Graduates of BEd in Early Childhood Education and Special Education Programme: Career Paths in Hong Kong
Outline

1. After graduating from the BEd (ECE&SE) programme, apart from becoming a kindergarten teacher, what are the other options?
2. What are the career prospects for early childhood education and special education graduates in Hong Kong?
3. How to be an outstanding early childhood educator and special education teacher?
4. Why choose our BEd(ECE&SE) programme?
1. After graduating from the BEd (ECE&SE) programme, apart from becoming a kindergarten teacher, what are the other options?
Number of births in Hong Kong (1990-2020)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No of Births</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>67,731</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>70,451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>71,646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>68,637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>63,291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>59,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>52,977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>48,219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>46,965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>49,796</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>57,084</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>62,305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>59,878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>56,548</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>53,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>52,900</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Census and Statistics Department, HKSAR, 2020)
# Pre-school education and care in Hong Kong

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Types of service</td>
<td>Early Education and Training Centres (EETC)</td>
<td>Day creches; Child Care Centres (CCC); <em>Play groups</em></td>
<td>Kindergarten-cum-Child care Centres (KG-cum-CCC); Special Child Care Centres (SCCC)</td>
<td>Kindergartens (KG)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Early childhood professionals

• Child Care Worker (CCW)
• Child Care Supervisor (CCS)
• Special Child Care Worker (SCCW)
• Qualified Kindergarten Teacher (QKT)
## Statistics on kindergarten education in Hong Kong

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. of Kindergartens</td>
<td>1 000</td>
<td>1 014</td>
<td>1 030</td>
<td>1 033</td>
<td>1 049</td>
<td>1 046</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of which: joining KG Scheme</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>748</td>
<td>753</td>
<td>761</td>
<td><strong>763</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Enrolment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursery</td>
<td>65 323</td>
<td>57 355</td>
<td>59 350</td>
<td>58 168</td>
<td>58 710</td>
<td>53 877</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Class</td>
<td>63 315</td>
<td>65 769</td>
<td>58 481</td>
<td>59 978</td>
<td>58 534</td>
<td>57 195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Class</td>
<td>56 760</td>
<td>60 908</td>
<td>63 316</td>
<td>56 256</td>
<td>57 053</td>
<td>53 863</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>185 398</td>
<td>184 032</td>
<td>181 147</td>
<td>174 402</td>
<td>174 297</td>
<td><strong>164 935</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of Kindergarten Teachers</td>
<td>13 552</td>
<td>13 930</td>
<td>14 155</td>
<td>14 145</td>
<td>14 389</td>
<td><strong>14 108</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of Trained Teachers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With C(ECE) or above</td>
<td>91.2%</td>
<td>92.7%</td>
<td>93.9%</td>
<td>94.4%</td>
<td>95.4%</td>
<td><strong>95.9%</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other teacher training (including QKT &amp; QAKT)</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>96.0%</td>
<td>96.8%</td>
<td>97.3%</td>
<td>97.3%</td>
<td>97.8%</td>
<td>98.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pupil-Teacher Ratio</td>
<td>9.0:1</td>
<td>8.7:1</td>
<td>8.6:1</td>
<td>8.4:1</td>
<td>8.3:1</td>
<td><strong>8.1:1</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Education Bureau, HKSAR, 2021)
Teachers in kindergartens by academic qualification and training status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor's degree or above</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trained</td>
<td>1,516</td>
<td>5,296</td>
<td>5,983</td>
<td>6,659</td>
<td>7,387</td>
<td>7,879</td>
<td>8,398</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Untrained</td>
<td>243</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>391</td>
<td>373</td>
<td>395</td>
<td>336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below Bachelor's degree</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trained</td>
<td>8,051</td>
<td>7,029</td>
<td>6,939</td>
<td>6,735</td>
<td>6,271</td>
<td>5,776</td>
<td>5,574</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Untrained</td>
<td>253</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>10,063</td>
<td>12,893</td>
<td>13,552</td>
<td>13,930</td>
<td>14,155</td>
<td>14,145</td>
<td>14,389</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Census and Statistics Department, HKSAR, 2020, p.355)
## Kindergarten Education Scheme: Salary ranges for 2020-21 school year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teaching Staff (Notes)</th>
<th>Salary Range for <strong>Reference</strong> ($) (for teaching staff with C(ECE) or above qualifications)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Teacher</td>
<td>23,430 – 41,660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Teacher</td>
<td>31,250 – 49,490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice Principal</td>
<td>39,050 – 54,690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal II</td>
<td>44,280 – 61,210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal I</td>
<td>52,080 – 69,020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supporting Staff</th>
<th>Recommended Salary Range ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clerk</td>
<td>12,310 – 22,140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janitor</td>
<td>12,310 – 16,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cook</td>
<td>14,760 – 17,240</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*(Education Bureau, HKSAR, 2020)*
Number of SEN students in public sector mainstream schools by school level and SEN type (2017/18)

- **Primary schools**
  - Specific Learning Difficulties: 22,980 (7.8% of all primary school students)
  - Autism Spectrum Disorders: 40%
  - Intellectual Disability: 15%
  - Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder: 26%
  - Speech & Language Impairment: 11%
  - Others*: 3%

- **Secondary schools**
  - Specific Learning Difficulties: 22,380 (8.6% of all secondary school students)
  - Autism Spectrum Disorders: 51%
  - Intellectual Disability: 4%
  - Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder: 2%
  - Speech & Language Impairment: 3%
  - Others*: 2%
## Pre-school education and care in Hong Kong

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Types of service</th>
<th>Early Education and Training Centres (55 centres; 3888 places; 200 SCCW)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-2</td>
<td>Early Education and Training Centres (55 centres; 3888 places; 200 SCCW)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>Kindergarten-cum-Child care Centres; Integrated Programme in KG-cum-CCC (216 centres; 1980 places; 330 SCCW)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Special Child Care Centres (43 centres; 2170 places; approx. 362 SCCW)**

**Kindergartens (1046 kindergartens; 14108 KG teachers; 8000 On-site Preschool Rehabilitation Services places; approx. 533 SCCW)**

(Education Bureau; Social Welfare Department; HKSAR, 2021)
Non-Chinese speaking students in local kindergartens, primary and secondary schools in Hong Kong
Use of funding and adoption of teaching modes for NCS students (in KGs, primary and secondary)

- Appointment of additional teachers or teaching assistants: 3.4%
- Appointment of ethnic minority assistants: 1.9%
- Purchase of learning and teaching resources: 1.4%
- Procurement of professional services: 4.7%
- Organizing activities to promote an inclusive environment in schools: 88.6%

Total funding: HK$271 million

(Legislative Council Secretariat, HKSAR, 2020)
Teaching roles

1. Kindergarten Teachers (QKT)
2. Kindergarten specialist teachers of Chinese (for NCS children) or English or Putonghua
3. Child Care Workers (CCW)
4. Special Child Care Workers (SCCW)
5. Play group teachers
2. What are the career prospects for early childhood education and special education graduates in Hong Kong?
Career prospects: What some people may think…

- Principal
- Vice Principal
- Senior class teacher
- Class teacher
Career prospects: What it may actually be…

The way people think it looks:

School → Internship → Associate → Manager → Executive

How it can also look:

School → Layoff → Back to School

Work Study → Manager → Year Abroad

Career Pivot → Online Learning Courses → Entrepreneur
BEd (ECE&SE) Programme design

1. Understanding of children
2. Understanding of learning and teaching and school management
3. Home-school-community collaborations
1. Understanding of children

1. Early childhood development *(age 0-6)*
2. Young children with exceptional needs *(age 0-6)*
3. Physical and social emotional development of infants and toddlers *(age 0-3)*
4. Cognitive and language development of infants and toddlers *(age 0-3)*
5. Cognitive and language development of young children *(age 3-6)*
6. Physical and social emotional development, guidance and counselling of young children *(age 3-6)*
7. Developmental neuroscience *(age 0-6)*
2. Understanding of learning and teaching and school management

1. Educational psychology for early childhood educators
2. Play and learning in the early years *(age 0-6)*
3. Early care and education of infants and toddlers *(age 0-3)*
4. Observation and assessment of children and early childhood programmes *(age 0-6)*
5. STEAM in early childhood education *(age 3-6)*
6. Integrated curriculum and inclusive pedagogy in early childhood education (I) *(age 3-6)*
7. Integrated curriculum and inclusive pedagogy in early childhood education (II) *(age 3-6)*
8. Planning Management and evaluation of early childhood programs
9. Supporting children with communication needs *(age 3-6)*
10. Supporting children with cognitive sensory and physical needs *(age 3-6)*
11. Supporting children with behavioural emotional and social development needs *(age 3-6)*
12. Assessment and intervention in early childhood settings *(age 2-6)*
3. Home-school-community collaborations

1. Concepts and contexts of early childhood education
2. Risks and resilience in early development
3. Young children, family and the changing world
4. Contemporary issues in child development
4. Specialised Electives

1. Supporting children with Autism Spectrum Disorder
2. Supporting non-native Chinese speaking children
3. Bilingualism in young children
4. Young child and technology
5. Creative and expressive arts and movement
6. Child health (Faculty of Medicine)
7. Children and the law (Faculty of Law)
Theory/Research
1. Introduction to research methods
2. Seminar in early childhood education and special education
3. Early childhood education and special education project

Practice
1. Professional practicum I (Child care centre) - 2 weeks
2. Professional practicum II (Special child care centre) – 6 weeks
3. Professional practicum III (Kindergarten) - 8 weeks
Academic writing

1. Core University English
2. Academic English for Early Childhood Education Students
3. Practical Chinese for BEd(ECE&SE) Students
Career options

a) Teaching (*refer earlier slide*)
b) Research (e.g. Projects)
c) Curriculum development (e.g. Teaching Chinese as a second language)
d) Training (e.g. STEAM)
e) Publishing (e.g. Children’s books)
f) Administration (e.g. Admissions, Events, Marketing, Management)
3. How to be an outstanding early childhood educator and special education teacher?
Your attitude, not your aptitude, will determine your altitude.

Zig Ziglar

1. **Knowledge and Skills:** Continuous Professional Development (CPD)

2. **Attitude:** “Can do” spirit; dedication; humility; patience
Why choose HKU’s BEd (ECE&SE) Programme?

1. Internationally, HKU Faculty of Education ranks No. 5 in the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings by Subject 2021
2. Locally, HKU BEd (ECE&SE) Programme is the only UGC-funded Pre-Service teacher training course in early childhood education with a DUAL SPECIALISM in Special Education
3. Extensive Professional Practicum block of 16 weeks with placements in child care centres, special child care centres and kindergartens
4. Interdisciplinary studies through Specialised Electives
5. Impactful research from Independent Research Project
6. Enhanced proficiencies in English and Chinese
7. Flexible career and study pathways
8. Programme instructors with extensive local and international teaching and administrative experience in early childhood settings

https://aal.hku.hk/admissions/local/facts-hku
Special admission requirements

- Applicants must be able to communicate effectively and fluently in both Cantonese and English.
- Applicants are advised to include their Personal Statement and to enter details about their other learning experiences or extra curricular activities, where appropriate.
- Applicants are encouraged to select the BEd(ECE&SE) programme in Band A (for JUPAS) or first choice (for Non-JUPAS).

Number of places: 18