

For Immediate Release



## **“Racial Segregation and Lack of Resources Prevent Ethnic Minority children from learning Chinese effectively at kindergarten”**

Hong Kong, 7 May, 2018 – The Zubin Foundation, a leading social policy think-tank, today launched a research report: *“Securing a Good Start for Students of Chinese as an Additional Language (CAL) in Kindergarten”*. With sponsorship from the Chen Yet-sen Family Foundation, Peter Bennett Foundation and The Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Fund (SIE Fund), the research shows:

**“Racial Segregation and Lack of Resources** prevent ethnic minority children from learning Chinese well in kindergarten”.

- Children from non-Chinese speaking backgrounds are often clustered together in a small number of schools – some have 80% + non-Chinese speaking children, making it much harder to learn Chinese naturally
- Over 40% of kindergartens have zero EM children - the presence of EM children in a kindergarten is viewed as a deterrent by some Hong Kong Chinese parents

The report released today also shows a **lack of centrally available resources** to help teachers teach children from non-Chinese speaking backgrounds or help parents support their children at home.

- There are no teaching programmes to teach beginner Chinese for EM students in EMI kindergartens
- There is no centralised structured programme of support for students learning Chinese as an Additional Language (CAL) in CMI kindergartens.
- No resources centrally available to help students learn CAL. Kindergartens must make their own materials from scratch on an ad hoc basis.
- No CAL resources which can be used at home by non-Chinese speakers.

Shalini Mahtani, MBE, The Zubin Foundation Founder and Chair, said there was an **urgent need** for all kindergartens in Hong Kong to pursue a **policy of inclusive admissions** and that the government should create an Inclusion Guide and Toolkit for use in kindergartens and primary schools. *“We need to provide kindergartens with the mindset and materials, so they can incorporate and*

*celebrate the cultures of Hong Kong's non-Chinese population in the classroom” Ms Mahtani said.*

Ms Mahtani said ethnic minority parents want their children to benefit from a Chinese language education and her organisation had been shocked to find so few resources being available to support children from non-Chinese speaking backgrounds, *“we urgently need EDB and schools to develop and use a wide range of resources to help our children gain high levels of Chinese proficiency at kindergarten”*, she said.

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#### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

#### **Securing a Good Start for Students of Chinese as an Additional Language (CAL) in Kindergarten**

Full Report:

[https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/da2d17\\_b42292daf5124ff6bbdd963df27cd732.pdf](https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/da2d17_b42292daf5124ff6bbdd963df27cd732.pdf)

Report Summary:

[https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/da2d17\\_2f61643eb176495fb2f1e8788ffa0dc5.pdf](https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/da2d17_2f61643eb176495fb2f1e8788ffa0dc5.pdf)

中文 [https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/da2d17\\_8eafbcdbf6d5434597af3cc036d6e300.pdf](https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/da2d17_8eafbcdbf6d5434597af3cc036d6e300.pdf)

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#### **About The Zubin Foundation**

The Zubin Mahtani Gidumal Foundation (also known as The Zubin Foundation) is a non-partisan social policy think tank and registered charity committed to shedding light on enduring barriers to fairness and opportunity Hong Kong. The Zubin Foundation's core focuses are ethnic minority welfare and patient welfare. The Zubin Foundation was established by two Hong Kong individuals, Shalini Mahtani and Ravi Gidumal in memory of their son Zubin who died tragically in 2009.

See [www.zubinfoundation.org](http://www.zubinfoundation.org)



即時發佈

### “種族隔離和資源短缺令少數族裔學生無法有效地學習中文”

香港，2018年5月7日 – 作為一個領先的社會政策智囊團，小彬紀念基金會今日發佈了一項研究報告。此報告名為“讓中文為附加語言學生在幼稚園打好學習基礎”。有幸得到陳一心家族慈善基金，Peter Bennett Foundation 以及社會創新及創業發展基金 (社創基金)的贊助，此研究發現：

### “種族隔離和資源短缺令少數族裔學生無法有效地學習中文”

- 少數族裔學生通常在數多間幼稚園內就讀。有些幼稚園超過八成學生都是非華語兒童。這情況令他們在正常環境下學習中文特別艱難。
- 超過四成幼稚園沒有任何少數族裔兒童。有些華裔家長會因為一些幼稚園內有少數族裔兒童而卻步。

今天發表的報告一陳述了**社會缺乏一套統一化的資源**供老師或家長幫助華語兒童學習中文。

- 現今的英文幼稚園沒有基本中文教學課程供少數族裔兒童學習中文
- 現今中文幼稚園沒有統一有結構性課程供學生學習中文作為附加語言
- 現今沒有統一化的資源供學生學習中文作為附加語言。幼稚園需要臨時安排教學材料
- 現今沒有中文作為附加語言的資源非華語人仕在家中學習中文

馬夏邇小姐, 小彬紀念基金會主席以及創辦人之一，說到現今幼稚園有**迫切需要實施高包容性選生標準**。而政府應制訂一套共融指南供幼稚園和小學使用。她說：「我們需要讓幼稚園重新改變思維，給予他們教學資料。這樣他們便能將非華裔人仕文化帶進課室」。

馬夏邇小姐說到很多少數族裔家長都希望自己孩童受惠於中文語文教學。而她的機構對於社會上缺乏幫助非華語兒童的資源之嚴重程度感到震驚。她說：「我們迫切需要教育局和各學校發掘各種資源，讓我們的孩子在幼稚園能達到高中文水平能力。」

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編者注

## 讓中文為附加語言學生在幼稚園打好學習基礎

報告撮要: Report Summary:

[https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/da2d17\\_8eafbcdbf6d5434597af3cc036d6e300.pdf](https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/da2d17_8eafbcdbf6d5434597af3cc036d6e300.pdf)

### 傳媒查詢

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### 關於小彬紀念基金會

小彬紀念基金會 (The Zubin Mahtani Gidumal Foundation 亦稱 The Zubin Foundation) 是一個非黨派的社會政策智囊團和註冊慈善機構，致力為社會上長久以來不公正或不公平的情況進行調查研究，締造一個公平的香港。小彬紀念基金會主要聚焦於少數族裔和病人的相關議題。小彬紀念基金會由兩位香港人馬夏邈 (Shalini Mahtani) 和 Ravi Gidumal 成立，以紀念他們在 2009 年不幸過世的兒子 Zubin。

詳情可到 [www.zubinfoundation.org](http://www.zubinfoundation.org)