

香港特別行政區政府
保安局



The Government of the
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
Security Bureau

香港添馬添美道 2 號

2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong

本函檔號 Our Ref.:

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By Post

21 February 2014

Mr Cosmo Beatson
Executive Director
Vision First
5/F, 102 First Street
Sai Ying Pun
Hong Kong

Dear Mr Beatson,

Full Assistance for Kindergarten Children

We refer to your letter of 28 January 2014 regarding your concern about the assistance to kindergarten children.

As advised by the Education Bureau (EDB), kindergarten education is not compulsory for children in Hong Kong. EDB does not provide placement arrangement to children, local or non-local, for kindergarten education. In arranging schooling for their children, parents usually approach kindergartens direct for admission. Where necessary, they may also bring their children along with relevant documents to the nearest Regional Education Office of EDB for assistance, in which case EDB will provide the parents with relevant school list(s) so that they can approach kindergartens direct for admission. Such support service is also available to parents of children who are non-refoulement claimants, asylum seekers or refugees ("claimants") and who are not likely to be removed from Hong Kong in the near future (on the advice of the Immigration Department).

Under existing arrangements, the Student Financial Assistance Agency (SFAA) offers financial assistance to needy families

who can pass the means test and whose student-applicants are Hong Kong residents. That said, where strong humanitarian and compassionate grounds exist, the SFAA is prepared to consider applications from non-Hong Kong residents on a case-by-case basis, including those who are claimants. For student-applicants attending kindergartens, the financial support is in the form of fee remission under the Kindergarten and Child Care Centre Fee Remission Scheme (KCFRS) to cover the tuition fees of the children. Children who are eligible for full fee remission under KCFRS can receive up to \$21,300 a year for attending half-day kindergartens in the 2013/14 school year. At present, minors of claimants may be considered for application for KCFRS on compassionate and humanitarian grounds. The humanitarian assistance programme for claimants administered by the Social Welfare Department and currently operated by the International Social Services Hong Kong (ISS-HK) may, on a case-by-case basis, provide transportation allowance to meet with the transportation cost to and from school by public transport. Where necessary, ISS-HK will liaise with relevant schools or mobilise community resources to address other needs (e.g. textbooks, uniforms, etc.) of these minors.

Yours sincerely,



(Billy Woo)
for Secretary for Security

C.C.

Secretary for Education
(Attn: Mr Willy Yu)

Director of Social Welfare
(Attn: Mr Alex Wong)

Controller of Student Financial Assistance Agency
(Attn: Ms Teresa Cheung)