Review on the Measures to Safeguard National Security and Promote National Security Education 2024-2025 School Year

School Name: HKMA David Li Kwok Po College

Area	Measures	Implementation Situation	Effectiveness and Reflection
School Administration	To continuously review the mechanism and procedures for renting out school facilities to ensure that school activities do not pose risks to national security	The school management collaboratively decides whether to approve rental requests for school facilities. Organizations seeking to rent must complete a declaration form, confirming that their speech or activities will not violate national security laws.	Venue rentals have primarily been allocated to large institutions or events focused on education, aligning with the school's objectives. All interested organizations complied with the established application process, indicating effective communication and understanding of the requirements.
	To maintain the mechanism and procedures for routinely evaluating the contents of school library collections to prevent any materials that may jeopardize national security. This includes inspecting both physical and digital library resources, as well as books in classrooms, online platforms and materials, to safeguard against activities that could endanger national security	The school library has developed a comprehensive list of available books and materials, serving as a crucial tool for maintaining national security. Subject heads have been tasked with carefully reviewing this list to identify any materials that may not comply with national security laws.	The initiative ensures that all resources provided by the library are safe and appropriate for both students and staff. Subject heads play a vital role in this process, fostering a sense of responsibility as they identify any potentially risky materials in the collection. This effort underscores the library's dedication to adhering to legal and ethical standards, balancing the right to access information with the necessity of national security in education and learning.
	To continue the mechanism and procedures for organizing activities to ensure that activities under the name of the College (including student activities, extra-curricular activities, talks by external guest speakers,	During the tender process for study tours, companies must sign and return the Tender form. Part 3 includes terms regarding the Safeguard National Security clause, which states:	All service providers followed the school's process, and there were no violations. This helps our school ensure that the activities or services provided by external tutors or organizations

Area	Measures	Implementation Situation	Effectiveness and Reflection
	activities organized by alumni or parent- teacher associations, activities by outside instructors, etc.) do not lead to situations that endanger national security	"The school reserves the right to disqualify any company that has engaged, is engaging, or is reasonably believed to have engaged in acts or activities likely to cause or constitute offences endangering national security. Such disqualification is necessary to protect national security, as well as the public interest of Hong Kong, public morals, public order, or public safety."	match the requirements. These measures will continue next year.
		All employed external tutors of the ECA must sign a contract or fill out the Google form that includes the same terms regarding the Safeguard National Security clause.	
		Each service provider must complete a form declaring that their speech or activities will not violate national security laws.	
	To publicly and unequivocally make public statement/ declaration, if any individual/ external organization has formed a group in the name of the school or named the group in such a way that may misleadingly suggest a connection between the group and the school, and the group makes known its political views and stance or even solicits the support of teachers and students or encourages them to express/ support their political views by signature or other forms of activities. Teachers and students are to be dissuaded from joining such activities	The school has committed to periodically reminding teachers and students about necessary precautions regarding their online speech and activities. Regular talks on information literacy are organized in collaboration with the Hong Kong Police Force and other external organizations. These sessions, along with frequent reminders during school assemblies, emphasize the importance of mindful expression on social media and understanding the consequences of actions both inside and outside of school.	The awareness of both teachers and students has been raised regarding the importance of following the rules. Most students now have a heightened understanding of acceptable and unacceptable behavior both within and outside the school. Some students have even taken the initiative to actively remind their classmates to adhere to school rules and abide by the law.
Staff Management	To persist in enforcing the policy mandating applicants to disclose any past criminal convictions or current involvement in legal proceedings or investigations, extending this requirement to include all staff members	Our school is fully committed to enforcing the policy that mandates all applicants to disclose any past criminal convictions or current involvement in legal proceedings or investigations. This requirement extends to all	We have implemented rigorous screening processes to ensure that every staff member meets these disclosure requirements. This helps us maintain a safe and supportive

Area	Measures	Implementation Situation	Effectiveness and Reflection
	hired by the College, such as subject advisors, social workers, educational psychologists, school team coaches, academic and extracurricular instructors, and others	staff members hired by the College, including subject advisors, social workers, school team coaches, instructors, and extracurricular instructors.	environment for our students. We take this responsibility seriously and continuously review our policies to ensure their effectiveness.
	To regularly update staff members during staff meetings on: (i) The College's guidelines and standards concerning national security safeguarding, and (ii) Staff members' duty to abide by the law, fostering a peaceful and orderly school environment. (iii) Staff's responsibility to uphold professional conduct at all times and bear in mind that their words and deeds have a profound impact on students	Reminders and briefings are provided to all staff during the beginning-of-year staff meeting, ensuring everyone is informed about the guidelines and responsibilities. Requirements and guidelines are included in the staff handbook, which is updated annually, serving as a reference for policies related to national security. The school holds a meeting each year to review the status of national security safeguards with the designated personnel.	There have been no reported cases of any staff members breaking the policy on safeguarding national security so far. Staff are also aware of the importance of safeguarding national security in our college.
	To promptly and appropriately address any instances of underperformance or misconduct by staff members through the existing appraisal system	Staff who fail to meet the expected standards in safeguarding national security will have their performance formally recorded. This documentation serves as a means of accountability and helps identify areas for improvement. The process ensures that staff members are aware that their performance in this critical area is being monitored.	As of now, there have been no records of staff underperforming in safeguarding national security in our school, indicating that staff are meeting the expected standards. The monitoring system fosters a culture of awareness and responsibility among staff, reinforcing the importance of safeguarding national security within the school.
	To ensure that all visitors and service providers will not conduct any acts or hold any activities that endanger national security by using the "Application Form for inviting visitors" and the "Declaration form for service providers entering the school premises"	Each service provider must complete a form to state their identity and declare that their speech or activities will not violate national security laws.	All service providers have followed the school's process, demonstrating effective implementation of the measures in place to safeguard national security. The requirement for declarations ensures that any potential

Area	Measures	Implementation Situation	Effectiveness and Reflection
			risks related to external parties are identified and addressed prior to their presence on campus.
Staff Training	To regularly update the resources, bank for both teaching and non-teaching staff so that they could better understand the legislative background, provisions, and significance of the National Security Law, as well as relevant information by the government	The various departments have actively engaged in initiatives to enhance educational quality and compliance with national standards. For example: Chinese Language:	All departments emphasize the importance of ongoing education and resource management to enhance the educational experience and ensure compliance with national standards.
		The Chinese History department has emphasized the critical importance of national security education, national education, and patriotic education during their annual meeting. The subject head utilizes instant messaging to keep all colleagues informed about relevant documents from the Education Bureau. Teachers are encouraged to accurately impart historical knowledge, avoid misleading statements, and cultivate students' sense of national identity and pride. Additionally, there is a focus on monitoring students' ideological dynamics to address and clarify any misconceptions promptly. PSHE:	For example, the PSHE department highlights the initiative to regularly update the resource bank for both teaching and non-teaching staff, which enhances their understanding of the National Security Law. By providing comprehensive information about the law's background and significance, the school fosters an informed community. These regular updates keep staff aware of changes and support their confidence in addressing national security issues, ultimately contributing to a safe learning environment.
		In the PSHE department, there is a strong encouragement for all members to participate in the majority of the Education Bureau's training courses related to National Education specific to their subjects. This initiative aims to ensure that educators are well-equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary for effective teaching. VA:	Similarly, the VA department values the routine of regular reviews and professional learning, which helps meet the evolving needs of students and maintain high standards in visual arts education. This commitment to continuous improvement ensures that both departments effectively support a comprehensive and secure educational framework.

Area	Measures	Implementation Situation	Effectiveness and Reflection
		The Visual Arts (VA) department has committed to consistently reviewing reference materials and teaching content to maintain relevance and currency. They regularly attend seminars and workshops organized by the Education Bureau to stay updated on the latest trends and information in the VA curriculum. This proactive approach enables staff to effectively incorporate new developments into their teaching practices, ensuring a high-quality educational experience for students. Overall, all departments are dedicated to fostering a safe, informed, and supportive learning environment that aligns with national	
	To arrange at least one training session for staff members to improve their comprehension of national security or facilitate their participation in relevant activities	educational objectives. The school has successfully held training sessions for staff. The training content was clear, well-delivered, and highly relevant to the teachers' roles, ensuring that staff members could effectively integrate national security principles into their work.	Regular training has significantly raised staff awareness of national security, equipping them with the knowledge necessary to address relevant issues within their teaching and interactions with students.
	Encourage staff members to enroll in courses or attend seminars to enhance their understanding of national security	Staff are required to meet the teacher training requirements mandated by the Education Bureau (EDB), including those specifically related to national security. Training requirements can be fulfilled within a 3-year cycle, allowing flexibility for staff to engage in relevant professional development.	The school ensures that staff are aware of their obligations to complete necessary training related to national security, fostering a culture of continuous professional development. In the coming year, the school will provide regular reminders to staff regarding their training progress, encouraging timely completion of their training requirements.

Area	Measures	Implementation Situation	Effectiveness and Reflection
Teaching and Learning	To enhance the curriculum content of key learning areas in alignment with the Hong Kong Curriculum Framework of National Security Education provided by the EDB. This aims to aid students in comprehending the nation's history, development, culture, and the significance of national security	Across all departments, there is a strong commitment to implementing national security measures through educational initiatives that foster cultural appreciation and enhance students' sense of identity. These efforts not only comply with national standards but also prepare students to engage thoughtfully with the complexities of their national heritage and responsibilities. For example: The Chinese Language department engages students from Form 1 to Form 5 in inter-	Observations from various departments, highlighting the effectiveness of educational initiatives aimed at fostering a deeper understanding of Chinese culture, national security awareness, and student engagement across the school. For example, The Chinese Language department has successfully engaged students from Form 1 to Form 5 through various initiatives:
		school recitation competitions, fostering an appreciation for Chinese culture and enhancing their understanding of literary works. In Form 1, students participate in	reported a growing interest in learning Chinese, reflecting effective teaching strategies.
		cross-disciplinary activities with the Chinese History department, focusing on enhancing their sense of national identity through a minimum of five activities per year, which	Cultural Appreciation: 94% of students expressed respect for Chinese culture and a willingness to learn more.
		include museum visits and cultural exploration programs. In Form 2, the department collaborates with	Guiding Principles: 96% adopted values like perseverance and responsibility aligned with the school's motto.
		the Science department on a soybean project, integrating national security themes into agricultural development. Teaching materials at all levels are shared on Google Drive to ensure cross-curricular collaboration.	Supportive Environment: 97% of students noted encouragement from teachers to participate in competitions, enhancing their confidence.
		In Form 3, the department works with the social service team to create a record booklet themed "Sense of Responsibility," encouraging volunteerism and self-reflection among students. The senior curriculum includes extended reading of model essays,	Engagement from NCS Students: 79% of Non-Chinese Speaking (NCS) students expressed a desire to learn about Chinese history and culture.

Area	Measures	Implementation Situation	Effectiveness and Reflection
		such as "The Memorial on the Expedition," to help students understand issues related to national security and defense.	Additionally, the Chinese History department's focus on national security and cultural heritage has yielded impressive results:
		The Chinese History department conducts annual reviews of teaching resources to ensure alignment with national security education requirements. In Form 1, topics like the "Great Wall of Qin" and "Dunhuang Caves" explore cultural heritage protection in relation to national security. Form 2 focuses	Enhanced Awareness: Over 94% of junior high students and 70% of senior high students believe that studying Chinese History enhances awareness of national security.
		on crucial themes such as "The Southern Migration of the Song Royal Family" and "The Opium War," analyzing ancient and modern defense crises.	National Pride: 95% of junior form and 100% of senior form students express concern for their country, indicating an effective instillation of pride and responsibility.
		In Form 3, students study historical events like "The Fall of Hong Kong" and the "Japanese Occupation," reflecting on the lessons of territorial loss and national security awareness. The department employs	The CSD/CES department employs interactive learning strategies that significantly enhance student engagement:
		thematic worksheets to guide students in understanding the connections between culture, national defense, and security, thereby reinforcing the relevance of history in	Experiential Learning: Field trips to historical sites allow students to connect personally with the material.
		contemporary contexts. The CSD/CES department integrates interactive and experiential learning activities, including visits to significant historical sites	Critical Thinking: Hands-on approaches promote critical thinking and active participation, enriching the educational experience.
		such as Tai Kwun and Sam Tung Uk Museum, as well as study tours to Mainland	Visual Arts Department
		China and Macau. These activities focus on key historical events and cultural practices, enhancing students' engagement with the	The VA department demonstrates notable success in promoting creativity and cultural understanding:

Area	Measures	Implementation Situation	Effectiveness and Reflection
		curriculum and fostering a personal connection to national security issues. The Visual Arts (VA) department incorporates works by Chinese artists into the curriculum, promoting cultural understanding. Students in S2 and S5 design Lunar New Year cards to explore traditional Chinese festivals, while S3 students engage in perspective drawing and learn about endangered Chinese animals through painting.	High-Quality Work: Many students completed projects to a high standard, with selected works displayed during Open Days. Competition Achievements: Participation in competitions, such as the Chinese Hanfu Design Competition, resulted in impressive outcomes, showcasing students' creativity and cultural engagement. Observations from these departments illustrate a cohesive and effective approach to education across the school. Initiatives successfully foster student interest, cultural appreciation, and national pride. High levels of engagement and positive feedback indicate effective implementation of strategies that promote understanding of Chinese culture and national security. Continued focus on these areas will further enhance educational experiences and cultivate informed, responsible citizens.
	To strengthen the monitoring mechanism for regular review of learning and teaching resources (including the content and quality of printed and electronic library collections, printed and electronic textbooks of school-based design/ procured from outsider(s)/ ordered for students, teaching materials, online reading platforms, other electronic and online learning resources and test and examination papers, etc.) in various key	All departments and teams regularly review and update relevant resources to ensure content remains current and educationally effective. For example, Chinese Language Each year, we review and update the list of widely read books and the high school curriculum assessment materials, allowing students to understand national development	The commitment to regularly reviewing resources ensures they meet quality standards and align with educational goals, providing students with the best possible learning experience. Adaptability: By making the review process routine, departments can adapt to changes in educational needs or

Area	Measures	Implementation Situation	Effectiveness and Reflection
	learning areas/ subjects and interdisciplinary teams	and cultivate informed and responsible character. After each unit, we hold PIE-P review meetings to examine and follow up on the latest developments in teaching and learning	goals, maintaining relevance and effectiveness in teaching materials.
		97% of students reported that teachers emphasize the importance of character development and proper values.	
		81% of students expressed enjoyment in reading the recommended texts provided by their teachers.	
		CSD/CES The department members continuously review learning resources, ensuring that they meet quality standards and align with the curriculum goals.	
		VA	
		Collaborate with the library annually to regularly review and update relevant resources.	
	To keep records of teaching and learning materials pertaining to national security education for inspection purposes	Each department has adopted similar practices to ensure that records of teaching and learning materials related to national security are accurately maintained and readily available for inspection:	The consistent documentation across all departments ensures that materials related to national security education are organized and accessible for review.
		Chinese Language	
		All levels of teaching materials and meeting records are stored in the Chinese Language department's folder for colleagues to reference.	
		CSD/CES The department members continuously review materials every year.	

Area	Measures	Implementation Situation	Effectiveness and Reflection
		VA All teaching materials and meeting records are stored in the Visual Arts department folder for staff reference.	
	To remind teachers at staff meetings and department meetings that promoting personal political views or twisted values to students, making seditious remarks, incorporating into teaching/ learning materials that are biased / unsubstantiated / inconsistent with the aims and goals of the curriculum, or directly or indirectly instigating or tacitly supporting students to participate in political activities outside schools, etc. are not allowed	The school has consistently adhered to the requirement of reminding teachers during staff meetings about the importance of maintaining neutrality and objectivity in their teaching practices. Explicit communication is made regarding the prohibition of promoting personal political views, making seditious remarks, and using biased materials in the classroom.	The school's ongoing commitment to these principles helps maintain a focus on educational integrity and supports the overall objectives of the curriculum.
	To organize subject related and diversified life-wide learning activities (at least six) on national education at the inter-school, territory-wide or national levels for students to deepen their understanding of the country's development and national security and to enhance their sense of national identity	The school's National Education Group actively promotes national education and national security education through a variety of on-campus and off-campus activities, cultivating students' sense of patriotism, historical awareness, and understanding of national security. On-Campus Activities Throughout the year, the school holds weekly morning assemblies that include flag-raising ceremonies and "Speeches under the National Flag," reinforcing students' sense of belonging to the nation. For S1-S3 students, there are activities such as the "Historical Figure Speech" and the "Chinese History Drama and Speech Competition", which vividly deepen students' understanding of	The variety of activities effectively cultivates students' sense of patriotism, historical awareness, and understanding of national security. Over 90% of students believe that participating in off-campus activities organized by the National Education Group and the Chinese History department has deepened their understanding of the motherland.

Area	Measures	Implementation Situation	Effectiveness and Reflection
		Chinese historical culture. Additionally, the school has established a flag-raising team, training Form 2 and Form 3 students as flag bearers to enhance their national identity.	
		Cultural Experiences and Investigations	
		Students visited the Palace Museum's exhibition "When the Forbidden City Meets Versailles," exploring Sino-French cultural exchanges. The "Yinxu Oracle Bone Inscriptions Creative Exhibition" allowed students to learn about the origins and development of Chinese characters. Organized trips to Nanjing and Luoyang provided firsthand experiences of national historical and cultural sites, fostering national pride.	
		Off-Campus and Citywide Activities	
		Inter-School Competitions: Participation in events such as the "Heart for the Nation Inter-School National Education Activity – National History Real-Scene Puzzle Competition" and the Chinese Intangible Cultural Heritage Expoenhanced awareness of national issues.	
		Quizzes and Competitions: Students participated in the "Junior Secondary Chinese History Quiz" organized by the Hong Kong Education Bureau and the "National Knowledge Competition," boosting their understanding of national conditions.	
		Creative Competitions: Participation in the "Yuzhou-Hong Kong Yinxu Oracle Bone Cultural and Creative Design Competition" and the "National Security and Youth Development Forum" combined cultural	

Area	Measures	Implementation Situation	Effectiveness and Reflection
		creativity with national security education, fostering social responsibility.	
	To arrange interflow activities of different levels with the sister schools in the Mainland	At least 100 students and 8 teachers are arranged to participate in exchange activities with sister schools every year.	Over 100 students participated in basketball exchange activities and calligraphy exchanges with sister schools in Huiyang and Shaoguan. Furthermore, over 8 teachers visited and engaged in exchanges at the sister school in Shaoguan. These activities were excellent for broadening the horizons and enhancing the learning experiences of both teachers and students.
	To display the national flag on each school day and to organize national flag hoisting ceremonies weekly	The national flag is raised daily at the school, reinforcing a sense of national pride and identity among students and staff. A solemn flag-raising ceremony is conducted during the weekly school assembly, providing a formal occasion to honor the national flag.	These activities remind students of national values and encourage appreciation for their cultural heritage.
		Additional flag-raising ceremonies are organized during important school events, such as the Opening ceremony and Graduation Ceremony further emphasizing the significance of national identity.	
Student Guidance, Discipline and Support	To explain clearly to students the educational principles behind school rules and regulations and the school's expectations of their behaviors so as to help them develop a sense of responsibility, commitment and lawabidingness and to motivate them to fulfill their obligations as a school member, and a national and Hong Kong resident in a	At the beginning of each academic year, students are reminded of the school's expectations for discipline. Common mistakes from the previous year are highlighted, along with suggestions for improvement in self-discipline. During summer orientation days for incoming S1 students, a detailed presentation is provided on school rules and expectations. This allows	The collaboration between teachers and external government organizations promotes adherence to rules. This unified message helps students recognize their moral obligations as both good students and responsible citizens.

Area	Measures	Implementation Situation	Effectiveness and Reflection
	positive, law-abiding, public welfare- maintaining and responsible manner	students to solidify their understanding early on.	
		Beyond school behavior, students are guided to consider the feelings of others in societal interactions. For instance, they are reminded to keep their voices down when chatting on public transportation and while dining out.	
	To prompt staff members to inspect and address any posters, papers, or objects that pose a threat to national security in accordance with the College's guidelines for teachers during campus patrol	During staff preparation meetings and new teacher induction programs, colleagues are briefed on guidelines for handling a variety of duties. They are specifically instructed to be aware of and report any inappropriate, offensive, or political slogans or stickers posted on campus. The school will immediately remove any such items and conduct a thorough investigation, followed by providing appropriate education for the entire school community.	With clear instructions and reminders, teachers found it easier to carry out their duties and were more aware of the specific issues they should be vigilant about.
	To remind staff to be vigilant against actions that jeopardize national security while organizing activities	The school has diligently adhered to the requirement to remind staff about the importance of vigilance regarding national security during the planning and execution of activities. During staff meetings and training sessions, we consistently emphasize the need for awareness and caution in all planned events. Clear guidelines are provided in the staff handbook to ensure that all initiatives align with national security protocols, promoting a safe environment for students and the community.	The school remains committed to prioritizing national security in all activities, ensuring that staff are well-informed and prepared to uphold safety standards.
	To improve students' information literacy and aid in the development of their skills in searching for, evaluating, and utilizing information, including content from social media platforms and the Internet	The school's curriculum proactively integrates information literacy skills across multiple academic disciplines. Core subjects such as CES, CSD and Economics, feature dedicated learning topics designed to teach students	Colleagues have reported that lessons on digital literacy are relevant and educational for students. Over 94% of students expressed positive opinions about the PDP program, indicating its

Area	Measures	Implementation Situation	Effectiveness and Reflection
Alea	weasures	sophisticated evaluation and critical judgment. For instance, the Economics curriculum teaches students to quantitatively assess statistical claims, interpret data visualizations, and judge the reliability of financial information. This interdisciplinary approach ensures students do not learn these skills in isolation, but rather develop a robust and transferable competency in discerning reliable information in an increasingly complex digital world. The school employs a proactive strategy to enhance students' information literacy and digital citizenship by regularly inviting external experts, such as representatives from the Hong Kong Police Force. These sessions provide real-world context on online responsibility. Talks include real-world case studies and Q&A sessions, helping students understand the serious legal and social consequences of online actions like cyberbullying, doxxing, and spreading misinformation. Frequent reminders in school assemblies reinforce key lessons about online behavior. This repetition is crucial for embedding the message that actions "both inside and outside of school" have consequences, thus helping students recognize the interconnectedness of their online and offline lives. This year, new topics concerning digital literacy were added to the PDP program for S3 and S5 students, focusing on correct etiquette in using social media and AI tools.	effectiveness in enhancing their understanding of information literacy. This integrated strategy equips students with the necessary knowledge and skills to navigate the digital world responsibly and ethically.

Area	Measures	Implementation Situation	Effectiveness and Reflection
	To continue adopt the "Guidance cum Discipline approach" to educate students to accord priority to personal safety at all times and, with due regard to the well-being of themselves and the care of their family members, refrain from participating in risky or illegal activities and to help students who have violated school regulations in relation to national security. Students with serious misbehaviors are to be referred by the Discipline Team to the Guidance and Counseling Team for further counseling action	When students violate serious school rules and receive a demerit or a major demerit, they will be referred to the G&C Team. These students will be closely monitored to track their progress. Additionally, the corresponding Discipline Team form coordinator and the Head of Discipline will meet with the student's parents to create a systematic plan to help improve the student's behavior. Social workers will join in to advise when necessary.	This approach is not limited to serious misconduct; even students with minor violations are offered similar support measures, such as workshops on interpersonal skills led by social workers. Many students have not repeated their past mistakes, indicating the effectiveness of the support and monitoring provided. Some students continue to be followed up by School Social Workers, ensuring ongoing assistance. The collaborative efforts between the Discipline Team, G&C Team, and parents have created a robust support system that addresses both discipline and guidance.
Home-school Cooperation	To maintain close communication with parents and enhance home-school cooperation by soliciting parents' support, understanding and collaboration in relation to national security education	An annual event on national security education (e.g., a talk or workshop) is held to raise parents' awareness.	The PTA held two workshops in May on the topic of traditional cultural snacks, to help parents learn more about Chinese culture. The PTA has agreed to hold similar programs again in the coming year.

Area	Measures	Implementation Situation	Effectiveness and Reflection
	To organize home-school cooperation and parent education activities on topics such as: (i) guiding and nurturing their child with love and care; (ii) promoting their child's effective learning; (iii) cultivating proper values and healthy lifestyles (including the correct use of social media and avoidance of exposure to improper online information); and (iii) helping their child become good nationals and citizens who observe rules and laws	Through parents' evenings and other activities, including three parent workshops on positive communication organized by the school counselor and external organizations, relevant information is effectively disseminated while encouraging parental participation. Additionally, class teachers maintain regular contact with parents to support students in developing correct values.	S1-S6 Parents' Day, along with parent workshops led by social workers or external organizations and parents' evenings, were held to share important information. Most parents attended these activities and expressed agreement with the school's direction.