

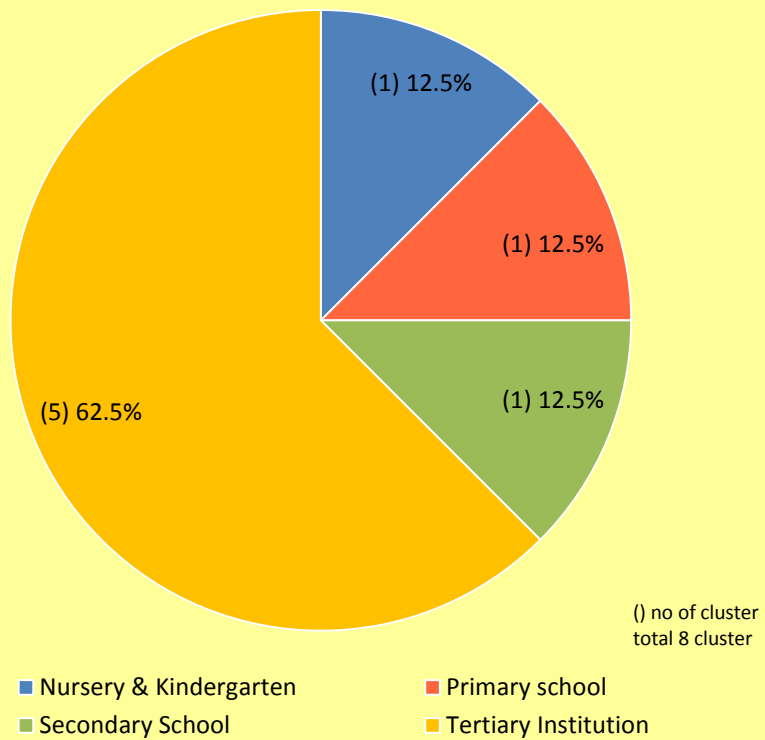
## Tuberculosis in the school setting in Hong Kong from Jan to June 2018

From Jan 2018 to Jun 2018, the Department of Health (DH) received notification of 2176 (provisional figure) tuberculosis (TB) cases, of which 131 (6%) were aged 3 to 24 years (usual school age). The corresponding proportion in 2017 was 6.6%.

According to the data as of 30 Nov this year, there were a total of 8 clusters of TB cases in the school setting from Jan to June 2018. Five (62.5%) of the clusters were from tertiary institutions and 1 (12.5%) was from kindergarten, primary and secondary schools respectively. The cluster size ranged from 2 to 6 cases, with a median of three cases. Genotyping among seven clusters with results available so far suggested that the cases within only one cluster were bacteriologically linked, while the genotyping result of the remaining one cluster is pending. Details of the clusters by type of school from Jan to Jun 2018 are shown in Figure 1.

DH will continue to promote awareness of TB and its prevention in schools, the general community as well as the health care sector so as to facilitate early diagnosis to allow effective control of this airborne infectious disease at its very source.

**Figure 1. No. of TB cluster in school setting in Jan to June 2018 by type of school**



Data as of Nov 30, 2018