

## The benefit of 'Gap Year'

'Gap Year' is the idea that students take a year off after finishing high school. During the year, they will join a job experience or work for a year. It is a common idea in the Western high schools.

The aim of the 'Gap Year' idea is help the students who have just finished high school to gain job experience. In Hong Kong, many teenagers find it difficult to seek job as they lack job experience. Therefore, the idea should be encouraged for them, shouldn't it?

As Hong Kong is an international city, having good communication skills is important. Many high school students do not have any work experience. Although they are good at study, most of them cannot communicate with others well. After finishing high school, many students may study in the university or other study programmes such as IVE. When they are studying, they may gain job experience through part time jobs or internship. They need to study and work at the same time. They may just go for work a few days per week. There is not enough chance for them to learn how to build up good communication skills. From the 'Gap Year' idea, they can be a full-time employee to build up interpersonal skills at work.

In Hong Kong, many employers not only look for candidates with high education level but also concerns about their job experience. They would prefer to hire employees who have a lot of job experience as it can reduce the cost of training them. The salary of students who do not have job experience is generally lower. If students joined the 'Gap Year', their competitiveness in society would increase.

Also, students can find what job is the most suitable for them in the 'Gap Year'. It can help them to find out their dream. Then, they may study the relative programmes.

For the 'Gap Year' idea, there are a lot of benefits for students. The outcome of the idea is useful in the Hong Kong society, so why not encourage it in Hong Kong?