

Innovation Network for STEAM Mature, AI Ready Talents (IN-SMART)
Informed Consent Letter: Student (Primary)

September 1, 2026

Dear Student,

The Centre for Information Technology in Education, the University of Hong Kong (CITE) has been funded by the Quality Education Fund to conduct the project “Innovation Network for STEAM Mature, AI Ready Talents (IN-SMART)”. We would like to invite you and your school to participate in the project and associated data collection activities. The project is a one-year project from 1/9/2026 to 31/8/2027. The project involves integrating AI learning elements and Self-Directed Learning (SDL) in STEAM-related subjects in the upper primary (P4-P6) and lower secondary (S1-S3) levels.

This project aims to support schools in adopting an integrated SDL approach to STEAM education by establishing a scalable school network to facilitate project teachers to integrate AI learning elements into STEAM teaching and learning. It will provide support to teachers for developing their capacity in self-directed STEAM learning design, particularly in integrating AI learning elements into STEAM curriculum innovations to facilitate students to integrate and apply knowledge and skills across the disciplines relating to STEAM education, to exercise their self-direction in investigation or innovation, promote their digital and AI literacy, as well as nurture their entrepreneurial spirit. The project will foster networks for integrating AI learning elements and SDL in STEAM education to support sustainable school development.

We have obtained written consent from your parent/guardian earlier to let you join this project. However, your decision is also very important to us. If you agree to join this project, you will be invited to participate in one or all of the following activities:

- (1) Complete a pre-project and post-project online student questionnaire about SDL-STEAM (~20 minutes each) and assessments of digital literacy (~40 minutes each) and AI literacy (~35 minutes each). The surveys and assessments will be conducted at the beginning and end of the school year;
- (2) To be photographed and videotaped when the participating teacher arranges for the lesson to be observed by other teachers and project team members, and for the photos and videos taken to be used for research or for teacher professional development purposes;
- (3) When invited, participate in a focus group student interview (~20 minutes, with audio recording) after a lesson observation to give their opinions on the learning activities and experience;
- (4) When requested, provide research team members with samples of work done and related products during the learning activities designed by the teacher; and allow us to display on the project website for the dissemination of good practices from this project and for teacher professional development. The project team will consult teachers from the respective schools before publishing the materials; and

- (5) When invited, to give presentations to showcase learning related to the project during experience sharing activities involving students from different project schools in public events (award presentations and yearly disseminations to schools outside of the project), which may be photographed and video recorded. Also, allow us to display on the project website for the dissemination of good practices from this project and for teacher professional development. The project team will consult teachers from the respective schools before publishing the materials.

The data collected will be used solely for the purpose of academic research and teacher professional development and to achieve the above project goals. Data collected will be archived after all personal identifiers are removed. All electronic data collected will be stored in a secure, password-protected server. All anonymized data will be kept forever. The identifier matching file will be encrypted and kept separately for five years after the project end date. Only authorized personnel would have the password to access the file. You have the right to review the records of data you contributed and to request erasure of parts or the whole of those records if desired. If you do not agree to be video recorded, we will arrange for you to be outside the camera view or for your image to be blurred.

Your participation is voluntary. This means that you can choose to stop at any time without negative consequences. If you have any questions about this research, please feel free to contact Dr Cong Liu at 3917-5807. If you have questions about your rights as a research participant, please contact the Human Research Ethics Committee, HKU at 3917-5267 (HREC ref. No: EA250499).

Please return the reply slip to the class teacher before 23/09/2026.

Thank you very much for your attention.

Yours faithfully,



Professor Nancy Law
Chair of Learning Sciences and Technology, Faculty of Education
Director, Centre for Information Technology in Education
University of Hong Kong

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Reply Slip

I **agree/ do not agree*** to participate in the project and data collection activities and for the data to be used for academic research and/or teacher professional development purposes:

- (1) Complete a pre-project and post-project online student questionnaire about SDL-STEAM (~20 minutes each) and assessments of digital literacy (~40 minutes each) and AI literacy (~35 minutes each). The surveys and assessments will be conducted at the beginning and end of the school year;
- (2) To be photographed and videotaped when the participating teacher arranges for the lesson to be observed by other teachers and project team members, and for the photos and videos taken to be used for research or for teacher professional development purposes;
- (3) When invited, participate in a focus group student interview (~20 minutes, with audio recording) after a lesson observation to give their opinions on the learning activities and experience;
- (4) When requested, provide research team members with samples of work done and related products during the learning activities designed by the teacher; and allow the research team to display on the project website for the dissemination of good practices from this project and for teacher professional development. The project team will consult teachers from the respective schools before publishing the materials; and
- (5) When invited, to give presentations to showcase learning related to the project during experience sharing activities involving students from different project schools in public events (award presentations and yearly disseminations to schools outside of the project), which may be photographed and video recorded. Also, allow the research team to display on the project website for the dissemination of good practices from this project and for teacher professional development. The project team will consult teachers from the respective schools before publishing the materials.

School name : _____

Student name : _____

Class and Class No: _____

Student's Signature: _____

*Please delete where inappropriate.

Please return the reply slip to the class teacher by 23/09/2026. Thank you very much for your attention.