



香港學術及職業資歷評審局  
Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of  
Academic & Vocational Qualifications

**SUMMARY ACCREDITATION REPORT**

**HKCT INSTITUTE OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**LEARNING PROGRAMME RE-ACCREDITATION**

**HIGHER DIPLOMA IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION  
(INCLUSIVE EDUCATION)**

**AUGUST 2023**

## **1. Terms of Reference**

1.1 Based on the Service Agreement (No.: AA882), the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ), in the capacity of the Accreditation Authority as provided for under the Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications Ordinance (AAVQO) (Cap. 592), was commissioned by HKCT Institute of Higher Education (HKCTIHE/the Operator) to conduct a learning programme re-accreditation with the following Terms of Reference:

- (a) To conduct an accreditation test as provided for in the AAVQO to determine whether the Higher Diploma in Early Childhood Education (Inclusive Education) of the Operator meets the stated objectives and QF standards and can continue to be offered as an accredited programme; and
- (b) To issue to the Operator an accreditation report setting out the results of the determination in relation to (a) by HKCAAVQ.

## **2. HKCAAVQ'S Determination**

2.1 HKCAAVQ has determined that, subject to the compliance with the restriction set out below, the Higher Diploma in Early Childhood Education (Inclusive Education) (HDECE) meets the stated objectives and QF standard at Level 4 and can continue to be offered as an accredited programme with a validity period of three years.

### **2.2 Validity Period**

2.2.1 The validity period will commence on the date specified below. Operators may apply to HKCAAVQ to vary the commencement date of the validity period. Applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

2.3 The determinations on the programme are specified as follows:

<b>Name of Operator</b>	HKCT Institute of Higher Education 港專學院
<b>Name of Award Granting Body</b>	HKCT Institute of Higher Education 港專學院
<b>Title of Learning Programme</b>	Higher Diploma in Early Childhood Education (Inclusive Education) 幼兒教育高級文憑 (融合教育)
<b>Title of Qualification (Exit Award)</b>	Higher Diploma in Early Childhood Education (Inclusive Education) 幼兒教育高級文憑 (融合教育)
<b>Primary Area of Study and Training</b>	Education
<b>Sub-area (Primary Area of Study and Training)</b>	Education and Teacher Education
<b>Other Area of Study and Training</b>	Not applicable
<b>Sub-area (Other Area of Study and Training)</b>	Not applicable
<b>QF Level</b>	Level 4
<b>QF Credits</b>	351
<b>Mode(s) of Delivery and Programme Length</b>	Full-time, 2 years Part-time, 3 years
<b>Start Date of Validity Period</b>	1 September 2024
<b>End Date of Validity Period</b>	31 August 2027
<b>Number of Enrolment</b>	One enrolment per year
<b>Maximum Number of New Students</b>	Full-time: 40 per year Part-time: 40 per year
<b>Specification of Competency Standards-based Programme</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

<b>Address of Teaching / Training Venue(s)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. HKCT Jockey Club Undergraduate Campus 2 On Shing Street, Ma On Shan, Shatin, New Territories</li> <li>2. HKCT Jockey Club Ma On Shan Campus Yiu On Estate, 2 Hang Hong Street, Ma On Shan, Shatin, New Territories</li> <li>3. HKCT Mong Kok East Campus 14 Princess Margaret Road, Ho Man Tin, Kowloon</li> </ol>
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## 2.4 Restriction

- 2.4.1 The Operator is to ensure that the Higher Diploma in Early Childhood Education (Inclusive Education) maintains its professional recognitions by the Education Bureau and the Social Welfare Department respectively throughout the validity period as approved by HKCAAVQ.

The Operator is to submit relevant evidence to HKCAAVQ on the compliance of the restriction **on or before 31 July 2024**.

## 2.5 Recommendation

HKCAAVQ also offers the following recommendation for continuous improvement of the programme.

- 2.5.1 The Operator should review the overall programme structure and the design of relevant modules to enhance students' attainment of the specific teaching strategies/pedagogical skills to address the different learning needs of SEN/NCS/New Immigrant children.
- 2.6 HKCAAVQ will subsequently satisfy itself on whether the Operator remains competent to achieve the relevant objectives and the Programme continues to meet the standard to achieve the relevant objectives as claimed by the Operator by reference to, amongst other things, the Operator's fulfilment of any conditions and compliance with any restrictions stipulated in this Accreditation Report. For the avoidance of doubt, maintenance of accreditation status is subject to the fulfilment of any condition and compliance with any restriction stipulated in this Accreditation Report.

### 3. Introduction

3.1 HKCTIHE was officially established in August 2014 upon registration under the Post Secondary Colleges Ordinance (Cap. 320). HKCTIHE is sponsored by HKCT Group Limited which has been incorporated as a registered company under the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622).

3.2 HKCTIHE is currently offering six accredited programmes, namely:

- Bachelor of Social Sciences (Hons) in Sports Management with Coaching;
- Bachelor of Social Sciences (Hons) in Social Development Studies (Social Innovation and the Environment);
- Bachelor of Social Sciences (Hons) in Social Work;
- Higher Diploma in Early Childhood Education (Inclusive Education);
- Higher Diploma in Fitness, Coaching and Sports Management;
- Diploma in Fitness and Sports

3.3 The Learning Programme Re-accreditation exercise was conducted according to the relevant accreditation guidelines referred to in the Service Agreement and the Terms of Reference stated therein. A site visit took place at HKCTIHE's campus at Ma On Shan on 15 – 16 June 2023.

### 4. Programmes Details

The following programme information is provided by the operator.

#### 4.1 Programme Objectives

PO 1	Facilitate students to have a solid foundation of the professional knowledge and perspectives in early childhood education and developmentally appropriate early childhood curriculum;
PO 2	Equip students with analytical and practical skills to work effectively with young children and their families in an inclusive teaching and learning environment; and
PO 3	Enhance students' personal and professional growth for embracing professional values and dispositions/qualities that any competent ECE para-professional should possess.

## 4.2 Programme Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the programme, students should be able to:

PILO 1	Demonstrate the attitude, professional knowledge, and practical skills appropriate for employment at the para-professional level in the Early Childhood Education work settings;
PILO 2	Establish a broad understanding of child development in different aspects and the importance of early intervention in the local preschool contexts with reference to some global experiences and perspectives;
PILO 3	Apply and analyse a range of contemporary teaching and learning approaches and inclusive pedagogies in the preschools in catering to the needs of specific groups of diverse learners;
PILO 4	Use learning theories and observation skills to analyse classroom situations and perform assigned skilled tasks;
PILO 5	Handle unexpected situation for problem resolutions and adapt to the changing work environment, having an appreciation of the various external factors affecting the development of early childhood education in Hong Kong;
PILO 6	Develop the skills, abilities and supportive relationship to interact, communicate and collaborate with parents, especially those families with children with special educational needs; and
PILO 7	Have a solid foundation of generic skills and general education to learn how to learn, communicate fluently in speaking and writing with others and undertake continuous professional development and further study.

### 4.3 Programme Structure

<b>Component</b>	<b>No. of Modules</b>	<b>CTIHE Credits</b>	<b>QF Credits</b>	<b>% of Curriculum</b>
General Education				
<i>Core</i>	5	15	67.5	23.1%
<i>Elective</i>	1	3	13.5	
Specialised				
<i>Core</i>	17	48	216	76.9%
Practicum	2	11	54.3	
Total	25	77	351	100%

### 4.4 Graduation Requirements

To be considered for the award, a student should have:

- (a) Passed all the required modules;
- (b) Obtained an overall Grade C for the two practicum modules; and
- (c) Obtained an overall Grade Point Average (GPA) of 1.7.

### 4.5 Admission Requirements

The minimum admission requirements for the HDECE are as follows:

- (1) Level 2 or above in five subjects<sup>^</sup> (including Chinese Language and English Language) in HKDSE [each applicant is allowed to use not more than two Applied Learning subjects at “Attained” level as equivalent to Level 2 in the application]; or
- (2) Grade E or above in 1 AL or 2 AS Level subjects in HKALE; and
  - (i) Five passes in HKCEE including Chinese Language and English Language; or
  - (ii) Three passes in HKCEE plus Level 2 or above in Chinese Language and English Language;or
- (3) Successful completion of Diploma of Applied Education or equivalent qualifications; or

- (4) Successful completion of the QF Level 3 programme\*; or
  - (5) In-service kindergarten teaching assistants/practitioners with QKT or equivalent qualifications; or
  - (6) Aged 21 or above with at least 1-year working experience;
- and
- (7) Pass the admission interview.

*^Remark: As per the “Updated Revised Common Descriptors for Associate Degree and Higher Diploma Programmes (effective AY2024/25)”, if one of the five HKDSE subjects is “Citizenship and Social Development”, the minimum admission requirement would become “Attained” for “Citizenship and Social Development” subject and Level 2 in four other subjects including Chinese and English.*

*\*Remark: The programme should have appropriate content and volume of study in preparing articulation to this HDECE (e.g. Pre-Associate Degree).*

#### 4.6 Teaching and Learning Activities

The medium of instruction for the programme is Chinese supplemented with English. The programme adopts a range of learning and teaching modes, including lectures, tutorials, workshops, field visits and observations, case studies and role plays. Students are also required to complete 421 hours of practicum (with a total of 54.3 QF Credits) in different settings.

#### 4.7 Learner Support Services

The Language Centre of HKCTIHE provides language support to the students through initiatives such as chat café, academic writing and Study Tips workshops. The Department of Student Development of HKCTIHE provides a range of co-curricular/extra-curricular activities to support the learning needs of students, including exchange programmes.

## **5. Important Information Regarding this Accreditation Report**

### **5.1 Variation and withdrawal of this Accreditation Report**

5.1.1 This Accreditation Report is issued pursuant to section 5 of the AAVQO, and contains HKCAAVQ's substantive determination regarding the accreditation, including the validity period as well as any conditions and restrictions subject to which the determination is to have effect.

5.1.2 HKCAAVQ may subsequently decide to vary or withdraw this Accreditation Report if it is satisfied that any of the grounds set out in section 5(2) of the AAVQO apply. This includes where HKCAAVQ is satisfied that the Operator is no longer competent to achieve the relevant objectives and/or the Programme no longer meets the standard to achieve the relevant objectives as claimed by the Operator (whether by reference to the Operator's failure to fulfil any conditions and/or comply with any restrictions stipulated in this Accreditation Report or otherwise) or where at any time during the validity period there has/have been substantial change(s) introduced by the Operator after HKCAAVQ has issued the accreditation report(s) to the Operator and which has/have not been approved by HKCAAVQ. Please refer to the '*Guidance Notes on Substantial Change to Accreditation Status*' in seeking approval for proposed changes. These Guidance Notes can be downloaded from the HKCAAVQ website.

5.1.3 If HKCAAVQ decides to vary or withdraw this Accreditation Report, it will give the Operator notice of such variation or withdrawal pursuant to section 5(4) of the AAVQO.

5.1.4 The accreditation status of Operator and/or Programme will lapse immediately upon the expiry of the validity period or upon the issuance of a notice of withdrawal of this Accreditation Report.

### **5.2 Appeals**

5.2.1 If the Operator is aggrieved by the determination made in this Accreditation Report, then pursuant to Part 3 of the AAVQO the Operator has a right of appeal to the Appeal Board. Any appeal must be lodged within 30 days of the receipt of this Accreditation Report.

5.2.2 If the Operator is aggrieved by a decision to vary or withdraw this Accreditation Report, then pursuant to Part 3 of the AAVQO the

Operator has a right of appeal to the Appeal Board. Any appeal must be lodged within 30 days of the receipt of the Notice of Withdrawal.

- 5.2.3 The Operator should be aware that a notice of variation or withdrawal of this Accreditation Report is not itself an accreditation report and the right to appeal against HKCAAVQ's substantive determination regarding accreditation arises only from this Accreditation Report.
- 5.2.4 Please refer to Cap. 592A (<http://www.legislation.gov.hk>) for the appeal rules. Details of the appeal procedure are contained in section 13 of the AAVQO and can be accessed from the QF website at <http://www.hkqf.gov.hk>.

### 5.3 **Qualifications Register**

- 5.3.1 Qualifications accredited by HKCAAVQ are eligible for entry into the Qualifications Register ("QR") at <https://www.hkqr.gov.hk> for recognition under the QF. The Operator should apply separately to have their quality-assured qualifications entered into the QR.
- 5.3.2 Only learners who commence the study of the named accredited learning programme during the validity period and who have graduated with the named qualification listed in the QR will be considered to have acquired a qualification recognised under the QF.

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