



The National Survey of Independent Chinese Secondary Schools 2016-2017

Teacher Questionnaire



The United Chinese School Committees' Association of Malaysia

(Dong Zong)

Introduction

The National Survey of Independent Chinese Secondary Schools 2016-2017 consists of 5 different areas: School (facilities and structure), School Leadership, Teacher, Student and Parent/Guardian, in order to collect comprehensive responses and to understand the current situation of Independent Chinese Secondary School.

This particular questionnaire: Teacher questionnaire will be distributed to **all teaching staff** (excluding administrative staff without any teaching responsibilities) in Independent Chinese Secondary Schools. The included topics are as below:

- 1) Background Information
- 2) Teacher Responsibility and Working Hour
- 3) Teacher Professional Development
- 4) Teacher Opinions on Curriculum and Teaching
- 5) The Teaching Environment

This questionnaire should be completed by all the **teachers** respectively. It should take each teacher **approximately 30 minutes** to complete.

There are no right or wrong answers, please select the answer that suits your status most.

The information you provide will be extremely valuable in reflecting a true situation of how progressive the Independent Chinese Secondary School education is today, of which is the fundamental keystone to depend on in drafting of *The Malaysian Independent Chinese Secondary School Education Blueprint*. Kindly fill in your answers in the spaces provided in the **Answer Sheet** and submit it to the school. Please do not fold the Answer Sheet or make any stray marks on it.

We respect the anonymity of the respondents. All responses to this questionnaire will be treated confidentially and served only for research purposes.

Your information is deemed valuable to us

(1) Background Information

- 1 What is your gender?
 - A. Male
 - B. Female

- 2 How old are you?
 - A. Below 25 years old
 - B. 26-35 years old
 - C. 36-45 years old
 - D. 46-55 years old
 - E. Above 55 years old

- 3 How long have you been working as a Secondary School teacher, until the end of this academic year?
 - A. Less than 1 year
 - B. 1-5 years
 - C. 6-10 years
 - D. 11-20 years
 - E. More than 20 years

- 4 Have you acquired any relevant teaching qualification(s)?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No

- 5 How much is your current salary? (Including all subsidies and allowances)
 - A. Below RM2,000
 - B. RM2,001-RM3,000
 - C. RM3,001-RM4,000
 - D. RM4,001-RM5,000
 - E. Above RM5,000

- 6 What is your employment status at **this school**?
- A. Full time teacher with permanent contract
 - B. Full time teacher with fixed term contract(less than 5 years)
 - C. Part time teacher with permanent contract
 - D. Part time teacher with fixed term contract(less than 5 years)
- 7 What is the highest level of formal education that you have completed?
- A. Secondary level
 - B. College level (diploma, certificate etc.)
 - C. Bachelor's degree
 - D. Master's degree
 - E. Doctoral programme

(2) Teacher Responsibility and Working Hours

- 8 How many subject(s) are you teaching this year?
- A. 1 subject
 - B. 2 subjects
 - C. 3 subjects
 - D. 4 subjects
 - E. 5 subjects or above
- 9 For the subject/s you are teaching, have you acquired the prerequisite teaching qualification/s? (Certification of qualification eg. Major/Minor related to your field of studies)
- A. All the prerequisite qualification/s for teaching all the subject/s.
 - B. Half or more than half of the prerequisite qualification/s for teaching the subjects.
 - C. Less than half of the prerequisite qualifications for teaching the subjects.
 - D. No prerequisite qualification/s has been acquired for teaching the subject/s.

- 10 Approximately how many hours in **total** per week did you spend on performing your work as a teacher? (including teaching, lesson planning, marking, collaborating with or assisting other teachers, participating in staff meetings and on other tasks/roles related to your overall job)
- A. Below 44 hours
 - B. 45-50 hours
 - C. 51-60 hours
 - D. 61-70 hours
 - E. Above 71 hours
- 11 Of this total time, how many hours per week did you spend on teaching in class? (Excluding preparations of lessons, marking etc.)
- A. Less than 14 hours
 - B. 14–16 hours
 - C. 17–19 hours
 - D. 20-22 hours
 - E. More than 22 hours

Except actual hours spent on teaching in class (**Question 11**), how many hours did you spend on the following tasks respectively?

(**Selection: A. Less than 1 hour B. 1-5 hours C. 6-10 hours D. 11-15 hours E. More than 15 hours**)

Remarks: Rough estimation is sufficient. Choose only ONE answer for each statement.

- 12 Autonomous preparation of lessons either at school or out of school.
- 13 Marking/correcting students' work
- 14 Participation in various school administration work or staff/teachers' meetings etc.
- 15 General administration work (including communications, paperwork, writing of reports and/or minutes of meetings and other clerical duties)
- 16 Counselling tasks/learning support sessions for students after class
- 17 Engagement in co-curricular activities (such as accompanying student/s in competition, coaching or giving advice to members of school society, participation in camps/camping trips etc.)
- 18 Interactive sessions and dialogues with colleagues in this school
- 19 Communication or interactive contacts with parents or guardians

(3) Teacher Professional Development

- 20 During the last 12 months, how many times did you participate in the teacher professional development programme(s) in your school?
- A. Nil
 - B. 1-3 Times
 - C. 4-6 Times
 - D. 7 times or more
- 21 During the last 12 months, how many times did you participate in the teacher professional development programme(s) outside your school?
- A. Nil
 - B. 1-3 Times
 - C. 4-6 Times
 - D. 7 times or more
- 22 What kind of short-term professional training programme in which you would wish to participate the **most** outside your school?
- A. Advanced studies of educational subject-based or ethos-based programmes
 - B. Observation of Teaching and Learning Demonstrations
 - C. Teaching Seminars/Workshops and Interactive-Sessions for exchanging views & experiences
 - D. Seminars on Thematic Topics of education

During the last 12 months, did you participate in any kind of the following professional development programmes? (Question 24-27):

- 23 Up-grading of Teacher Qualification programme (including degree-programme/s of the Master's & Doctoral degrees and advanced certification of teacher qualification etc.)
A. Yes
B. No
- 24 Teachers' Professional Learning Community (PLC) or their Network
A. Yes
B. No
- 25 Individual or collaborative educational research
A. Yes
B. No
- 26 Peer observation on teaching demonstrations and teachers' integrative sharing sessions
A. Yes
B. No

What are your motivations in professional development programmes(s)?

Remark: Please select only ONE answer to each statement.

(Selection: A.Strongly Agree¹ B.Agree² C.Disagree³ D.Strongly Disagree⁴)

- 27 Upgrading my teaching skills, in order to cater for the positive development of the students
- 28 Prospective Job advancement and salary increment
- 29 Requirement of the school
- 30 Personal interest and devotion

- 31 For the professional development in which you participated the last 12 months, did the school provide you with any of the following related supportive assistance?
- A. Assistance of financial subsidy and nonmaterial support (such as the reduction of teaching hours, approval of application for official study leave, permission of official days off etc.)
 - B. Assistance of financial aids but without nonmaterial support of any form of teaching aids
 - C. Without financial aids but with nonmaterial, supportive teaching aids
 - D. Without any financial aids and also without nonmaterial support in providing teaching aids

For each of the aspects listed below, please indicate the degree to which you currently need for your professional development.

Remarks: Please select only ONE answer to each statement.

(**Selection:** **A. Most Needed¹** **B. Moderately Needed²**
 C. Least Needed³ **D. Not Needed at the moment⁴**)

- 32 Subject knowledge, skills and understanding
- 33 Competency in subject teaching pedagogy
- 34 Application of ICT (information and communication technology) skills for preparation work in teaching & learning activities and administration work
- 35 Student behaviour and classroom management
- 36 School and administrative management
- 37 Ceaseless desire of initiative-learning to upgrade professional skills & development
- 38 Teaching of students to cater for their special needs
- 39 Skills for student career guidance and counselling
- 40 Teaching & learning of intercultural understanding & multilingualism
- 41 Instructional designing of interdisciplinary teaching & learning activities (such as problem solving, learning how to learn and interpersonal communication skills)
- 42 Development of approaches in adapting to challenges of future inter-occupational competitions
- 43 Management of new technologies in one's workplace

How do you feel about the obstacles that you may have faced regarding your participation in professional development activities?

Remark: Please select only ONE answer to each statement.

(Selection: A.Strongly Agree¹ B.Agree² C.Disagree³ D.Strongly Disagree⁴)

- 44 The prerequisite qualifications/curriculum vitae do not correspond with the profession (e.g. qualifications, experience, seniority etc.)
- 45 Training programme is too expensive/ unaffordable
- 46 Lack of school support
- 47 Overburden with current teaching job, cannot afford time to engage in advanced courses
- 48 Factors of family obligations
- 49 The professional development offered do not correspond with the actual requirement of the profession
- 50 Lack of incentives or extrinsic motivation

(4) Teacher's Opinions on Curriculum and Teaching/Learning Activities

Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Remark: Please select only ONE answer to each statement.

(Selection: A.Strongly Agree¹ B.Agree² C.Disagree³ D.Strongly Disagree⁴)

- 51 Teacher clearly understands the teaching of the subject matter which is helpful and beneficial to students' ability cultivation.
- 52 Teacher clearly understands the teaching and learning objectives of the subject which are achievable.
- 53 Teachers of the same level will always communicate with students who acquire knowledge points from different subjects.
- 54 The present teaching hours are insufficient to accomplish the teaching of the required content of the textbook or curricular subject
- 55 Teacher is allowed to adjust the progress of teaching and learning according to situations.
- 56 Teacher can prepare his/her own teaching aids or materials autonomously according to the curricular requirement.

- 57 Students perform poorly due to the difficulties they encounter in learning the curricular contents and teaching materials.
- 58 Prior to lesson planning, I presume that most of the students have little understanding of the contents of the lesson.
- 59 My teaching activities are restrained by the preparation for examinations (such as UEC, public examinations etc.)
- 60 I will always hold interactive sessions with my students about the topics they are learning.
- 61 I feel that it is necessary to disseminate a lot of the knowledge to the students so that they know clearly what the contents they are learning.
- 62 I think the examinations (i.e. usual school and class tests) will enable students to evaluate their own learning outcome.
- 63 I will spend some time in class discussion to facilitate the understanding of students' learning problems.
- 64 I will concentrate on teaching most of the topics in the textbook or according to the curricular requirement.
- 65 I will always encourage my students to (re-)organise and develop their thoughts from the existing acquired knowledge to express their new ideas.
- 66 In the process of teaching and learning, I will make use of difficult examples to stimulate or provoke students' critical thinking skills and engage them in debate activities.
- 67 My lesson plans are designed for students to prepare for their examinations.
- 68 I think that the most important reason of giving students good notes or demonstrations is to enhance their memories
- 69 I think the materials required are adequate for teaching the students on how to deal with the examinations (including school/class tests)
- 70 I feel that I should know all the answers for every question that the students raise.
- 71 I provide opportunity for students to discuss the different interpretations of the subject matter.
- 72 I feel that students should have their own notes or records of their learning.
- 73 I think I should spend more of my teaching time to elicit responses from my students to facilitate the understanding of their ideas and thoughts of the subject matter taught to them.

(5) The Teaching Environment

During the last 12 months, have you been disturbed by the following issues?

*Remark: Please select only **ONE** answer to each statement.*

(Selection: A. Never¹ B. Sometimes² C. Often³ D. Always⁴)

- 74 Students' disciplinary problems
- 75 Disparity in the student quality
- 76 Teaching hours are too long
- 77 Excessive administrative burden
- 78 Pressure of overwork
- 79 Problems of School's human relationships and Interpersonal relationships
- 80 Parents' various demands and expectations
- 81 Burden of too many co-curricular activities
- 82 Burden of too many fundraising activities

Thank you

for your invaluable opinions and cooperation in completing this questionnaire.