

Basic Law should be subject say teachers

By Ella Lee

STUDENTS and teachers want a school curriculum that concentrates more on China and the Basic Law with the aim of a smooth transition in 1997, a survey has found.

The Hong Kong Federation of Education Workers early last month polled 1,710 secondary school teachers and students.

About 70 per cent of the teachers and 50 per cent of the students said they were worried about the impact the 1997 transition would have on the local education system.

Chairman of the federation Yeung Yiu-chung said: "Teachers were worried whether conditions would get worse after 1997. They also wanted to know how political

ideology would affect the curriculum.

"They also said the Basic Law should be regarded as a compulsory subject in secondary schools."

The survey also revealed that 70 per cent of teachers wanted the colonial-style curriculum to be axed.

Yeung said students were more passive in this area as

they were afraid changes in the curriculum would affect their performance in exams.

Most of the respondents wanted the existing primary, secondary and tertiary education systems to remain in place after 1997.

Almost all respondents said more contact was needed between local and mainland educators.

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