

## SHA commends volunteer leaders of youth uniformed groups and outstanding youths (with photos)

â€‹The Secretary for Home Affairs, Mr Lau Kong-wah, today (January 28) officiated at the presentation ceremony for the Secretary for Home Affairs' Commendation Scheme 2018 and presented commendation certificates and pins to 35 volunteer leaders and 18 youth volunteer leaders of youth uniformed groups, as well as to 48 youths who have performed outstandingly in volunteer services and youth activities.

Mr Lau congratulated the volunteer leaders and youths who received the awards. Speaking at the presentation ceremony, he said that uniformed groups have always been reliable partners of the Government in carrying out youth development work. By providing diverse activities and training for youths to develop a positive attitude and can-do spirit, uniformed groups have helped their members to become outstanding leaders and good citizens. Their activities and training have also enabled young people to broaden their horizons beyond regular classes, enhance their confidence and sense of responsibility, and learn the benefits of co-operation and discipline with the aim of attaining whole-person development, he said. He added that he was pleased to see that uniformed groups have continuously contributed to society, produced countless future pillars of society and laid a solid foundation for society's development.

Mr Lau also praised the awardees in the youth category for demonstrating excellent leadership skills and a spirit to serve. He said that the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government attaches great importance to youth development and will continue to promote diverse pathways for the development for young people. It will also provide platforms for youths of various backgrounds, interests and potential to excel, in the hope that they will contribute to both society and the country in future.

Established in 2002, the Secretary for Home Affairs' Commendation Scheme recognises individuals who have made outstanding contributions to community building, community service, youth work and other areas, including a category dedicated to uniformed group volunteer leaders to commend their efforts and contributions in youth development. All the volunteer leaders commended in the ceremony have provided services for their respective uniformed groups for at least 10 years, while the youth volunteer leaders commended were aged 30 or below and had served their respective uniformed groups for at least five years.

The youth category aims to recognise outstanding young people who have actively participated in social services, or have excelled in individual volunteer service or youth activities. It is also hoped that the Scheme's awardees will serve as role models for the younger generation and encourage

young people to participate enthusiastically in volunteer services and youth activities.



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## CHP investigates influenza A outbreak at primary school in Sha Tin

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health is today (January 28) investigating an influenza A outbreak at a primary school in Sha Tin, and again reminded the public to maintain strict personal and environmental hygiene against influenza.

The outbreak involves 12 boys and 12 girls aged 6 to 8 who have developed fever, cough and sore throat since January 11. All of them sought medical attention. Among them, one student required hospitalisation and was discharged following treatment. All patients are in a stable condition.

The nasopharyngeal aspirate of one affected student tested positive for influenza A (H1) virus upon laboratory testing.

Officers of the CHP have conducted a site visit and advised the school to adopt necessary infection control measures against respiratory infections. The school has been put under medical surveillance.

A spokesman for the CHP said, "To prevent outbreaks of influenza and other respiratory infections, it is of prime importance that children with fever, regardless of the presence of respiratory symptoms, should not be allowed to attend school. They should seek medical advice and avoid school

till 48 hours after the fever has subsided. Schools should also measure and record students' body temperature properly."

Schools are reminded to follow the [Guidelines on Prevention of Communicable Diseases](#) on preventive and control measures as well as management of outbreaks, which should be reported to the CHP for prompt follow-up.

"The latest surveillance data indicated that the local seasonal influenza activity may remain at an elevated level for some time. We urge the community to continue heightening its vigilance against seasonal influenza. As young children are particularly affected in the influenza season, we appeal to parents who have not yet arranged vaccination for their children in this season to do so as soon as possible to strengthen their personal protection," the spokesman said.

Apart from children, people aged 50 to 64 years, the elderly and those with underlying illnesses who have not yet received influenza vaccination this season are also urged to get vaccinated as early as possible to prevent seasonal influenza as it takes about two weeks for antibodies to develop in the body after vaccination. Medical advice should be sought promptly if influenza-like symptoms develop so that appropriate treatment can be initiated as early as possible to prevent potential complications. Parents and carers are reminded to render assistance in prevention, care and control for vulnerable people.

Besides receiving seasonal influenza vaccination as early as possible for personal protection, the public should maintain good personal and environmental hygiene for protection against influenza and other respiratory illnesses. For more information, please visit the CHP's [influenza page](#) and weekly [Flu Express](#).

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## [Hong Kong Customs seizes suspected cannabis buds \(with photo\)](#)

Hong Kong Customs today (January 28) seized about 3.1 kilograms of suspected cannabis buds with an estimated market value of about \$650,000 at Lok Ma Chau Spur Line Control Point.

Customs officers intercepted a 33-year-old incoming male passenger at Lok Ma Chau Spur Line Control Point this morning and found in his rucksack about 3.1kg of suspected cannabis buds concealed inside tinfoil packets.

The male passenger was thus arrested and investigation is ongoing.

Under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, trafficking in a dangerous drugs is

a serious offence. The maximum penalty upon conviction is a fine of \$5 million and life imprisonment.

Customs also reminds that cannabis and tetrahydro-cannabinol (THC) are classified as dangerous drugs under the Ordinance. Importation of products (including food and drinks) containing cannabis or THC into Hong Kong is prohibited unless the relevant provisions in the Ordinance are complied with. In order to avoid breaching the law inadvertently, special attention should be paid to the packaging labels of food and drinks.

Members of the public may report any suspected drug trafficking activities to Customs' 24-hour hotline 2545 6182 or its dedicated crime-reporting email account ([crimereport@customs.gov.hk](mailto:crimereport@customs.gov.hk)).



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## [Appeal for information on missing man in Lantau South \(with photo\)](#)

Police today (January 28) appealed to the public for information on a man who went missing in Lantau South.

Chung Kwok-fai, aged 45, went missing after he was last seen on South Lantau Road near Fu Kong Shan Road on January 26 morning. His family made a report to Police on the same day.

He is about 1.7 metres tall, 50 kilograms in weight and of thin build. He has a square face with yellow complexion and short black hair. He was last seen wearing a brown long-sleeved windbreaker, blue jeans and carrying a blue rucksack.

Anyone who knows the whereabouts of the missing man or may have seen him is urged to contact the Regional Missing Person Unit of New Territories South on 3661 1174 or email to [rmpu-nts-2@police.gov.hk](mailto:rmpu-nts-2@police.gov.hk), or contact any police station.



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## Appeal for information on missing woman in Sau Mau Ping (with photo)

Police today (January 28) appealed to the public for information on a woman who went missing in Sau Mau Ping.

Yeung Choi-tai, aged 59, went missing after she left her residence in Sau Mau Ping Estate yesterday (January 27) afternoon. Her family made a report to Police on the same day.

She is about 1.5 metres tall, 63 kilograms in weight and of fat build. She has a round face with yellow complexion and short black hair. She was last seen wearing a red and white long-sleeved shirt, blue jeans and black sports shoes.

Anyone who knows the whereabouts of the missing woman or may have seen her is urged to contact the Regional Missing Person Unit of Kowloon East on 3661 0316 or email to [rmpu-ke-2@police.gov.hk](mailto:rmpu-ke-2@police.gov.hk), or contact any police station.

