

Should students be required to do community services before graduation?

A survey conducted among F.2 secondary school students in Hong Kong reveals that less than a quarter of them have participated in community services or voluntary work. While some believe that students may not be able to squeeze time out of their hectic schedule to join any voluntary services, I would like to argue that students will benefit from being volunteers as helping others is a great source of happiness.

First and foremost, participating in community services or voluntary work is one of the best ways to help the people in need. Rarely do we have the chance to meet the underprivileged face-to-face in our daily life, but we can offer a helping hand to them by joining some volunteer work. For example, by selling flags, we can collect some money to be donated to them. Visiting the home for the elderly is another way to help people who need help. Most senior citizens in the elderly home may feel lonely as their family members seldom visit them. Visiting them regularly, the student volunteers and the elderly can enjoy some good time together.

Another reason why students should join community services is that helping others will make them happy. No one will deny that helping others is the foundation of a happy life. When you see the smile of the one you just helped, you will feel satisfied. When we offer help to a person in need, facing the difficulty together with him, his problem will be halved but the shared happiness will double.

The last reason is that participating in community services or voluntary work, students can meet different people. Volunteering can help you meet different kinds of people and make new friends, expanding your social circle.

To summarize, participating in community services or voluntary work, students can help the people in need, live a happier life and meet different people, broadening our horizons.