

Seminar on Knowledge of Special School

Date: 12/4/2016

Time: 12:30-1:30 pm

The contextual analysis and support for SEN
in Hong Kong Special Schools

Prof. Sin Kuen-fung

Objectives

- To understand the role of special schools for different categories of disabilities.
- To review the mission and vision of special school provisions in Hong Kong
- To analyze the contextual practices, the curriculum development and pedagogical approach

Concepts of special education

Humanitarian

The right to receive education

Education for all

Social needs

Reduce family and social burden

Changes in attitude :

from charity to education

Laws in special education

- ✓ Free and compulsory education
- ✓ Disability Discrimination Ordinance
- ✓ Special education regulations ?

Background

- Hong Kong has a population of over 7.3 million in 2015, among which there are 360,000 people with disabilities (5%) at all ages.
- About 37,000 integrators are found in schools.
- In average, there are about 37 integrators in a school.
- About 8000 students with different categories of disabilities study in the 60 special schools.

Disabilities

- Intellectual disabilities
- Visual impairment
- Hearing impairment
- Language and speech impairment
- Physical disabilities
- Chronic illness
- Severe emotional disabilities
- Learning difficulties
- Autism
- ADHD
- Multiple disabilities

Special Schools

(N=60)

Schools for students with mild intellectual disability

10

Schools for students with moderate intellectual disability

14

Schools for students with mild and moderate intellectual disabilities

7

Schools for students with severe intellectual disability

10

Schools for students with physical disabilities

7

Schools for students with hearing impairment

2

Schools for students with visual impairment

2

School for social development

7

Hospital school

1

⁷
(in 18 hospitals)

List of Special Schools

<http://www.edb.gov.hk/en/edu-system/special/support-subsidy/special-school/school-list.html>

Most schools are with 12 years free education.

Schooling

- Special school + boarding service
- Special school only

Support staff

- Occupational therapists
- Physiotherapists
- Speech therapists
- Social workers
- Teaching assistants
- Therapist assistants
- Psychologist
- Nurse

Curriculum

- Mainstreaming curriculum ?
- Special curriculum ?

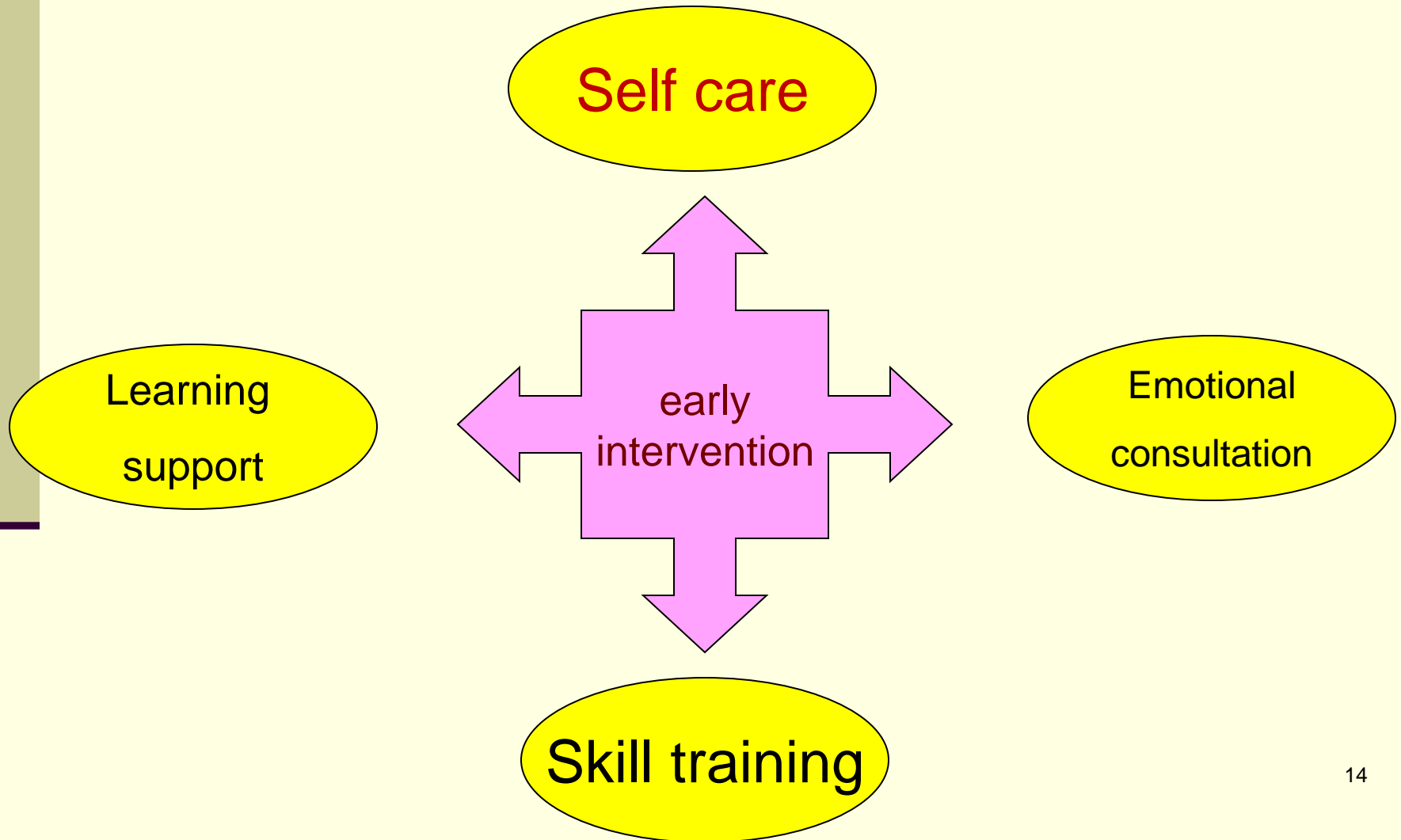
Curriculum

- Individualized self-care
- Socialization
- Basic learning
- Community awareness
- Sensory training
- Practical subjects
- Treatment and training

Issues

- High cost
- Institutionalized living
- Labeling effect
- Curriculum learning
- Inclusion
- Community acceptance

Support



Development

Policy

Resource

**Organiza-
tion**

Pedagogy

Changes

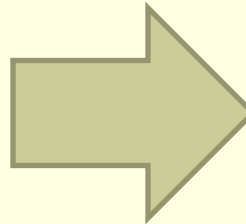
Value

**Teacher
Training**

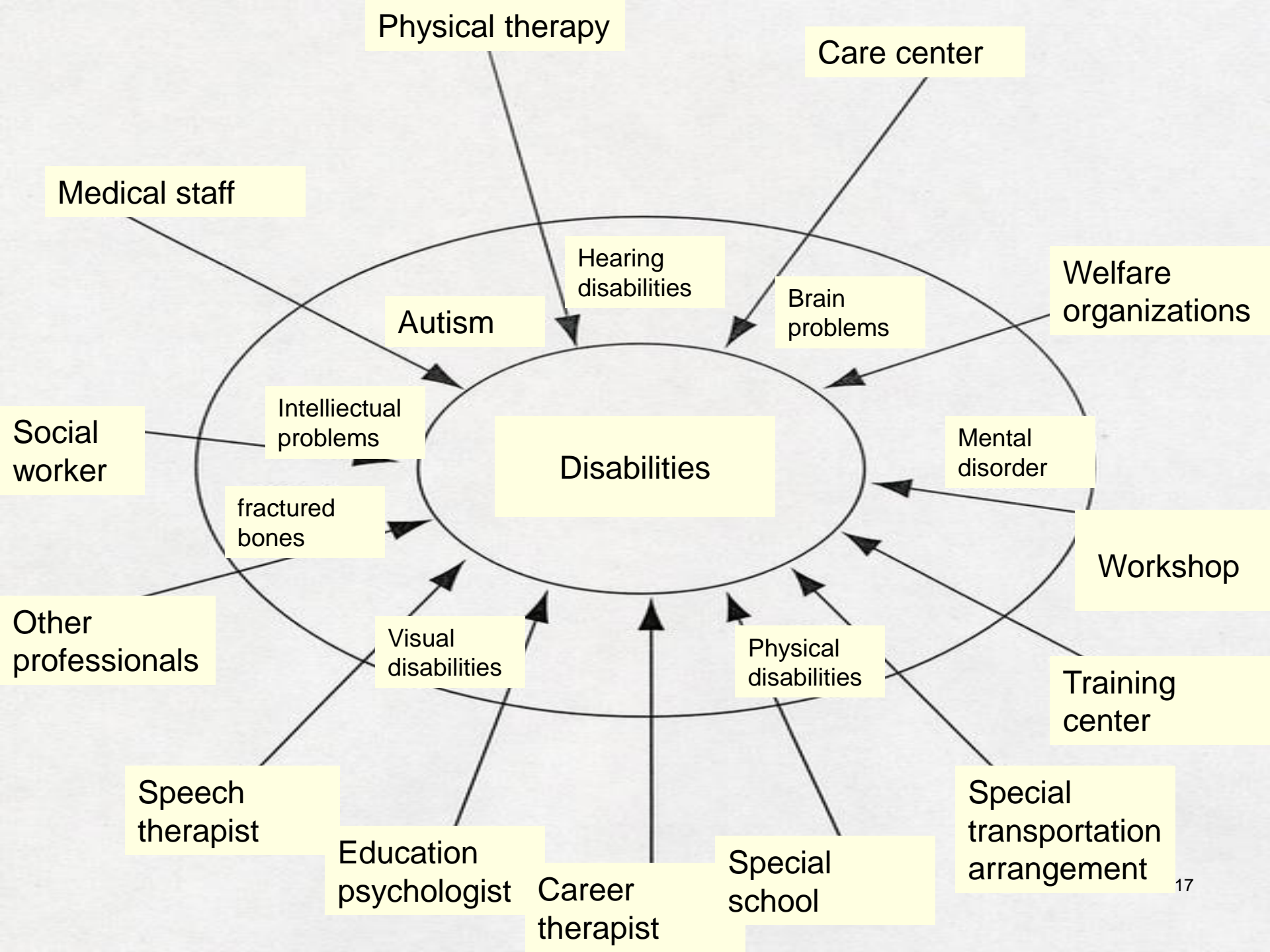
Curriculum

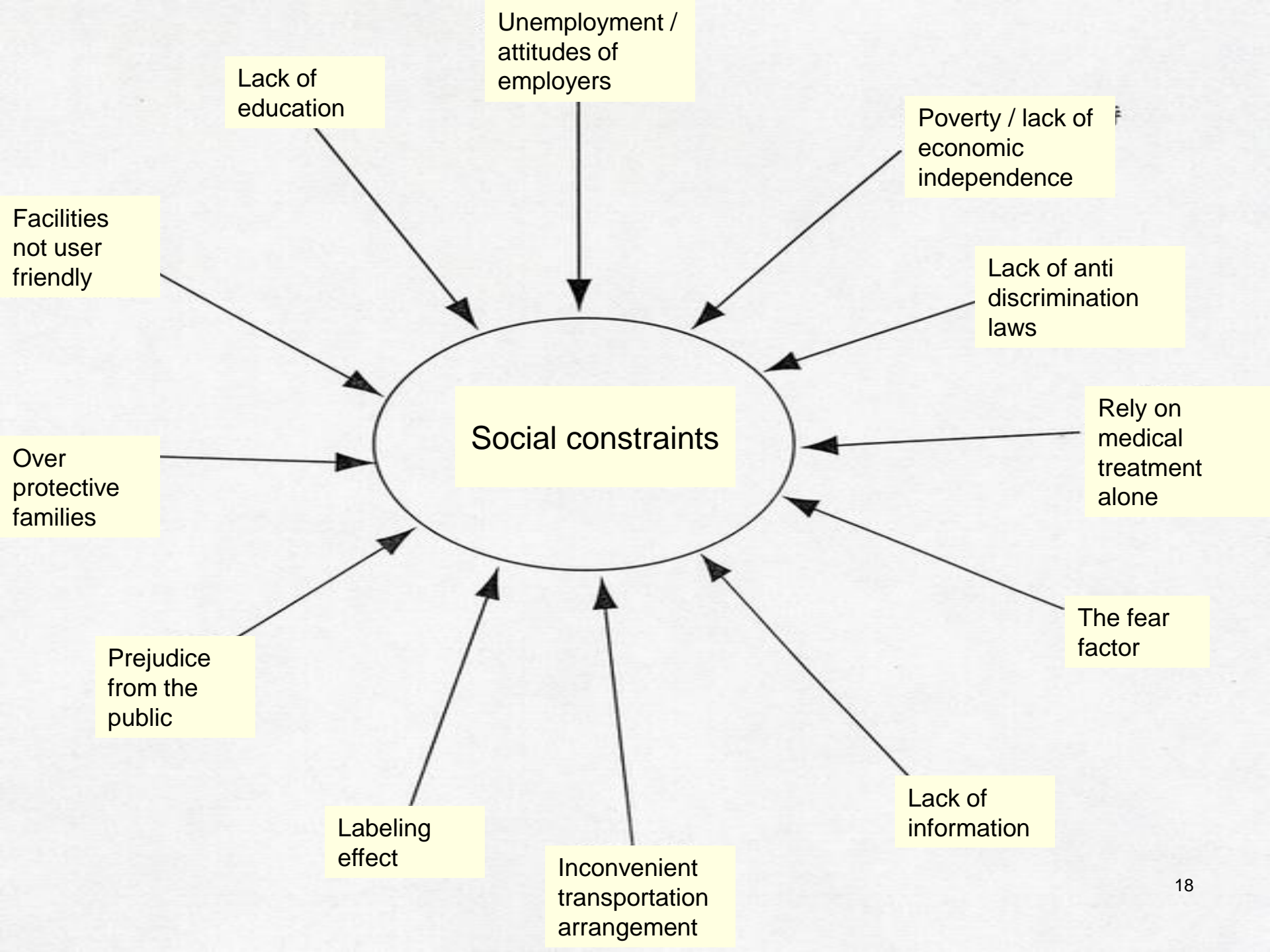
Paradigm shift

Medical model



Social model





Classroom
diagnosis

Education
evaluation

Teaching
strategies

Behavior
issues

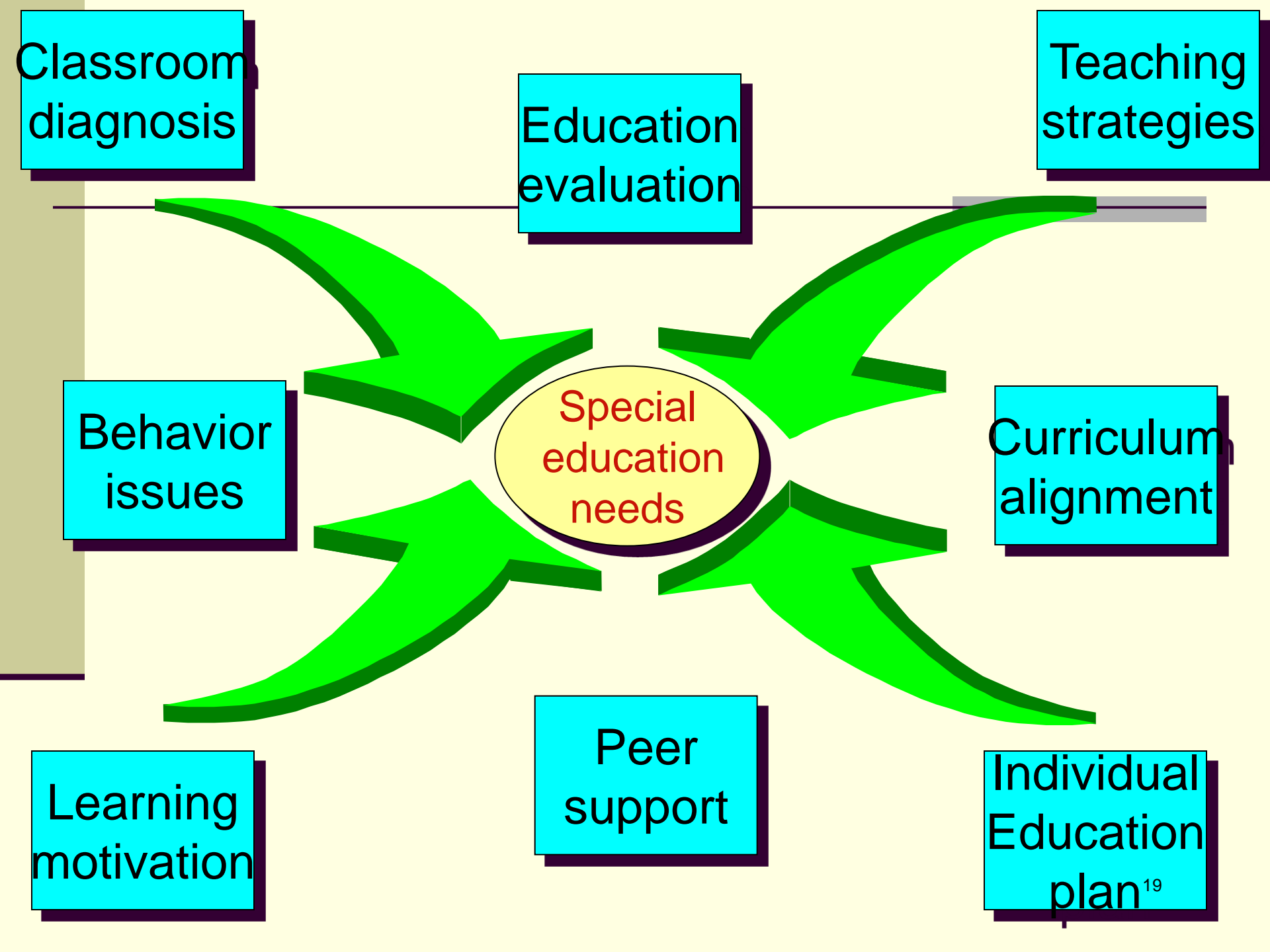
Special
education
needs

Curriculum
alignment

Learning
motivation

Peer
support

Individual
Education
plan¹⁹



Role of special school

- Provide education, training, rehabilitation and care to students with disabilities
- Trans-disciplinary collaboration
- Resource schools for mainstreaming teachers
- Partnership with universities for evidence-based research
- ???

Training of special education teachers

- BEd (SN)
- BEd (with IE as the minor)
- PGDE (with IE as the second subject)
- MEd (SEN)
- BAT offered by EDB
- Course for Teachers teaching in Special Schools

ACCESS AND ENGAGEMENT



Questions

How to provide professional service?
How to address individual differences?
kfsin@ied.edu.hk