

Tips *for* Purchasing Textbooks

When is the most suitable time to buy textbooks?

Upon receiving the school textbook list, parents should buy the textbooks at the earliest.

Points to note on using second-hand textbooks

How to get the “Corrigenda”?
How to buy “Learning materials accompanying the textbooks”?

Differences among “Revised”, “Reprinted” & “Reprinted with Minor Amendments” textbooks

Textbook Committee Secretariat, Education Bureau

Websites and Contact Information

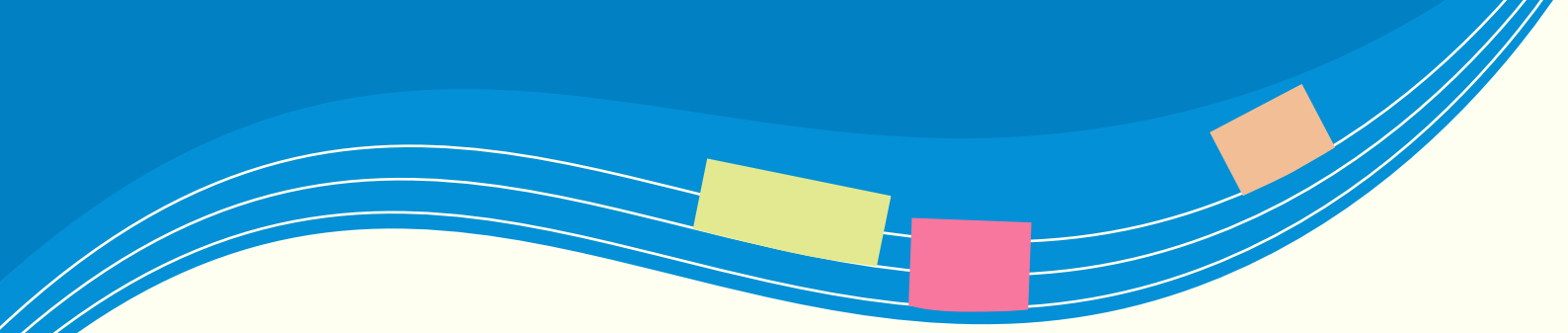
- ✓ Useful Websites
- ✓ Contact Information of Publishers/Developers
- ✓ Textbook Committee Secretariat of the Education Bureau

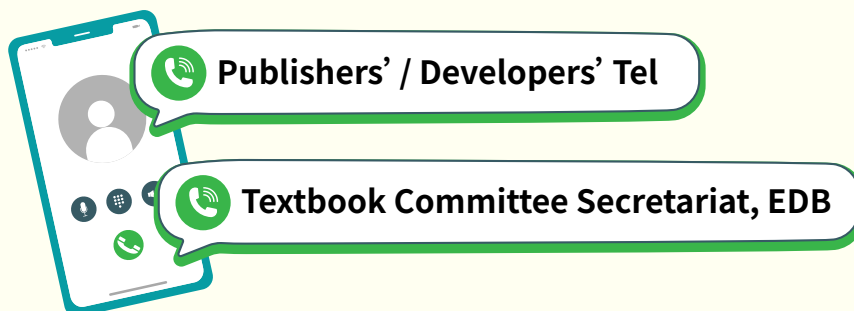
1. When is the most suitable time to buy textbooks?

- ✧ Upon receiving the textbook list for the new school year, parents / students are advised to **purchase textbooks as early as possible**. Generally speaking, the textbook supplies are relatively plentiful at retail bookstores in July.
- ✧ To save parents the hassle of purchasing textbooks, the Education Bureau (EDB) suggests parents checking the “**Textbook Information**” webpage beforehand. This webpage provides the “**Information on the Supply of Textbooks and their Accompanying Learning Materials for the New School Year**”, with the latest updates from textbook publishers regarding the supply of textbooks and learning materials as well as the expected publication dates. The EDB will continuously update the relevant information from late July to September for parents’ reference.

“Textbook Information” www.edb.gov.hk/textbook 

- ✧ To cater for students’ learning needs, individual schools may develop “school teaching materials” on their own or in cooperation with publishers. Parents / Students are advised to **check if they need to place an order for this kind of teaching materials through their schools**.

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- ✦ If individual textbooks are out of stock, some textbook retailers may provide **reservation service** (full payment in advance may be required). The EDB has urged all publishers to contact the schools concerned if they cannot supply sufficient copies before the new school year starts, and take remedial actions (e.g. providing part of the textbook content free of charge), so as to avoid affecting student learning. In case parents are not able to purchase all required textbooks before the new school year commences, they can directly approach the publishers concerned or the textbook retailers assisting the printing of the school textbook list. Contact information of publishers has been uploaded to the EDB's webpage. Please refer to Part 4 of this pamphlet.



2. Points to note on using second-hand textbooks

- The school textbook list specifies the applicable editions of textbooks, enabling students to purchase suitable second-hand textbooks (detailed information is also available on the EDB's **Recommended Textbook List (RTL)**). For example:

*English Language (2018 1st Edition, 2020 Reprinted)
Book 1*

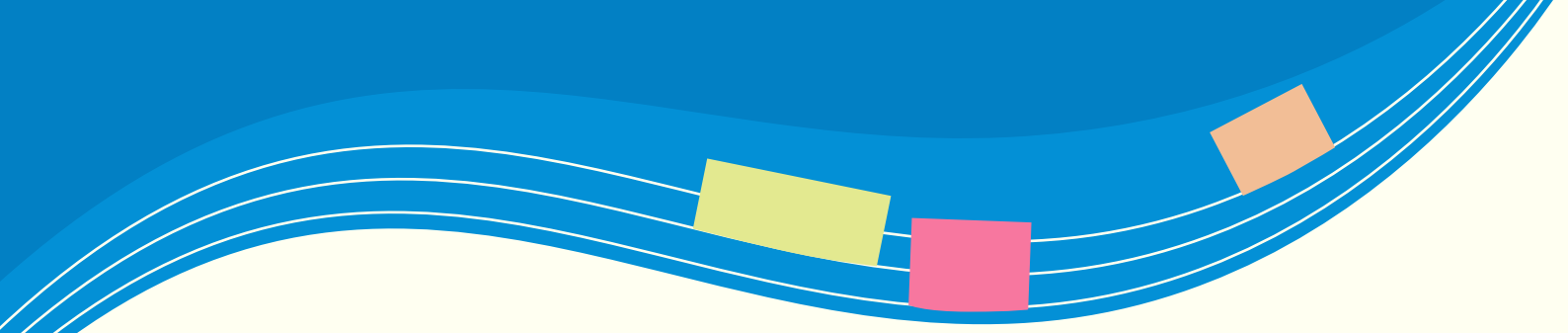
*Primary Mathematics (2019 2nd Edition, 2023 Reprinted
Book 2 with minor amendments)*

- The year of its previous edition and the year of reprint are also clearly marked on the textbooks, and “Reprinted with minor amendments” (if applicable) is marked. For example:

2020 1st Edition

2023 Reprinted with minor amendments

- In the examples above, the English Language textbook and the Mathematics textbook have been “Reprinted” and “Reprinted with minor amendments” after 2018 and 2019 respectively but have not been “revised”. Their **appearance** (including the design of the front and back covers, the title, the size of paper and the order of pages) **remains unchanged**. The **amendments on both textbooks mainly involve corrections of the typographical errors or minor amendments to the content**. Students can rest assured to use the second-hand textbooks.

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- Students who use second-hand textbooks of the previous edition can download the “**Corrigenda**” or amendment tables for **free** via their school or the publisher’s websites, illustrating the updated content. Relevant links are available on the EDB’s webpage of **RTL / Latest Amendment Information for Recommended Textbooks**. In addition, starting from January 2026, when printing new copies or reprinting textbooks that are already listed on the RTL, publishers are required to print the **QR code of the corresponding “Corrigenda”** on the title page, allowing students and teachers to instantly access to the relevant changes or revisions.
 - If students need to buy the “learning materials accompanying the textbooks”, such as worksheets, workbooks, accounts for e-learning resources, etc., they can place an order through their schools, or contact the publishers / textbook retailers for direct purchase. Contact information of publishers has been uploaded to the EDB’s webpage. Please refer to Part 4 of this pamphlet.



3. Differences among “Revised”, “Reprinted” and “Reprinted with minor amendments” textbooks

★ **“Revised edition”** textbooks:

To alleviate the financial burden of parents, publishers have to observe the **“five-year-rule of no revision”** for textbooks. When publishers submit applications for textbook revision, they must submit the proposed changes and their justifications to the EDB for review. The “Revised edition” textbooks can only be published upon approval that their content reflects significant amendments and improvements compared to the previous edition. Parents and students should purchase textbooks according to the applicable edition(s) as shown on the textbook list.

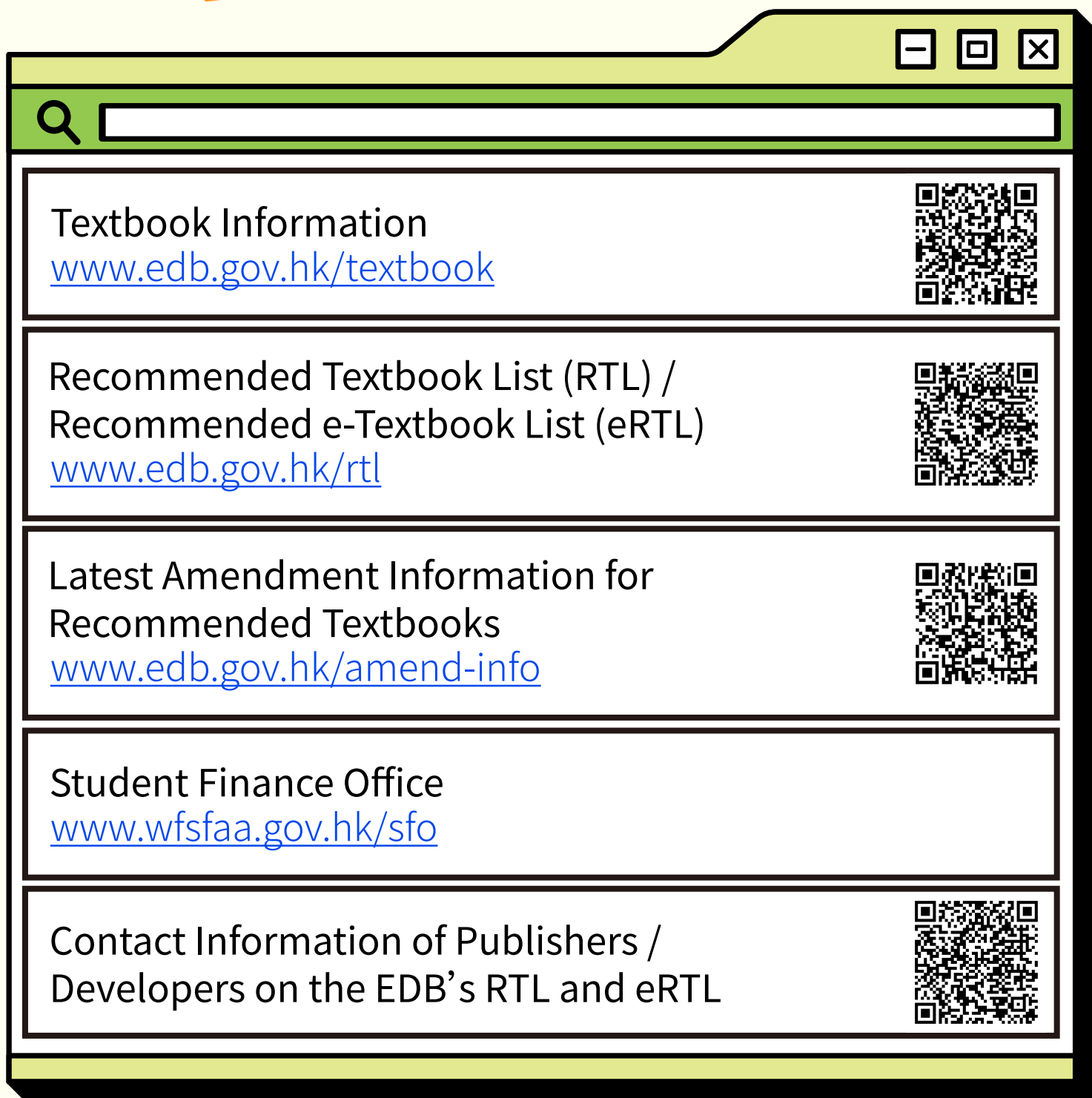
★ **“Reprinted with minor amendments”** textbooks:

They are neither “New edition” nor “Revised edition” textbooks, as they involve a small amount of information updates only. In general, there is not any changes in the design of the textbooks’ front and back covers, title, page size and page order. Therefore, **students can still use the second-hand textbooks of the previous edition(s).**





★ **“Reprinted”** textbooks:

The reprinted version mainly involves corrections of typographical errors, and they are not required to undergo the textbook review procedures. Therefore, **students can still use the second-hand textbooks of the previous edition(s).**

4. Websites and Contact Information



The image shows a stylized web browser window with a search bar and five content cards. Each card contains text, a URL, and a QR code.

Textbook Information www.edb.gov.hk/textbook	
Recommended Textbook List (RTL) / Recommended e-Textbook List (eRTL) www.edb.gov.hk/rtl	
Latest Amendment Information for Recommended Textbooks www.edb.gov.hk/amend-info	
Student Finance Office www.wfsfaa.gov.hk/sfo	
Contact Information of Publishers / Developers on the EDB's RTL and eRTL	



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