong Kong Cultural Centre, Hong Kong City Hall Low Block, Sha Tin Town Hall and their URBIX outlets	Open as usual
URBIX outlets at all Tom Lee branches, Youth Square and Tai Kwun	Open as usual
Other performance venues and their URBIX outlets	Closed
URBIX outlets at HKICC Lee Shau Kee School of Creativity, Hong Kong Arts Centre and Parsons Music Yau Tong Branch	Closed

February 8 (the fourth day of the Lunar New Year)

Performance venues and URBIX outlets	Opening hours
All performance venues and their URBIX outlets	Open as usual

URBTIX outlets at all Tom Lee branches, HKICC Lee Shau Kee School of Creativity, Hong Kong Arts Centre, Youth Square, Tai Kwun and Parsons Music Yau Tong Branch	Open as usual
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From February 4 to 8, the URB TIX Internet booking website (www.urbtix.hk) and the mobile ticketing app "My URB TIX" (Android and iPhone versions) will maintain normal services, and both the credit card telephone booking hotline 2111 5999 and the ticketing enquiries hotline 3761 6661 will maintain normal services from 10am to 8pm daily.