

## The First Lesson of the Academic Year 2024/2025 Lesson Planning

### 1. Introduction

To enhance students' sense of family belonging and foster values of happy homes in them, the Education and Youth Development Bureau has developed guidelines for the planning of the First Lesson of the New Academic Year for schools to use in the academic year 2024/2025 so as to conduct relevant teaching activities relating to the theme of 'a happy home'.



The relevant webpage:

<https://portal.dsedj.gov.mo/webdsejspace//site/ddca/index-e.jsp?con=firstlesson&langsel=E>

### 2. Basic explanation

- 2.1 Schools should refer to this guiding document and comply with the 'Requirements of Basic Academic Attainments' when designing the specific classroom teaching for the First Lesson of the New Academic Year, including teaching objectives, content, activities and methods. The instructional design should match the age characteristics, physical and mental development patterns and past experiences of students in different grades; it may also display school-based characteristics.
- 2.2 The First Lesson of the New Academic Year can be taught on the first day of the academic year 2024/2025 (e.g. on the day of the opening ceremony for the new academic year) or during the first week of the new academic year (e.g. in a weekly assembly, class affairs session, Moral and Civic Education / General Studies / Physical Education and Health class, or in a kindergarten thematic education class, etc.).
- 2.3 Since K1 students are still going through the settling-in period for school life, schools should flexibly adjust relevant teaching arrangements for the First Lesson of the New Academic Year for them.
- 2.4 The theme of the academic year 2024/2025 revolves happy homes, with a particular focus on the love and care students receive from their families, including elements such as domestic harmony, caring for family members and gratitude towards family. The

example presentation slides have been designed under the mentioned elements. Schools may also create their own teaching materials based on the same theme.

### 3. Suggestions on teaching

#### 3.1 Pre-primary education

- ✓ Selection of topic: It is recommended to focus on content relating to happy homes.
- ✓ Main teaching objective:

To further improve kindergarten students' awareness of the importance of a happy home and caring for family members. It includes sincere affection and support for their parents and respecting the elderly

- ✓ Lesson length: a single class period or 30 minutes.
- ✓ Teaching content and method:
  - Be in line with the set teaching objectives and to instil the awareness of caring for family members into young children.
  - Importance should be attached to young children's existing life experience, participation and hands-on practice. It is suggested that game-based learning activities should be adopted. For example, demonstration through rhythms and children's songs can be used to encourage students' awareness of caring for family members.
- ✓ Please refer to the example presentation slides for the First Lesson of the New Academic Year for pre-primary education.

#### 3.2 Primary education

- ✓ Selection of topic: It is recommended to focus on content relating to happy homes.
- ✓ Main teaching objective: To promote domestic harmony by familiarising students with the impact of family on individuals.
- ✓ Lesson length: a single class period or 40 minutes.
- ✓ Teaching content and method:

- To cultivate students' independence, reduce family pressure and strengthen students' sense of family harmony by establishing a timetable in line with the set teaching objectives and to increase their awareness of domestic harmony.
- The concept of happy homes should be integrated into civic education through diverse learning modes, e.g. by asking students questions, engaging them in group discussions or designing practical activities for them.
- ✓ Please refer to the example presentation slides for the First Lesson of the New Academic Year for primary education.

### 3.3 Secondary education

- ✓ Selection of topic: It is recommended to focus on content relating to happy homes.
- ✓ Main teaching objectives: To develop values of gratitude towards family in students so that they will endeavour to establish a good relationship with their family; to equip students with simple ways to address family conflicts.
- ✓ Lesson length: a single class period or 40 minutes.
- ✓ Teaching content and method:
  - Be in line with the set teaching objectives. For example, begin by guiding students to achieve an understanding of family conflicts and follow it up by introducing some simple ways to deal with the conflicts when they encounter conflicts, so that they will be able to give full play to the spirit of family care, and express gratitude and blessings to their families.
  - Considering the differences in the development of student abilities, it is advisable that schools provide open-ended learning activities for students to reflect on their own families. Students can show love and gratitude to their family anytime, anywhere. Junior secondary school students may reflect on family relationships from a personal perspective while those in senior secondary grades may seek reflection from the perspective of Macao society.
- ✓ Please refer to the example presentation slides for the First Lesson of the New Academic Year for secondary education.

#### **4. Links to reference information**

4.1 The Education and Youth Development Bureau of the Government of the Macao Special Administrative Region: <http://www.dsedj.gov.mo>

4.2 The Social Welfare Bureau of the Government of the Macao Special Administrative Region: <https://www.ias.gov.mo/ch/home>

4.3 The Hong Kong Family Welfare Society: <https://www.hkfws.org.hk/>