

**OPENING ADDRESS**  
**YB WONG KAH WOH**  
**DEPUTY MINISTER OF EDUCATION, MALAYSIA**

***“INNOVATING EDUCATION FOR THE FUTURE”***

**2024 NATIONAL EDUCATION & LEARNING SUMMIT**  
**23 APRIL 2024**  
**WORLD TRADE CENTRE KUALA LUMPUR**

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President, National Association of Private Educational Institutions (NAPEI)

Speakers and Role-Players, Members of the Media,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

**INTRODUCTION**

Good Morning and Salam Malaysia Madani,

1. It is my privilege to speak with you today at the 2024 National Education & Learning Summit.
2. As we gather under the theme “Innovating Education for the Future,” we are joined by a shared commitment to not just witness the evolution of education, but to lead it, particularly from our vibrant, diverse Malaysian perspective.
3. I would like to thank the organiser KSI as well as the collaborators MAPCU and NAPEI for inviting me to speak on this important and timely topic.

## **PAVING THE WAY TO 2027 SCHOOL EXCELLENCE**

4. Allow me to share about the Ministry of Education Malaysia's policy direction, starting with the transformative journey towards the 2027 School Curriculum.
5. This new curriculum is built around seven pivotal domains: personal development, communication, responsibility, digital fluency, diverse literacy, thinking skills, and lifelong learning.
6. Each domain is crafted to nurture a well-rounded individual who is ready not only to tackle life's challenges but to excel in them.
7. From Preschool to the upper forms, our curriculum strategy is tailored to grow with our students.
8. Starting in preschool, we focus on nurturing confident communication and problem-solving skills through interactive play.
9. As they progress into primary school, divided into three distinct levels, our students will delve deeper.
10. In the earliest years, the emphasis is on mastering literacy and numeracy—fundamental skills that form the bedrock of all future learning.
11. As our children move to Primary Level II, they'll begin applying what they've learned to solve real-world problems, engaging with elements of TVET like life skills and digital technologies earlier in their education. By the time they reach Primary Level III, they'll focus on honing their analytical skills and generating innovative ideas, setting them up perfectly to transition into secondary education.

12. Secondary school students will explore a wide range of knowledge areas, identifying their passions and potentials.
13. The curriculum is designed to be both broad and deep, allowing for exploration and specialisation, particularly in Forms 4 and 5, where the focus shifts towards preparing them for their future careers through more targeted learning and apprenticeship opportunities.
14. A major shift in our approach is the classroom-based assessment, which moves away from traditional examinations to a more holistic view of a student's capabilities. This assessment style will help us better understand each student's strengths and how we can better support their learning journey.
15. Implementation will be phased, starting with our youngest school-goers in Year 1 and Form 1 in 2027, ensuring that every step is taken thoughtfully and that feedback from all stakeholders is considered.
16. This is a community effort; it requires the input and support from all of us—educators, parents, policymakers, and the students themselves.

## **INNOVATING FOR THE FUTURE**

Ladies and gentlemen,

17. As we continue our discussion on the future of education in Malaysia, I am pleased to share with you the advancements we have made under the National Digital Education Policy, launched in November 2023.
18. This pivotal initiative underscores our commitment to integrating digital education across our school systems to empower our students in key areas such as innovation, scientific data analysis, problem-solving, and effective communication.
19. The National Digital Education Policy is built around six strategic cores that are crucial for the digital empowerment of our educational ecosystem.
20. These cores are Digital Proficient Students, Competent Digital Educators, Visionary Digital Leadership Culture, Empowerment of Digital Information Infrastructure, Quality Digital Content, and Committed Strategic Partnerships.

21. To achieve these ambitious goals, the policy outlines actionable plans spread across short-term, medium-term, and long-term phases.
22. To bridge the digital divide between urban and rural areas, we have elevated 367 Teachers' Activity Centres and 16 Education Technology and Resources Sectors throughout Malaysia to Centres of Excellence for digital education.
23. This enhancement ensures that digital learning tools and methods reach every corner of our nation, providing equitable access to all students.
24. Recognising the importance of teacher readiness in this digital shift, our ministry has initiated extensive training and professional development.
25. As of October last year, we have screened the digital competency levels of 301,844 teachers, with results showing that while the majority are at an intermediate level, there is ongoing progress and commitment to elevating their skills to higher standards.
26. Our policy also supports principals and school administrators by providing resources to foster a visionary digital leadership culture. This initiative is about more than just understanding technology—it's about integrating it effectively within the educational frameworks to guide our schools towards a digitally advanced future.
27. We have launched the Digital Educational Learning Initiative Malaysia (DELIMa) platform, which has become a central hub for digital learning resources.
28. DELIMa supports over 5.3 million users, providing interactive and engaging educational content that is easily accessible and highly beneficial for the continuous development of both students and educators.
29. The National Digital Education Policy exemplifies our commitment to advancing digital literacy across Malaysia.
30. By enhancing digital infrastructure and promoting ongoing professional development and collaboration among educators, we are ensuring that digital literacy is an essential skill for all Malaysian students and teachers.

31. Together, these efforts symbolise a robust stride towards an inclusive and progressive educational landscape, ensuring that Malaysia remains at the forefront of global educational innovation and excellence.

## **CALL TO ACTION**

Ladies and gentlemen,

32. There is a popular Chinese saying, “ It takes ten years to grow a tree, but a hundred years to nurture a person.”

33. From teachers and educators to educational institutions, all of you play an important role in guiding and nurturing our young ones.

34. I would like to invite each of you, from educators to industry leaders and community members, to join us in this transformative journey to advance educational excellence in Malaysia.

35. Together, we can harness the power of digital innovation and collaborative effort to ensure that our students not only succeed but excel in the evolving global landscape.