2023 HONG KONG AWARDS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE



GUIDEBOOK FOR SCHOOLS SECTOR

(for non-SMEs)

2023

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The Hong Kong Awards for Environmental Excellence (the HKAEE) is led by the Environmental Campaign Committee (ECC) alongside the Environment and Ecology Bureau (EEB) and in conjunction with nine organisations, in alphabetical order, the Advisory Council on the Environment, the Business Environment Council, the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce, the Chinese Manufacturers' Association of Hong Kong, the Federation of Hong Kong Industries, the Hong Kong Chinese Importers' & Exporters' Association, the Hong Kong Council of Social Service, the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce and the Hong Kong Productivity Council. The HKAEE is an annual award which aims to encourage companies and organisations to adopt green management, benchmark their performance with the best practices within their sectors, and recognise the achievements of the best-performing companies and organisations.

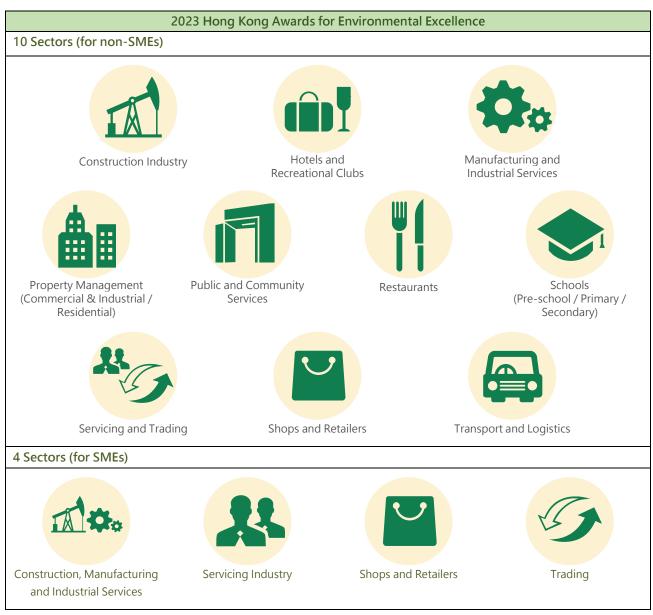
As an environmental award that aims for excellence, the Awards take the pyramidal shape as the form of its logo to show the commitment of different sectors of society for reaching excellence in environmental performance. At the apex of the logo is a tender leaf that symbolises the growth of environmental awareness in the community. The white ribbon that wraps around the pyramid forms the letter "Q" to represent both quality and qualified environmental performance of the awarded organisations.



1.2 Overview of 2023 HKAEE

The HKAEE is recognised by the community as one of the most prestigious and reputable award schemes in Hong Kong. Information of this award scheme is summarised in the table below and full details can be found in the individual Guidebooks.

Table 1: Awards category under 2023 Hong Kong Awards for Environmental Excellence



The Organisers reserve the final right to make the final decision in the event of dispute over the eligibility of an applicant.

2. HKAEE (SCHOOLS SECTOR)

2.1 Objectives

- To recognise efforts put in by schools on environmental management and education;
- To encourage schools' continuous improvement in environmental action and performance by integrating environmental elements into school curriculum and long-term development through a whole-school approach;
- To create an overall environmentally friendly ambience within the schools sector; and
- To recognise schools with excellent environmental performance.

2.2 Eligibility

All registered schools under the Education Bureau (EDB) are eligible to participate in the 2023 HKAEE (Schools Sector). This sector is further divided into three sub-sectors, namely pre-schools, primary schools and secondary schools.

To encourage wider participation, the Gold Award winner of each sub-sector of the previous year will not be eligible to join the HKAEE within the next two years. In other words, Gold Award winners of 2021 HKAEE and 2022 HKAEE (for all three sub-sectors) will not be eligible for entering 2023 HKAEE (Schools Sector), and Gold Award winners of 2023 HKAEE (for all three sub-sectors) will not be eligible to join 2024 and 2025 HKAEE (Schools Sector).

The Organisers reserve the right to determine the eligibility of any applicant school.

2.3 Programme Details and Activities

2.3.1 Facilitator Support

- To assist participating schools to understand more about the 2023 HKAEE (Schools Sector), facilitators can be provided for
 mentoring schools by arranging visit(s) or sharing experience and/or providing suitable advice on green management via
 suitable channels on a voluntary basis. Each facilitator will be backed up by other team members with different skills to provide
 more holistic support to schools.
- Facilitators would ONLY be allocated to schools upon request. Schools interested in having a facilitator should indicate their request when submitting their applications for the 2023 HKAEE (Schools Sector). The duration of support will be one school year. Please note that schools that have not received facilitator support in the past two school years will be given higher priority in facilitator allocation. Gold, Silver and Bronze winners of 2021 and 2022 HKAEE are not eligible to apply for the support.

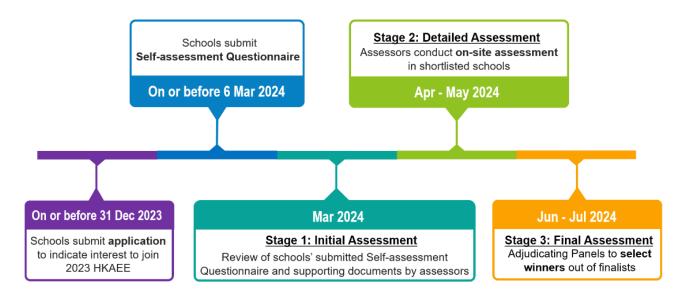
2.3.2 Winning School Visits cum Environmental Training Workshops

• To enrich participating schools' understanding of the assessment criteria under the 2023 HKAEE (Schools Sector) and enable past winning schools of the HKAEE to share their successful experiences in formulating school environmental management policies and implementing environmental education, winning school visits cum environmental training workshops will be arranged in November and December 2023. For more details, please refer to EDB's Training Calendar System [Pre-school Course Code: CDI020240070, Primary and Secondary Course Code: CDI020240390] or ECC's Schools Go Green website.

2.3.3 Online Briefing Sessions

• To familiarise participating schools with the use of the online portal and preparation for completing the Self-assessment Questionnaire, two online briefing sessions are temporarily scheduled for Jan 2024. Details will be announced in due course.

2.4 Application, Assessment Process and Schedule



Schedule	Details
Application	
Oct – Dec 2023	Schools who wish to join the 2023 HKAEE are required to complete and submit the application form
	through the online portal on or before 31 December 2023 (Sunday) to indicate their wish to:
	i) participate in the Award
	ii) apply for facilitator support (if necessary)
	Schools applying for more than one school sub-sector and/or different campuses are required to submit
	separate online applications.
	• Schools without submitting an application before the application deadline will NOT be considered as
	eligible participants for this year.
	Please contact the technical consultant of the scheme through email (hkaee@wwf.org.hk) or phone (Tel:
	2864 1472) if no acknowledgement of application is received within 7 working days from the date of
	online application submission.
	• To reduce paper usage, schools are highly encouraged to submit their application through the online
	portal. Paper form is also available as an alternative at Annex 1.
Winning School	Visits cum Environmental Training Workshops
Nov – Dec 2023	Details of the sessions could be found on EDB's Training Calendar System [Pre-school Course Code:
	CDI020240070, Primary and Secondary Course Code: CDI020240390] or ECC's Schools Go Green
	website.

Self-assessment Jan - Mar 2024 Participating schools are required to complete a Self-assessment Questionnaire through the online portal on or before 6 March 2024 (Wednesday) (will be opened for filling in Jan 2024) to review their environmental performance in the past school year (i.e. 2022/23 school year). The templates of the Self-assessment Questionnaire [Annex 2 for pre-schools; Annex 3 for primary and secondary schools] and Highlights of Best Practices for the Schools Sector [Annex 4] are uploaded to the Schools Go Green website for schools' reference only. Submission in paper/PDF format will not be considered. Two online briefing sessions will be arranged for participating schools to familiarise themselves with the use of the online portal and requirements for submitting the Self-assessment Questionnaire. Schools could arrange meetings with facilitators (if necessary) to obtain advice from facilitators to prepare for the submission. Assessments Mar 2024 Stage 1 – Initial Assessment The technical consultant will review the Self-assessment Questionnaire and supporting documents submitted by schools and may request supplementary information if necessary. The Organisers will shortlist eligible schools for Stage 2 – Detailed Assessment. All eligible schools that have completed Stage 1 but have not received any awards will receive a Participation Certificate after the completion of all assessment processes. Apr - May 2024 Stage 2 - Detailed Assessment Assessors will conduct an on-site visit at shortlisted schools. The visit will comprise a school tour arranged by the school (to showcase the school's environmental facilities and measures) and an interview with school representatives, including but not limited to its top management, teaching and general staff, students, etc. During the on-site visit, schools are encouraged to introduce their environmental initiatives to the assessors to provide them with an in-depth understanding of their environmental performance and the status of implementation. Assessors will then prepare the assessment reports for submission to the Organisers for further shortlisting schools into Stage 3 – Final Assessment. Schools that have successfully completed Stage 2 will receive a complimentary report on their environmental management and education. The report will outline the school's strengths and highlight areas where improvements could be made, which is very useful to facilitate participating schools to evaluate their performance and identify areas for further advancement. Jun - Jul 2024 Stage 3 - Final Assessment The Panel will comprise representatives from schools, government departments and professional The Panel will invite finalist schools to make a short presentation during the final adjudication and review their environmental performance.

2.5 Assessment Criteria

Participating schools will be assessed under three main areas, namely **Green Leadership**, **Programme and Performance** and **Partner Synergy**, with the following key components and weighting:

Assessment Area	Key Components	Weighting
A) Green Leadership	Environmental Policy	20%
2/~	School Management Support and Commitment	
	Education for Sustainable Development / Environmental Education Plan in	
N ''	School Curriculum	
B) Programme and	Resource Usage and Management	55%
Performance	(Energy conservation and carbon reduction, water conservation, waste management,	
	sustainable school catering, green procurement, environmental performance	
	monitoring and evaluation and environmental compliance)	
	• Campus Environment (Greening, noise and indoor air quality)	
	Environmental Education	
	(Implementation, evaluation and information dissemination)	
C) Partner Synergy	Parents and Families	25%
	School Network	
and the second	Community Members / Other Organisations	
	Service / Product Suppliers	
	Total:	100%

In order to recognise participating schools' efforts in promoting the HKAEE as well as their achievements in the Hong Kong Green Organisation Certification (HKGOC) and other recognised certification or award schemes, a maximum of 10 bonus points will be given to the participating schools during Stage 2 – Detailed Assessment of the HKAEE as follows:

Bonus Points Awarded for Efforts in Promoting HKAEE (maximum 3 bonus points)

If participating schools have promoted HKAEE through their school network and / or promotional channels / platforms (e.g. display the awarded logos and stickers on campus, website, and electronic screens, etc.; imprint the awarded logo in name cards, letterhead; and publish featured articles through media), a maximum of 1 bonus point will be granted.

If participating schools have successfully referred their partners (e.g. schools that are not under the same Sponsoring Body, suppliers or contractors, external organisations, etc.) to join the HKAEE, a maximum of 2 bonus points will be granted.

If participating schools have promoted HKAEE through their school network and successfully referred their partners, they may be awarded with the title of "Outstanding HKAEE Promotional Partner" if they have fulfilled certain criteria. Please refer to the "Outstanding Promotional Partner Commendation Scheme" website for details.

Bonus Points Awarded for Achievements in Hong Kong Green Organisation Certification (HKGOC) (maximum 4 bonus points)

If participating schools possessed a valid Wastewi\$e / Energywi\$e / IAQwi\$e / Carbon Reduction Certificate / recognition of Hong Kong Green Organisation issued by the ECC, **1 bonus point per Certificate will be granted**. Please refer to the <u>HKGOC</u> website for details.

Bonus Points Awarded for Efforts in Other Environmental Schemes (maximum 3 bonus points)

If schools have participated in and possessed a valid certificate from the following schemes in the **2022/23 school year**, 1 bonus point per scheme will be granted.

Environmental Scheme	Applicable Sub-sector(s)	Organiser
Green Prefect Programme	Primary	ECC
Student Environmental Protection Ambassador Scheme	Secondary	ECC
Sustainable Development School Award Programme - "SD Participation Award", "SD Community Project Award"	Secondary	Council for Sustainable Development
"Cherish Water Campus" Integrated Education Programme	Pre-school Primary	Water Supplies Department
IAQ Certification Scheme	Pre-school Primary Secondary	Environmental Protection Department
Greening School Subsidy Scheme / "One Person, One Flower" Scheme / Planting Herbs in School Scheme	Pre-school Primary Secondary	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Jockey Club BEAM Plus in Schools Project	Primary Secondary	Business Environment Council
Green Elites Campus Accreditation Programme	Primary	CLP Power Hong Kong Limited
"Happy Green Schools" Label Programme	Primary Secondary	The Hongkong Electric Company

The Organisers reserve the right to grant bonus points to any participating school.

A Whole-School Approach to Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)

(Source and reference: WWF)

The assessment criteria for 2023 HKAEE (Schools Sector) were devised by integrating the core components of the whole-school approach to ESD.

Schools are microcosms of society, where young people establish many social norms and expectations. Environmental education, or in the wider scope of "Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)" is therefore not only about what happens in the classroom, but also about what happens in the whole school and the wider community.

A whole-school approach encompasses the 4Cs - Culture, Curriculum, Campus and Community.

The diagram below illustrates the key aspects of a whole-school approach to ESD. A holistic and integrated approach ensures that sustainability is embedded in the school ethos, teaching and learning, the management of the school estate and links with the wider community. It is a shared, core purpose, bringing together everyone involved in the school to identify changes they want to see, set priorities, plan solutions and put them into action.

Culture

- ESD is embedded in the school's mission and ethos.
- The ways in which the school respects and values sustainability are apparent to students, staff and the whole school community.
- Representatives from the management, teachers, staff and students help to keep ESD high on the school agenda.

Curriculum

- Sustainability is integrated across whole curriculum as well as playing a core part in extra-curricular activity.
- Real-life contexts are used to make it more relevant to students in all subject areas.
- Stimulating learning resources and rich learning environment are provided.
- Students have direct experiences with nature to help develop attitudes of care and respect.
- The curriculum has a global dimension that enriches students' understanding of other cultures and societies



Campus

- Sustainability guides decision-making about procurement, waste management, and energy and water use.
- Involving students in decision-making about purchasing and resource management is seen as a learning opportunity.
- Students are engaged in the design and development of the school grounds.
- The school grounds are part of the learning environment.



Community

- The school is valued as part of the community and the community is valued as part of the school.
- The school fosters productive relationships with parents and values their contribution.
- Students have the capacity and the opportunity to make a positive contribution to the community.
- Students are given the opportunity to share what they have learned.
- The school recognises the links between the local and the global.

There are many ways of developing a whole-school approach to Education for Sustainable Development. It is not something that can be 'completed' and ticked off – it is something we constantly build into our everyday activities. And as the world is always changing, it needs to evolve to keep pace.

2.6 Awards

Participating schools with excellent environmental performance and achievements will be awarded with a trophy / certificate and cash prize at the Presentation Ceremony of the HKAEE. Details of the awards for each sub-sector are listed below:



Gold Award (x 1)



Silver Award (x 1)



Bronze Award (x 1)



Certificate of Merit (x 10)

Pre-school	HK\$20,000	HK\$15,000	HK\$10,000	
Primary	HK\$50,000	HK\$40,000	HK\$30,000	HK\$2,000
Secondary	HK\$60,000	HK\$50,000	HK\$40,000	

(Combination and number of awards granted in each sub-sector will be decided by the Final Adjudicating Panel)



Award-winning schools will also automatically be eligible to be granted with the title of the "Hong Kong Green Organisation" under the Hong Kong Green Organisation Certification (HKGOC) organised by the ECC

3. Best Green Education Initiative Award

In addition to the 2023 HKAEE (Schools Sector), a standalone school-based special award "Best Green Education Initiative Award" is launched to recognise schools' remarkable achievements in environmental education and gather good exemplars of initiatives and practices in the schools sector. For details, please refer to the application manual for the "Best Green Education Initiative Award".

Schools can choose to participate in both awards above or either one. Schools interested in applying for both 2023 HKAEE (Schools Sector) and "Best Green Education Initiative Award" are required to submit **separate applications** through the **online portal**.

4. ENQUIRY

For enquiries for the 2023 HKAEE (Schools Sector), please contact the technical consultant of the scheme – WWF-Hong Kong via the following channels:



Tel: 2864-1472



E-mail: hkaee@wwf.org.hk



You may also visit our Schools Go Green website to get latest updates on the award scheme.

Website: https://school.ecc.org.hk/en/programmes/hkaee.html

5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Organisers wish to thank the Environment and Conservation Fund for funding the HKAEE.

Funded by



Environment and Conservation Fund

Organisers



Environment and Ecology Bureau



Advisory Council on the Environment



Federation of Hong Kong Industries



Hong Kong Productivity Council



The Chinese Manufacturers' Association of Hong Kong



The Hong Kong Council of Social Service



Environmental Campaign Committee



Business Environment Council



Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce



The Chinese General Chamber of Commerce



The Hong Kong Chinese Importers' and Exporters' Association

Annex 1 – Application Form

To reduce paper usage, schools are highly encouraged to submit their application through the <u>online portal</u>. Paper form is also available as an alternative. Please return the duly completed Application Form via email to <u>hkaee@wwf.org.hk</u> on or before <u>31 December 2023 (Sunday)</u>.

*Compulsory
Sector*
(Please put "√" in the appropriate box below.)
☐ Schools (Pre-school) ☐ Schools (Primary) ☐ Schools (Secondary)
Note: 1. Schools applying for more than one school sub-sector and/or different campuses are required to submit separate application forms. 2. Schools who are intended to join the "Best Green Education Initiative Award" (Special Award) should submit a separate application form for the Special Award.
Part One – School Profile
Name of School (as shown on Certificate of Registration of School)
In English [*]
In Chinese*
Postal Address*
School Telephone*
School Email*
School Website
Name of School Sponsoring Body, if applicable
In English
In Chinese
Number of Students*
Number of Teaching and Non-teaching Staff Full Time*
Part Time*
Part Two – Facilitator Support
Schools participating in the 2023 HKAEE can apply for Facilitator Support. Facilitators will be allocated to schools to
provide extra guidance and advice for one school year upon request.
Note:
1. Schools that have not received facilitator support in the past two school years will be given higher priority in facilitator allocation.
2. Gold, Silver and Bronze winners of 2021 and 2022 HKAEE are <u>not</u> eligible to apply for the support.
Our school is interested in applying for the Facilitator Support*:
(Please put "√" in the appropriate box below.)
☐ Yes ☐ No

(Please tick "No" if your school is the Gold/Silver/Bronze winner of 2021 and/or 2022 HKAEE)

Part Three – Outstan	ding Promotional Partner Commendat	tion Scheme
☐ Our school is interested in j	oining the "Outstanding Promotional Partner Commendation cation.	n Scheme". Please click the hyperlink
Part Four – Outstand	ding Green Achiever Commendation Se	cheme
☐ Our school is interested in more information and application	joining the "Outstanding Green Achiever Commendation Scon.	cheme". Please click the hyperlink for
Part Five – Visits Ac	tivity	
mid-Dec 2023. Schools manage members to join the activity, p	I Visits cum Environmental Training Workshops for 2023 Hers, teachers and non-teaching staff are all welcome to join. Itease submit an online application through EDB's Training sion [Pre-school Sessions Course Code: CDI020240070, Prince CDI020240070, P	If your school wishes to nominate staff g Calendar System on or before the
In addition, submit your application. Please choose one of the follow	ion on or before 15 December 2023 to get a chance for free ving:	visit to one of the following companies.
□ A.S. Watson Group (HI Watson's Water□ Sino Estates Management Olympian City	Limited - Hong Kong Disneyland	☐ MTR Corporation Limited -Caribbean Coast☐ Not attend
	are available for the visits. Only one representative is allowed determine the final participants if the quota is exceeded. The sunder special circumstances.	
Part Six - Contact Do	etails and Declaration	
Please provide the following in Name of Contact Person* Designation* Contact Number*	information about the teacher-in-charge/contact person	of your school.

i iow ac	you learn about the florig Awards for Environmental Excellence: (oan select more than one)
□ На	ave participated in previous years
☐ Ed	lucation Bureau Circular Memorandum
☐ Inv	vitation letter / Email Invitation / eDM from the ECC Secretariat
	CC "Schools Go Green" website
□ Ма	ass media (e.g. TV and newspaper)
☐ So	cial media (e.g. Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, YouTube)
\square Th	rough the technical consultant – WWF-Hong Kong
\square Th	rough District School Heads Associations / District School Liaison Committees
☐ Le	arnt from other teaching staff
☐ Re	eferral from another school / organisation (Please specify the name of the school / organisation):
_	
☐ Ot	hers (Please specify):

School Statement

Please read the points to note and declaration below before submitting your application.

The HKAEE Technical Consultant (Hong Kong Productivity Council, HKPC) and the Technical Consultant for the Schools Sector (World Wide Fund for Nature Hong Kong, WWF-Hong Kong) undertake to comply with the requirements of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance to ensure that personal data kept are accurate and secure. You may contact HKPC's Personal Data Controlling Officer for further details or visit WWF-Hong Kong's website (wwf.org.hk/en/privacy) for the full version of Privacy Policy. If you wish to request access to or amend any of your personal information, please contact HKPC (email: sec@hkaee.gov.hk) and WWF-Hong Kong (email: supporter@wwf.org.hk / service hotline: 2526 1011 / mailing address: WWF-Hong Kong at 15/F, Manhattan Centre, 8 Kwai Cheong Road, Kwai Chung, NT). The personal data collected will be erased or destroyed 24 months after the completion of the assessment of HKAEE each year.

CONSENT STATEMENT

I hereby declare that the information given above is accurate to the best of my knowledge, and agree that all decisions made by the Organisers (i.e. Environment and Ecology Bureau (EEB) and Environmental Campaign Committee (ECC) and its Secretariat) and adjudicating panel(s) are final and binding in all aspects relating to the HKAEE. I understand that any false or misleading information may lead to disqualification of my application.

I agree that personal data (including name, contact number and email address) provided by me will be used for the purpose of the communication, administration, evaluation and management of my application. I understand if I cannot provide the relevant personal data, processing of my application by the Organisers and the Technical Consultant may be affected.

Your personal information (including name, contact number and email address) may be used by the Technical Consultant for HKAEE Schools Sector (WWF-Hong Kong) for the purposes of sending you organisational updates, surveys, event invitations

and other marketing communications. You may opt out of receiving communications from WWF-Hong Kong at any time free of
charge. Should you find such use of your personal data unacceptable, please indicate your objection by ticking the box below –
□ I object to the proposed use of my personal data in any marketing activities arranged by the Technical Consultant for HKAEE
Schools Sector (WWF-Hong Kong)
The EEB and/or the ECC and its Secretariat also intend to use the personal data (including name, contact number and email
address) that you have provided to promote the latest development, policies, activities and schemes of the EEB and/or the ECC.
Should you find such use of your personal data unacceptable, please indicate your objection by ticking the box below -
□ I object to the proposed use of my personal data in any marketing activities arranged by the EEB and/or the ECC and its
Secretariat.
Please contact the 2023 HKAEE (Schools Sector) technical consultant through email (hkaee@wwf.org.hk) or phone (Tel: 2864
1472) if no acknowledgement of application is received within 7 working days from the date of application submission.

DISCLAIMER

The information contained in this guidebook has been produced for guidance only. While every precaution has been taken to ensure its accuracy, no responsibility for any claims, losses or expenses as a result of any material in this publication can be accepted by the Organisers or any organisations involved in this guidebook.