

20 July, 2012

Professor Gladys Tang
Centre for Sign Linguistics and Deaf Studies
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The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Dear Gladys

I would like to thank you and your colleagues for showing me your research work during my visit to your centre on Friday, 6 July.

Your efforts in achieving the goal of the Jockey Club Sign Bilingualism and Co-enrolment in Deaf Education (JC-SLCO) Programme are to be commended. While promoting the use of signed language as an additional/ accompanying language in educating severely hearing impaired children in Hong Kong appears to be going against the traditional oral-aural or auditory-verbal approach, this new approach of bilingualism will help children to communicate more effectively both in the home and school setting. For example, there are children who have communication and learning problems despite the use of cochlear implants or powerful hearing aids. These children may have auditory disorders such as central auditory processing disorders and auditory neuropathy spectrum disorders which severely restrict their ability to decode the speech signals.

I would strongly recommend more ground breaking research in signed language and its use with children (hearing impaired as well as normally hearing children) to optimise learning under your JC-SLCO Programme. I'd like to congratulate your research team on your achievements so far.

I look forward to hearing more about your research.

Yours sincerely



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