

Hong Kong schools encouraged to play patriotic music video ahead of National Day

- Education Bureau urges teachers, students and parents to ‘appreciate’ video
- Recording features more than 400 students from 41 primary and secondary schools

Hong Kong schools have been encouraged to broadcast a patriotic music video produced by the government for students to appreciate the country’s development ahead of National Day next month.

The Education Bureau on Wednesday issued a circular to all schools, including kindergartens and international ones, urging teachers, students and parents to “appreciate” the video titled “On the Young China”.

The video, which includes the participation of more than 400 students from 41 primary and secondary schools, was released ahead of National Day on October 1.

It begins with students reciting lines from a well-known article titled “On the Young China” written by 19th-century Chinese academic Liang Qichao.

“When the young are wise, the country will be wise; when the young are rich, the country will be rich; when the young are strong, so will be the country,” the students read.

In another scene, pupils perform the Chinese folk tune “Jasmine Flower” with different vocal ensembles, using both Chinese and Western musical instruments. They also show off their abilities in martial arts, recitation, dancing and calligraphy. The national flag is raised at the end.

“About 30 Basic Law student ambassadors took part in the flag-raising ceremony to pay homage to the national flag and show respect to our country,” the circular said, referring to the city’s mini-constitution.

The bureau also reminded schools to organise commemorative activities ahead of Martyrs’ Day on September 30 for students to learn about the patriotic spirit of those who died defending the country.

Wong Ching-yung, the principal of Scientia Secondary School, said the video could be played during music lessons or in assemblies to boost students’ sense of national identity.

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