

# Applications for admission tickets for parade by disciplined services and youth groups and carnival in celebration of National Day to begin next week

The Security Bureau (SB) will lead its disciplined services and auxiliary services, together with youth uniformed groups, to hold the Parade by Disciplined Services and Youth Groups cum Carnival for Celebrating the 74th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China at the Fire and Ambulance Services Academy in Tseung Kwan O on October 1 (Sunday). To share the joy of celebrating the National Day, members of the public can register for free admission tickets from next Monday to Wednesday (September 11 to 13) on the Hong Kong Fire Services Department mobile application.

The carnival will be held from 10am to 5pm and the event highlight will be a parade by disciplined services and youth uniformed groups to be held at 2.30pm. A flag-raising ceremony and a parade will be performed by members of the disciplined services from the Hong Kong Police Force, the Immigration Department, the Customs and Excise Department, the Correctional Services Department, the Fire Services Department (FSD), the Government Flying Service, as well as youth group members of various disciplined services departments, the Auxiliary Medical Service Cadet Corps and the Civil Aid Service Cadet Corps, the Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps and the Hong Kong Army Cadets Association. There will also be an appliance parade by various disciplined services and auxiliary services, as well as a joint works and rescue departmental drill.

Other activities of the carnival will include exhibition and game booths to be hosted by the SB and eight disciplined services and auxiliary services to showcase national security and the close ties between the services and the Mainland. Members of the public can vote for the most outstanding booth that day. The carnival will also feature demonstrations by disciplined services' working dogs as well as rescue demonstrations by the FSD including firefighting and rescue, ambulance training, swift water rescue, high-angle rescue training, compartment fire behaviour training, hazardous material incident training and traffic accident rescue.

Members of the public can apply for a maximum of four QR code admission tickets from September 11 to 13 on the latest version of the Hong Kong Fire Services Department mobile application, which can be downloaded from Apple App Store, Google Play and Huawei AppGallery for free. Children aged 3 or below do not require an admission ticket. The tickets will be allocated by a computer ballot and successful applicants will receive a notification through the application on September 18.

Visitors are advised to use public transportation as no parking will be provided at the Academy. The event will be cancelled if Tropical Cyclone Warning Signal No. 8 or above is still in force at 8am on the event day. Visitors should visit the FSD's website ([www.hkfsd.gov.hk](http://www.hkfsd.gov.hk)) regularly for the latest information. For programme and ticketing enquiries, please email [publicticket@sb.gov.hk](mailto:publicticket@sb.gov.hk).

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## [Music Office's School Care Subsidy Scheme opens for applications from schools](#)

Organised by the Music Office of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, the 2023/24 School Care Subsidy Scheme is now inviting applications from schools. The deadline for applications is September 29.

The scheme aims to encourage student music groups from kindergartens and primary, secondary and special schools as well as tertiary institutions to care for the community, and extend their good wishes to the elderly, hospital patients, special school students and the beneficiaries of registered social welfare organisations through free music performances, thereby enhancing social integration and harmony. Through the activities, students can not only gain experience from performances and serving the community, but also develop stronger team spirit as well as better organisational skills.

Each performance can receive a maximum subsidy of \$2,000 to cover costs including transportation, allowances for professionals and other miscellaneous items.

Successful applicants must complete their performances on or before March 31 next year. Outstanding teams will be invited to perform and share their experiences at the Gala Concert to be held in April or May next year. All participating teams will be awarded certificates of commendation during the concert.

Applications will be evaluated according to the feasibility, ingenuity and interactive elements of the proposed programmes, as well as the music groups' experience in organising and performing at community events. Interested schools can download application forms from the Music Office's website ([www.lcsd.gov.hk/musicoffice](http://www.lcsd.gov.hk/musicoffice)). Completed forms must be emailed to the Music Office ([cnc@lcsd.gov.hk](mailto:cnc@lcsd.gov.hk)).

Nearly 400 school music groups have participated in the School Care Subsidy Scheme since its launch in 2009. The scheme is sponsored by the Sino Group. For enquiries, please call 2598 8335 or 3842 7775.

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## Traffic mostly smooth on first school day

Traffic conditions were mostly smooth and public transport services were generally adequate to meet demand this morning on the first school day today (September 4), the Transport Department (TD) said.

The TD's Emergency Transport Co-ordination Centre (ETCC) has been closely monitoring the traffic situation and public transport services since 6.30am today. Staff were deployed to monitor the traffic and transport situation on-site at various major public transport interchanges and school areas to provide latest information to the ETCC for arranging public transport service enhancements or informing the Police regarding traffic direction when necessary.

As in previous years, the overall road traffic, including the traffic at major trunk roads and cross-harbour tunnels and the traffic in school areas, was busier than usual on the first school day. However, the traffic at major trunk roads and cross-harbour tunnels was generally smooth. For public transport services, MTR and bus services continued as normal.

"Students are reminded to familiarise themselves with the public transport routes to be taken to school as early as possible to determine the most suitable travel patterns," a TD spokesman said.

The TD will continue to closely monitor the traffic situation and public transport services, and maintain close liaison with major public transport operators and relevant government departments.

The spokesman reminded students to allow adequate time for travel and pay attention to road safety. Those who need to take ferries are advised to check in advance the ferry schedules, the vessel types to be used and the journey times on their intended ferry trips. Meanwhile, in view of possible congestion in school areas, motorists should avoid driving to these areas.

Drivers of nanny vans and school buses are also reminded to drive carefully, especially on steep roads, in narrow lanes or at locations where driving in reverse is necessary. Speeding and overloading are prohibited and they are not allowed to leave students unattended in the vehicles. An escort should be provided on board when serving kindergarten or primary school students. Drivers and escorts should ensure that all students are properly wearing their seat belts (if provided) before the vehicles move off.

The road traffic, especially that on major trunk roads and in cross-harbour tunnels, is likely to become busier. Passenger demand for public transport services will also increase. Members of the public are advised to allow more time for their trips during the morning peak hours.

Members of the public can obtain the latest traffic and transport arrangements from radio, television or the TD's mobile application "HKeMobility" before leaving home.

For enquiries on bus, ferry or railway services, please call the following hotlines or visit the websites of the major public transport operators:

Operator	Hotline	Website
MTR	2881 8888	<a href="http://www.mtr.com.hk">www.mtr.com.hk</a>
Citybus	2136 8888	<a href="http://www.citybus.com.hk">www.citybus.com.hk</a>
Kowloon Motor Bus	2745 4466	<a href="http://www.kmb.hk">www.kmb.hk</a>
Long Win Bus	2261 2791	<a href="http://lwb.hk">lwb.hk</a>
New Lantao Bus	2984 9848	<a href="http://www.nlb.com.hk">www.nlb.com.hk</a>
Sun Ferry	2131 8181	<a href="http://www.sunferry.com.hk">www.sunferry.com.hk</a>
Hong Kong and Kowloon Ferry	2815 6063	<a href="http://hkkf.com.hk">hkkf.com.hk</a>

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## [Missing man in Castle Peak located](#)

A man who went missing in Castle Peak was located.

Chu Tan-pin, aged 78, went missing after he was last seen at Tsing Ho Square on August 30 night. His family made a report to Police on the same day.

Police located the man on Wu Chui Road, Tuen Mun on September 2 night.

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## [Launch of Dedicated 100% Loan Guarantee Scheme for Battery Electric Taxis](#)

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The HKMC Insurance Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Hong Kong Mortgage Corporation Limited (HKMC), announced the launch of the Dedicated

100% Loan Guarantee Scheme for Battery Electric Taxis today (September 4).

Details of the scheme are available on the website of the HKMC ([www.hkmc.com.hk](http://www.hkmc.com.hk)). At the initial stage of the scheme's launch, three lending institutions with taxi financing business, including Hang Seng Bank, Limited, The Bank of East Asia, Limited and The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, will receive applications. The list of lending institutions will be updated as necessary afterwards.

Promoting the use of electric taxis is one of the Government's measures to develop green transport, which helps achieve the carbon neutrality target of Hong Kong. The Financial Secretary announced in the 2023-24 Budget to put in place a loan scheme with 100% guarantee for the taxi trade, so as to encourage taxi owners to replace their liquefied petroleum gas, petrol or hybrid taxis with electric taxis.

Eligible persons wishing to apply for loans under the scheme may approach the relevant lending institutions. For public enquiries, please call the scheme's hotline at 2536 9788.