Placement Briefing Session

School Social Work Service

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School Social Work Service





Social Worker at School

Objectives of School Social Work Service



- To help students with the personal, family, interpersonal or schooling problem

  -- remedial

- To help students develop personal potential and achieve healthy personal growth

  -- developmental and educational

School Settings

- Primary Schools / Secondary Schools
- Others: Kindergartens / Schools for Social Development



School as Secondary Setting

- Working in an environment where other professionals are the majority
- The number of social workers is limited
- Playing important professional role within school to support the students
- Collaborating with different stakeholders and professionals

Service targets

- Students (mainly)
- Parents/ family members
- teachers
- School system

Natures of Work and learning opportunities

- Casework
- Groupwork, program, project
- Enquiries / consultation
- Coordination of community resources

Secondary School: Types of cases

- **Related to schooling (unmotivated to study, study stress,**

  study method, career planning etc.)
- **School adjustment**
- **Peer relationship**
- Behavioral problems
- Developmental adjustment
- Emotional/ mental health
- Sex-related issues
- Family related problems



Types of groups & programs

- **Social and emotional development**:
  Emotional management, social skills groups, stress reduction, school adjustment, etc.

- **Career development** :
  Career planning workshops, self-understanding etc.

- **Community engagement and personal development**:
  Volunteer services, leadership training, fun fair, exhibitions, visits, outing or day camps etc.



Primary schools :

Major types of cases

- **Learning problem(Special Educational Needs)**
- **Behavioral problem**
- **Emotional problem**
- Relationship problem
- Family related problem



Types of groups & programs

- Social skills groups
- Emotional management groups
- Problem solving groups

- Parents workshops / talks
- Volunteer services
- Fun fair / exhibitions
- Visits / day camps /outings

Services provided:

Kindergarten:

Provide counseling and referral to related services for children and families

Parenting education groups and talks

Thematic activities to consolidate family relationship

Professional consultations for teaching staff and parents

Crisis management for case in need

Schools for Social Development (群育學校)



Schools for Social Development (SSD)

- Under the category of "Special Schools"
- A total of 8 SSDs in Hong Kong
- Providing intensive support for students from 9 to 18 years old with **moderate to severe emotional and behavioural difficulties**
- Providing both **long-term and short-term adaptation programmes** for students
- Catering for the learning diversity of students with interdisciplinary collaboration (EP, ST, and social worker)

Services provided by school social workers

Case

- Provide students with counselling that focuses on their emotional, family and social problems

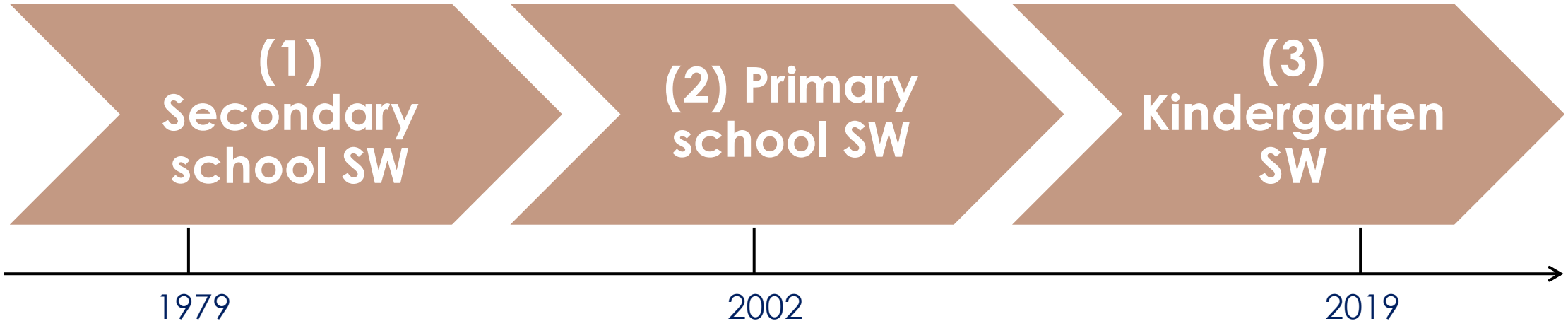
Group

- Adaptation group for P.6 students
- Educational and growth group targeting social skills, emotional management, self-efficacy, empathy etc.

Programme

- Volunteer services e.g. visiting elderly centres, elderly people living alone etc.
- Life planning programme e.g. life simulation game
- School visits at mainstream secondary schools
- Others

The development of school social work service



Service operation in secondary school

As of 1 September 2026, 33 NGOs operate stationing school social work service for 454 secondary day schools in Hong Kong.

Two modes of service operation:

(1) Independent mode: Independent school social work unit

- Serve schools in different areas
- Focus on the school social work service provision

(2) Attachment mode: Centre team (Integrated Children and Youth Centre)(ICYSC)

-Serve 2- 3 secondary schools within a designated area

-Allocate designated staff to station at schools as school social workers

-Schools are near the location of the ICYSC

-Work closely with the centre and more resources can be shared and mobilized



Personal qualities facilitating you to work as school social worker

Are you suitable to work as a school social worker?

(1) Readiness to work with children and youth

Are you suitable to work as a school social worker?

(2) Self-confidence

Do you mind being rejected by others?

Are you suitable to work as a school social worker?

(3) Personal characters

Are you an energetic, active or outgoing person?

Are you suitable to work as a school social worker?

(4) Flexibility and independence

Are you suitable to work as a school social worker?

(5) Readiness to approach and collaborate with teachers and parents

Are you suitable to work as a school social worker?

(6) Compliance with school cultures and rules

Placement Requirement

- **Concurrent placement** only
- **Daytime stationing** at school, no evening stationing
- Need to complete **the sexual conviction record check(SCRC)** before the placement commencement

Proper dress code and personal appearance

- Dress Code: properly dress, smart casual, comply with school's usual practice and culture
- Tattoo : Need to be covered, if any
- Hairstyle: Appropriate styles, dye hair with darker color, avoid highlight

Placement Requirement

Choices of Placement	Stationing days
Primary School Services	Normally on **Tue and Wed** daytime
Secondary School Services	Normally on **Tue and Wed** daytime
Other School Services (i.e. Kindergarten / Schools for Social Development)	**Kindergarten:** Normally on **Tue and Wed** daytime, depending on the agency arrangement **Schools for Social Development:** Normally on **Tue and Wed** daytime

Some placement requirements by schools

- Schools only give one placement offer
- Schools request 1 male and 1 female student
- Schools offer places to 1 MSW and 1 BSW student
- Schools offer places to solely MSW or BSW students

- Agency purchase mode for placement supervision

Placement Arrangement

- The placement arrangement will depend on the available places provided by the agencies and the schools.

- As the service in kindergarten is newly established, the no. of available places is very limited.

- There will be a few places for non-Cantonese speaking students. The arrangement depends on the available places provided by the schools.



Setting coordinator

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Q & A



THANKS!