

**23 February 2001**

**EDB Circular No.2/2001C**

**(Formerly referred as EMB Circular No. 2/2001C)  
(Formerly referred as Schools Miscellaneous Circular No. 2/2001)**

**Guidance Notes for the Arrangement of School Visits to  
Historic Monuments and Archaeological Sites in Hong Kong**

- (Note : This circular should be read by
- (i) Supervisors and Heads of all schools for necessary action;  
and
  - (i) Heads of Sections for information)

**Summary**

The purpose of this circular is to remind schools of the importance to adhere to rules and regulations concerning the protection of historic monuments and archaeological sites when arranging related school visits.

**Details**

2. While schools are encouraged to extend students' learning experiences in heritage studies through field studies and visits, they should ensure that their teachers and students fully understand that they have the obligation to protect the historic monuments and archaeological sites as part of our heritage and to abide by related rules and regulations. In this connection, the Antiquities and Monuments Office has prepared in the Annex, the Guidance Notes for all teachers on the arrangement of these visits.

3. School teachers should observe the rules when arranging the visits so as to project proper attitude amongst students on heritage preservation and to arouse their concern for our heritage.

**Enquiries**

4. For enquiries, please contact Ms Erica LEUNG at 2721 1073 or Ms Grace CHAN at 2721 1071 of the Antiquities and Monuments Office, Leisure and Cultural Services Department.

Dr. K.K. CHAN  
for Director of Education

## **Guidance Notes for the Arrangement of School Visits to Historic Monuments and Archaeological Sites in Hong Kong**

- (i) All Declared Monuments, Historic Buildings and Archaeological Sites are important sites of cultural heritage to Hong Kong people. All visitors should not make any damage to these sites of cultural heritage;
- (ii) According to the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance (A&MO), Cap. 53, no person, other than the Authority and a designated person authorized by him, shall excavate or search for antiquities except in accordance with a license granted to him. Otherwise, it shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine and imprisonment. Therefore, no excavation should be conducted by school groups on archaeological site without a license which authorizes them to do so;
- (iii) As stated in the A&MO, the ownership of every relic discovered in Hong Kong after 1.1.1976 shall vest in the Government from the moment of discovery. In this connection, any person who discovers, or knows of the discovery of an antiquity or supposed antiquity shall forthwith report the discovery to the Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO). No antiquity or supposed antiquity should be allowed to be taken away by any visitor on site. Otherwise, it shall be guilty of an offence under the A&MO; and
- (iv) Archaeological excavation demands high professional skill. Since the AMO will conduct several large scale rescue excavations and organize a number of archaeological workshops and site visits each year, all teachers and students are welcomed to join these activities and learn more about heritage preservation in Hong Kong. Interested party may contact the AMO to make the necessary arrangement.