



**2018/19 Budget Suggestions to Financial Secretary**

1. Hong Kong Unison ('Unison') is a local non-governmental organization that serves ethnic minority residents in Hong Kong. We aim at eliminating all forms of racial discrimination in Hong Kong through policy advocacy, and we focus on fighting for equal and equitable education rights for ethnic minority children.
2. Unison advocates effective Chinese language education and support for ethnic minority (EM) from K1 to S6 to enhance integration into the Hong Kong society and upward mobility. Unison has been following up closely with concerned stakeholders including scholars, principals, teachers, EM parents and EM students on the inclusion of EM students in mainstream schools, the teaching and learning of Chinese for EM children, and future prospects such as higher education and employment for EM secondary school leavers.
3. Unison urges the Government to develop and implement comprehensive policies and procedures to enable ethnic minority children develop proficiency in Chinese that is necessary for success in school and society. Below are Unison's suggestions to the 2018/19 Budget regarding education of ethnic minority (non-Chinese speaking NCS) students.
4. **Pilot project** to develop a Chinese language curriculum for NCS students from Primary One to Six 「非華語學生中文學習 — 中國語文課程」(小一至小六) **先導計劃**
  - Develop a Chinese language curriculum with stage learning objectives coupled with teaching and learning materials for Primary One to Primary Six ethnic minority students. With appropriate curriculum and teaching materials, the goal is to enable ethnic minority children who are born and raised in Hong Kong bridge-over to mainstream Chinese language class by Form One.
  - **Estimated budget: HKD 2.4 million (one-off)** – budget based on HKD 400,000 per grade x 6 grades
5. Support for NCS students in **other subjects taught in Chinese** 支援非華語學生在**其他以中文作為教學語言學科**的學習計劃
  - Set up a dedicated team in the Education Bureau to develop teaching resources and organize workshops for teachers to support NCS students who have difficulties learning other subjects taught in Chinese; including but not limited to subjects such as General Studies, Arithmetic, Mathematics, Chinese History and Liberal Studies, etc.
  - **Estimated budget: HKD 10 million (annual recurrent)** – based on annual expenditure (HKD 4 million) of EDB School-Support Programme (SSP) for NCS students in 2016/17 in Chinese Language (one subject)



6. Support **Cantonese language learning** for NCS students in schools which adopt PMIC (Using Putonghua as the Medium of Instruction in Chinese Lesson) 支援在普教中學校內非華語學生的廣東話學習計劃
  - Commission academic institutions to provide Cantonese support programmes/ additional Cantonese remedial classes for NCS students in schools which adopt PMIC, so that students still have a proper chance in school to acquire Cantonese proficiency for better integration in the society.
  - **Estimated budget: HKD 3.9 million (annual recurrent)** – with reference to the Chinese Language Learning Support Centers which offer remedial Cantonese programmes to NCS students (HKD 3.7 million and 5.5% inflation)
  
7. Step up **accountability and transparency for free kindergartens** 翻譯幼稚園質素評核報告，以加強公眾的問責性及透名度
  - Translate the Quality Review Reports<sup>1</sup> into English for improved accountability and transparency for the non-Chinese speaking community.
  - **Estimated budget: HKD 1 million (per Quality Review cycle every 6 years)** – based on an average of translating 3,000 words at HKD 400 per 1000 words x 756 reports and 10% admin cost.
  
8. **Systematic teacher training** to cater the learning needs of NCS students 設立有系統的教師培訓以支援少數族裔的學習需要
  - Ethnic minority students in mainstream schools will become a norm. Systematic teacher professional development to cater the learning needs of ethnic minority students should be provided. Training courses and ratio of trained teachers should be structured with reference to BAT courses<sup>2</sup> for SEN students.
  - **Estimated budget: HKD 10.55 million (annual recurrent)** – with reference to 2015 SEN BAT courses (and inflation rate of 5.5%) to train about 25% of all teachers per year for a basic course.
  
9. **2-point increment** in salary and professional ladder for teachers who are professionally trained in teaching Chinese as a Second Language 為接受過「中文作為第二語言」專業訓練的中小學老師建立教學專業階梯並提高兩個薪級點
  - Mrs. Carrie Lam in her Election Manifesto mentioned “establishing a professional ladder for primary and secondary school teachers, recognizing teachers with expertise in certain subjects, and encouraging teachers to acquire specialized skills in teaching Chinese as a second language.”

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.edb.gov.hk/en/edu-system/preprimary-kindergarten/quality-assurance-framework/qr/qr-report/index.html>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.edb.gov.hk/en/edu-system/special/sen-training/index.html>



- Teachers who completed training upon the Professional Enhancement Grant Scheme for Chinese Teachers (Teaching Chinese as a Second Language) receive a two-point salary increment in recognition of their expertise.
- Estimated budget: HKD 3.09 million (annual recurrent)** – Based on teacher with 5-year experience at point 20 (HKD 36,830 monthly) increased to 22 points (HKD 40,505 monthly); assuming 70 teachers completed training per year.

10. **4-year longitudinal study** to track the adaptation and development of non-Chinese speaking children in pre-school stage 開展「追蹤非華語學童在主流幼稚園及幼小銜接的適應及成長發展研究」

- Commission a longitudinal study to track the adaptation and development of NCS children from K1 to P1 in existing support programmes to enhance understanding of the learning needs of ethnic minority children and capture good practices of schools for early integration of NCS students in the mainstream education system.
- Estimated budget: 2.24 million (one-off)** – based on the budget of “2004 3-year longitudinal study on NCS students” (HKD 1.2 million and 40% inflation rate).

11. Summary of budget suggestions

Item	項目	Budget (HKD)
Pilot project to develop Chinese language curriculum for NCS students from P1 to P6	「非華語學生中文學習 — 中國語文課程」(小一至小六)先導計劃	2.4 M (one-off)
Support for NCS students in other subjects taught	支援非華語學生在其他以中文作為教學語言學科的學習計劃	10 M (annual recurrent)
Support Cantonese language learning for NCS students in PMIC	支援在普教中學校內非華語學生的廣東話學習計劃	3.9 M (annual recurrent)
Step up accountability and transparency of free kindergartens	翻譯幼稚園質素評核報告，以加強公眾的問責性及透明度	1 M (per cycle every 6 years)
Systematic teacher training to cater the learning needs of NCS students	設立有系統的教師培訓以支援少數族裔的學習需要	10.55 M (annual recurrent)
2-point increment for teachers professionally trained in teaching Chinese as a Second Language	為接受過「中文作為第二語言」專業訓練的中小學老師建立教學專業階梯並提高兩個薪級點	3.09 M (annual recurrent)
4-year longitudinal study of non-Chinese speaking children in pre-school stage	開展「追蹤非華語學童在主流幼稚園及幼小銜接的適應及成長發展研究」	2.24 M (one-off)
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>33.18 million</b>

29<sup>th</sup> January 2018