



SIR ELLIS KADOORIE SECONDARY SCHOOL (WEST KOWLOON)

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Parents' Letter No. 3

3 September 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

At the beginning of this year, we were affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and all classes had been suspended. Classes only started to resume gradually from late May. During class suspension, students sustained learning at home through different modes. While implementation of home learning was not without difficulties and pressure, students continued to exhibit self-discipline and conscientiousness in learning, and parents remained committed in rendering support. I would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to all of you for the commendable efforts. Now that students have started a new school year with online learning, I am delighted that they are learning with greater zeal and I hope they will continue to cherish the opportunity to learn with their peers on campus in late September.

The past year witnessed a spate of violence in our society. Quite a number of students have been instigated to participate in violent and unlawful activities and some of them have been arrested or even prosecuted. According to information gathered from various channels, among those arrested in social incidents from June 2019 to May 2020, about 1 600 are under the age of 18, and probably most of them are secondary school students. This is distressing and worrying. For those students arrested, prosecuted or even convicted, we will never give up on them. We will bring them back on the right track. In this regard, we will make good use of the Community Support Service Scheme (https://www.swd.gov.hk/en/index/site_pubsvc/page_young/sub_seryouthrisk/id_cssscheme), run by the Social Welfare Department through non-governmental organisations which provides counselling services for teenagers who have misbehaved before, to help students rectify deviant behaviour under the assistance of experienced and professional counsellors.

The violent and unlawful incidents over the past year have not only undermined Hong Kong's prosperity and stability, but are also posing a threat to the Basic Law and the principle of "one country, two systems", as evidenced by some people promoting 'Hong Kong Independence'. The National People's Congress (NPC) passed the decision on establishing and improving the legal system and enforcement mechanisms for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) to safeguard national security on 28 May, and the Law on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China (the National Security Law in Hong Kong) was voted and passed on 30 June by the Standing Committee of the NPC. I wish to explain to both parents and students that the National Security Law will only target four types of acts or activities, namely secession, subversion of state power, terrorist activities, and collusion with foreign or external forces to endanger national security. The purpose of this legislation is to prevent, curb and sanction the actions of a very small number of law breakers who threaten national security, thereby maintaining the prosperity and stability of Hong Kong and protecting the lawful rights and interests of HKSAR residents. It will not affect the legitimate

rights and freedoms enjoyed by the vast majority of Hong Kong residents under the legislation, including freedom of speech, of the press, of assembly, of demonstration and of procession. The average Hong Kong resident will by no means be affected by the National Security Law for they should not and will not engage in any acts or activities that undermine national security. While the school will provide students with a clear elucidation on the issue, we are also looking forward to your co-operation. Let us work together to guide students in making rational analysis, distinguishing right from wrong, and exercising caution about incomplete or misrepresented information, unreasonable allegations and misleading assertions that seek to discredit the National Security Law. The Education Bureau will also promote education on national security, and adopt multi-pronged measures on curriculum, teaching resources and teachers' professional training to facilitate students' understanding of the legislative background, content, importance and meaning of the National Security Law, raising their national security and law-abiding senses.

The school is a community of learning. A school should not become a venue for promoting political ideologies or expressing political stances or demands, exerting pressure on others and hindering normal learning and interaction. Thus, our school would not allow students to join class boycotts, chant slogans, form human chains and post slogans or sing songs which carry political messages on the school campus. These actions will turn the school campus into a venue for expressing political demands, and mislead people to believe that such political stances are shared by the school or its personnel. School uniforms represent not only the school itself, but also its teachers and students. Misbehaving while wearing school uniform would tarnish the reputation of the school. Students, while wearing school uniform, should avoid participating in activities not organised by or on behalf of the school and are not allowed to participate in political activities outside the school as by doing so, they would mislead others into believing that the stance advocated by these activities is shared by the school. Recently, there have been people forming groups with particular school names, which promote the groups' political stances, and even call on teachers and students to support a certain political demand through signature or other forms of activities. Should such organisations invite students to participate in their activities, students should first seek school's advice if the activities are recognised by the school before considering whether to join. If students are found initiating, organising or conducting political activities, especially those of high risks or suspected to be unlawful, no matter whether it is carried out within the school or by students in uniform, the school will immediately advise them to stop doing so. We will help students correctly understand the issues, and remind them to cherish learning opportunities and their personal future. If individual students fail to comply with the school rules after repeated persuasion, we will take appropriate punitive actions, and provide counselling as a follow-up measure to curb their improper behaviour as soon as possible and help them develop positive values. I count on you to remind your children once again that they should always put personal safety as top priority and cherish the love and care of the family. To avoid making regrettable mistakes, students need to exercise vigilance against misinformation and provocation online and abide by law and regulations.

Your attention is also drawn to the fact that the National Anthem Ordinance took effect on 12 June 2020, while the National Flag and National Emblem Ordinance has been in force since 1 July 1997. We will continue with our endeavours to nurture students to become good nationals and citizens, teach them to act positively and responsibly, and foster their sense of national identity, which includes being knowledgeable on and showing respect for the national flag, the national anthem and the national emblem.

Despite all the challenges in the past year, you and your children have remained positive and persevering. I trust that we will, as always, collaborate closely to equip students with the ability to discern right from wrong, foster among them positive values and attitudes, and enable them to learn in a peaceful and orderly environment under professional guidance.

Yours faithfully

YEUNG KWONG Mong Ha
Principal

This Parents' Letter can be found on our school homepage (<http://www.seksswk.edu.hk/>) and eClass Parent App.

官立嘉道理爵士中學（西九龍）

二零二零至二零二一年度第三號家長信

各位家長：

我們在本年初受 2019 冠狀病毒病疫情影響，全港學校停課，直到 5 月底，學校才開始逐步復課。在停課期間，同學透過不同模式在家學習。在這段期間，不少同學和家長需要面對種種困難，亦承受很大的壓力，我非常讚賞各位同學的自律和認真，並衷心感謝各位家長的全力支持。現在，同學已透過網上課堂開始新學年。我看到他們比以往更用心學習，實在感到欣慰。希望同學在九月下旬恢復面對面授課時，繼續好好珍惜在校園與同窗一起學習的機會。

回顧過去一年，香港出現了很多暴力事件，不少學生受到煽動，參與暴力及違法活動，亦有不少學生被捕甚至被控。據我們從不同渠道掌握的資料，自 2019 年 6 月至 2020 年 5 月，涉及社會事件的被捕人士中，約有 1 600 名為 18 歲以下，相信大部分是中學生，令人痛心和擔憂。對於曾經被捕、被控，甚至被定罪的學生，我們不會放棄他們，會扶助他們重回正軌。就此，本校會善用社會福利署透過非政府機構提供、輔導曾經犯錯的青少年的「社區支援服務計劃」(https://www.swd.gov.hk/tc/index/site_pubsvc/page_young/sub_seryouthrisk/id_cssscheme/)，由具經驗和專業的輔導人員幫助他們改正偏差的行為。

過去一年出現的暴力及違法活動，不但破壞了香港社會的繁榮和穩定，甚至有人提倡「港獨」，挑戰《基本法》及「一國兩制」。全國人民代表大會在 5 月 28 日表決通過有關建立健全香港特別行政區維護國家安全的法律制度和執行機制的決定，並於 6 月 30 日經全國人民代表大會常務委員會表決通過《中華人民共和國香港特別行政區維護國家安全法》（《港區國安法》）。我希望在此向家長和同學說明：維護國家安全立法針對的只是四類行為或活動，即分裂國家、顛覆國家政權、組織實施恐怖活動和勾結外國或境外勢力危害國家安全的犯罪行為。立法的目的是防範、制止和懲治極少數危害國家安全的違法分子，保障香港繁榮穩定，不會影響廣大香港居民依法享有及行使的各項權利和自由，包括言論、新聞、集會、示威、遊行等自由。一般香港居民不應亦不會參與危害國家安全的行為或活動，不會受《港區國安法》影響。學校會就此向學生清楚解釋，亦希望家長配合，幫助他們理性分析，明辨是非，不應輕信流傳關於《港區國安法》的各種不盡不實的資訊，及旨在散播恐慌和誤導的資訊及言論。教育局亦會開展國家安全教育，在課程、教學資源及教師專業培訓等各方面採取多元

化措施，促進學生認識《港區國安法》的立法背景、內容、其重要性及意義，提高國家安全意識和守法意識。

最近仍然有人號召學生參與不同模式的政治活動，我希望家長和校方攜手勸誡同學們，切勿參加危險或違法的活動。學校是一個學習的群體，不應成為宣傳政治訊息或表達政治立場或訴求的地方，令群體裡的其他成員感到壓力，窒礙正常的學習和互動。因此，學校不容許同學們罷課或在學校叫口號、拉人鍊、張貼帶有政治訊息的標語或唱帶有政治訊息的歌曲，令學校成為表達政治訴求的場地，甚至令人誤會這是學校及校內人士的立場。校服代表學校，也代表全體師生，如學生穿上校服行為不檢，會污損校譽；學生應盡量避免穿著校服參加非學校舉辦或非代表學校參與的活動，更不可穿上校服參加校外政治活動，以免令人誤會這些活動代表學校的立場。最近也有人利用某些學校名稱成立組織，宣揚其政治立場，甚至號召師生通過簽名或其他形式的活動支持某一政治訴求。若有這樣的組織招攬同學參加其活動，同學應先向學校了解組織是否學校認可，方才考慮是否參與。如學校發現有學生發起、組織或參加政治活動，特別是有風險或疑似違法的活動，無論是否在學校或穿著校服進行，會立即勸止，幫助他們正確明白有關課題，提醒他們珍惜學習機會和個人前途。若個別學生違反學校規定，屢勸不改，學校會予以懲處，再以輔導跟進，以期盡快停止學生不當的行為及協助他們發展正面的價值觀。我希望各位家長再次提醒子女，須時刻以自身安全為重，珍惜你們對他們的愛護和關懷，對網上資訊提高警覺，不要受人煽動，守法守規，以免抱憾終身。

同時，我亦請家長留意，《國歌條例》已於本年 6 月 12 日正式刊憲生效，而《國旗及國徽條例》已早於 1997 年 7 月 1 日生效。學校會繼續教導學生成為良好國民公民，引領他們以正面和負責任的態度做人處事，以及加強他們的國民身份認同，包括教導他們認識和尊重國旗、國歌及國徽。

在過去一年，家長和同學們雖然面對重重挑戰，都能積極面對。現在學校生活大致恢復正常，我期望繼續和你們攜手同行，教導同學們明辨是非，幫助他們建立正面的價值觀和做人處事的態度，讓同學們在和平有序和專業的環境中專心學習。

校長

楊鄭望霞啟

2020 年 9 月 3 日

此家長信可於學校網頁(<http://www.seksswk.edu.hk/>)及 eClass 家長應用程式內查閱。