



HONG KONG (CH.), East Asia

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Population and literacy levels	7,141,106 (July 2015 est.) Languages: Cantonese (official) 89.5%, English (official) 3.5%, Putonghua (Mandarin) 1.4%, other Chinese dialects 4% (2011 est.) Source: CIA World Factbook
Overview of education and school library situation	Schooling in Hong Kong is modelled on the British system and is both free and compulsory during primary (6 years) and junior secondary phases (3 years). However, the language of instruction today is principally Chinese. The final phase is a 2-year secondary program in which there is more choice of subjects; the leaving qualification is the Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination (HKCEE). Education tends to be highly competitive. There are also independent and international schools, which follow other curriculum models – US, UK, IB and

others. Sources: [Classbase – Education System in Hong Kong](#); [Education Bureau of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region](#)

In 1965 the Hong Kong Education Department accepted the recommendations of an education commission to provide library facilities in schools. Since then school libraries have enjoyed support from the government including the provision of trained teacher librarians. However, school library standards issued by the Education Department (1990) were out-dated. Source: <http://www.slav.vic.edu.au/synergy/volume-11-number-1-2013/interactions/282-secondary-school-libraries-in-singapore-and-hong-kong-the-need-for-advocacy-at-work.html>

This long tradition of school libraries has been strengthened by a mandated teacher librarian position in each school and associated structured professional training. However, many principals load the teacher librarian with many other duties including subject teaching, making their full-time position really only part-time in the school library. Source: [A Day in the Life of a School Library 2015 – A Comparative Study across Primary School Libraries in Mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Macau](#)

In 2007, the roles of Teacher Librarians in the New Senior Secondary Curriculum were elaborated in the [Realising the Vision of 334 article](#), and the message was delivered through seminars for principals and TLs. In 2011, the Hong Kong [Education Bureau Circular Memorandum No. 104/2011](#), reiterated that teacher librarians, as information specialists, should work closely with subject teachers to coordinate curriculum-related resources and to help develop information literacy among students. Schools should make appropriate arrangements for TLs to continue to focus on these tasks of library services to promote quality student learning as well as the actual situation and needs of schools.

The 2005 IASL conference was held in Hong Kong with the theme, *Information leadership in a culture of change*.

Links to important associations/contacts	Hong Kong Library Association HK Teacher-Librarians' Association HK Professional Teachers' Union, Teacher-Librarians' Group Association of Librarians in English Speaking Schools. (HK) Education Bureau, Hong Kong University of Hong Kong Chinese University of Hong Kong City University of Hong Kong Hong Kong University of Science and Technology Library and Information Science Education in Asia: Hong Kong
Particular issues and needs of the country	Trans-shipment of illicit drugs; water and air pollution Source: CIA World Factbook
Famous authors	Agnes Chan, Amy Cheung, Han Suyin, Hon Lai-chu, Jin Yong, Liang Yusheng, Liu Yichang, Colin McAdam, Ni Kuang, Pang Ho-cheung, Samuel So, Dorothy Tse, Wen Shaoxian, Elizabeth Wong, Wong Yeung-tat Woon Swee Oan, Xi Xi, Yi Shu Source: Hong Kong novelists

Links to literature of the country	<p>Hong Kong English Literature Database</p> <p>HKELD: Children's fiction</p> <p>Hong Kong International Young Readers festival, 2015</p>
Links to SL programs or advocacy tools	<p>Dr Sam Chu Associate Professor Deputy Director, Centre for Information Technology in Education Head of Division Division of Information and Technology Studies The University of Hong Kong</p> <p>Strengthening students' reading comprehension ability (both Chinese and English) through developing children's literature e-quiz bank on cloud (May. 2013 - Feb. 2016); Quality Education Fund.</p> <p>A Day in the Life of a School Library 2015 – A Comparative Study across Primary School Libraries in Mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Macau</p>
News/Reports	<p>For information literacy resources and links related to Hong Kong in Chinese, see pages 127-128 of UNESCO Overview of information literacy resources worldwide, 2nd edn.</p>

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