



OMEP-Hong Kong Pedagogical Innovations in Early Childhood Education: A Competition

OMEP-Hong Kong has been earnestly promoting the wellbeing, rights, and education of young children, and the professional development of early childhood educators in Hong Kong since 1992. We co-organised a large scale regional conference, attended by nearly 1000 academic and early childhood education practitioners, with the Education Bureau last year to generate insights on enhancing teaching and learning in this new era of increased attention on early childhood education (ECE). To continue the momentum, we are launching a competition that invites early childhood educators to share their innovative pedagogies in ECE.

Through this competition, we encourage early childhood teachers to act as inspiring agents to develop innovative and effective pedagogies to support the holistic development of young children, at the same time enhance their own professional learning and development. We also seek to create a database of innovative pedagogies that is useful for the ECE community in Hong Kong.

Eligibility

We welcome applications from:

- local crèches and nurseries that are registered under the Child Care Services Ordinance of Hong Kong, and
- kindergartens and kindergarten-cum-child-care-centres that are registered under the Education Ordinance of Hong Kong.

There is not a limit for the number of applications an institution may submit. However, each project team should constitute not more than 4 members.

Project Criteria

Each project of pedagogical innovations should be:

- an original work of the applicant(s), with permission for the use of reports, images and audio/video recordings;
- applicable for teaching children between the ages of 0 and 6 in Hong Kong;



- innovative in teaching one or several learning areas as stated in the *Kindergarten Education Curriculum Guide* based on its core values and guiding principles of curriculum design (See Appendix 1); and
- involving a set of teaching materials that can easily be made by teachers and children, or materials that can readily be found in daily life.

Submission

A complete application includes:

- complete application form and Principal Nomination Form;
- a one-page report documenting the ideas, instructions, and implementation of the project;
- five to ten photos showing details of the project and teaching materials; and
- videos showing the teaching and learning process.

All the above documents should be sent as attachments (if the total size is less than 25MB) to OMEP-Hong Kong Secretariat at omephksecretary@gmail.com. Alternatively, applicants may upload the documents to a cloud server (e.g., Google Drive, Dropbox, iCloud, etc.) and send the direct link to the server to the above email address. **Please make sure you have given us permission to access the files by the time you submit your application.** Applicants may be required to provide additional information upon request.

The application deadline is **18 January 2019**. Late and/or incomplete application will not be accepted.

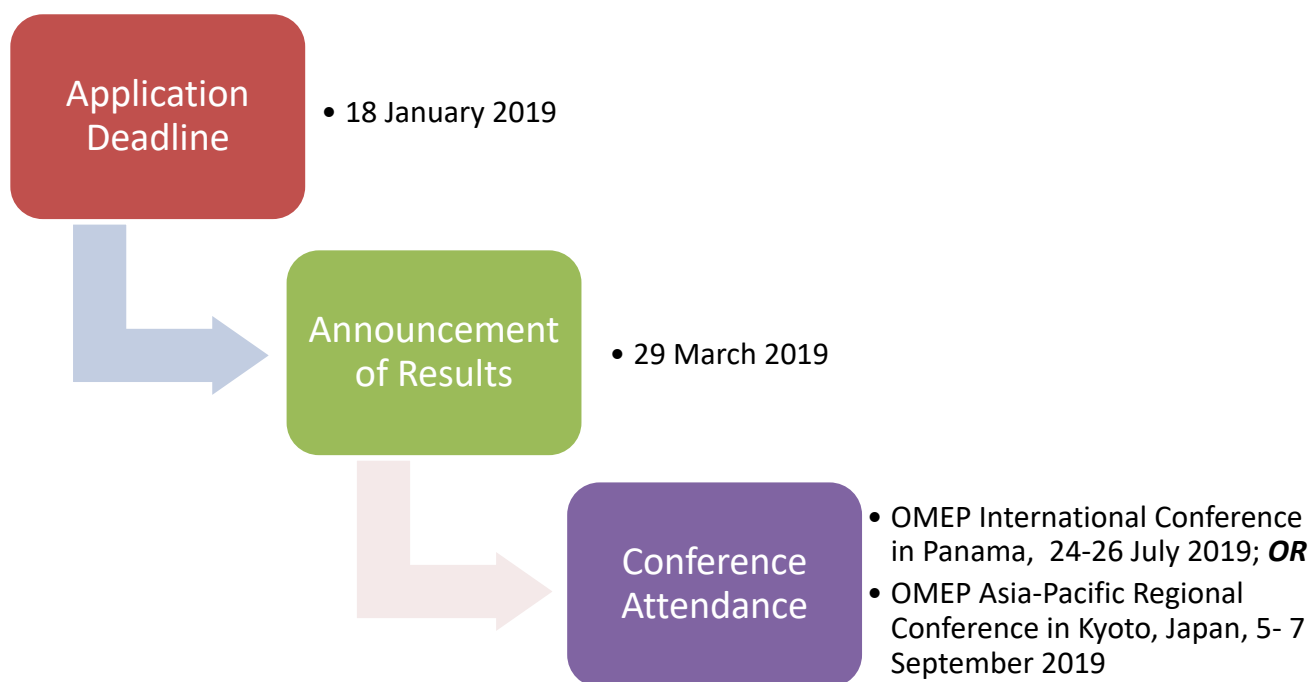
By submitting their application, it is assumed that the applicants agree to give OMEP-Hong Kong the copyrights and publication rights. Information on all the innovative pedagogy projects will be uploaded to OMEP-Hong Kong website at <http://www.omep.org.hk/>. These projects may also be featured in the future publications of OMEP-Hong Kong. In any case, the applicants will be properly acknowledged.

Awards

Five best projects will be selected by a panel of experts, academics, and educators. The winning teams will be notified on **29 March 2019**. Each of them will receive a travel award, which includes conference registration, airfare, and accommodation for one team member to attend either the 71st OMEP International Conference to be held in Panama between 24 and 26 July 2019 **OR** the OMEP



Asia-Pacific Regional Conference in Kyoto, Japan between 5 and 7 September 2019. The member shall prepare to present their innovative pedagogy project at the conference or at any related events organised by OMEP-Hong Kong. The winning team will be asked to indicate their preference after the announcement of results.



For enquiry, please email us at omephksecretary@gmail.com.



Additional Selection Criteria.

Appendix 1

PEDAGOGICAL DESIGN ¹ Applicants are expected to demonstrate one or more of the core value and guiding principles of the *Kindergarten Education Curriculum Guide* in the design of their pedagogies:

- child-centeredness;
- catering for the growth and developmental needs of children;
- providing real-life, sensory, and interesting learning experiences;
- catering for learner diversity and the different needs of children;
- sustaining the strengths of the existing school-based curriculum;
- collaboration among school, family, and community.

AREAS OF INNOVATION²: Applicants are expected to include at least one innovative area in the design of their pedagogies. The innovative areas are not limited to the following categories:

- inquiry-based learning;
- gamification;
- blended learning;
- computational thinking;
- experiential learning.

¹Curriculum Development Council. (2017). *Kindergarten Education Curriculum Guide*. Retrieved from: https://www.edb.gov.hk/attachment/en/curriculum-development/major-level-of-edu/preprimary/ENG_KGECG_2017.pdf

² Paniagua, A., & Istance, D. (2018). *Teachers as designers of learning environments: The importance of innovative pedagogies*. Educational Research and Innovation. Paris: OECD Publishing. doi.: 10.1787/9789264085374-en