

Dear Editor,

I am writing to express my opinion on the solid waste produced by schools in Hong Kong. I am aware that most schools in Hong Kong produce a lot of solid waste, such as plastic water bottles, polystyrene lunchboxes and cutlery, flyers, and posters. All of the waste is created in large quantities in schools, causing a huge environmental problem. Therefore, as a concerned citizen and student, I would like to express my opinion on these issues.

I find it unbelievable that students would rather buy bottled water from the tuck shop instead of bringing their own water bottles, which causes a huge amount of plastic waste. I believe that there are many ways to solve this problem. Schools can encourage students to bring their own water bottles and set up water dispensers for them to refill their bottles, which would reduce their purchase of bottled water.

In addition, I strongly urge school canteens to change the use of polystyrene lunchboxes and cutlery into recyclable materials, such as lunchboxes made of paper and cutlery made of wood. It is not environmentally friendly to use polystyrene lunchboxes and cutlery, especially when providing meals for hundreds of students, as it will result in producing a huge amount of waste. Therefore, schools and the government should promote the benefits of bringing one's own lunchboxes and support students to bring their own lunch boxes and cutlery.

Flyers and posters are also commonly produced in schools to promote campaigns, and a lot of paper is used to make them, causing unnecessary waste. Perhaps schools should change the way they promote activities for the sake of the environment. Schools could make announcements in the morning, spread the message by word of mouth, and upload electronic notices on the school's website. As for large posters, electronic screens can also be used to save the trouble of printing all these materials.

I sincerely hope that all schools and the government can pay attention to campus environmental issues, such as the examples cited above, and that students' campus life can become more environmentally friendly.

Yours faithfully,

Alice Juk