# **P6 Parents'** Briefing 17 Feb 2023



### **Overview of Briefing**

- •Our Focus
- Communication with School
- Level Highlights
- PSLE Matters
- DSA for Secondary Schools
- Supporting your Child



## Signature Programmes



# Communication with School

### **Communication PLATFORMS**

- Student Handbook
- Parents Outreach (newsletter)
- Letters to Parents
- Parents Gateway

Get in touch with:

- FTs and subject teachers
- Year Head

### **Meeting with Parents** Parents' Briefing

• Term 1 Week 7 (17 February 23)

### Parent Child Teacher Conference (PCTC)

• Term 2 Week 1 (22 March 23)

#### **Parent Teacher Conference (PTC)**

• Term 3 Week 10 (30 August 23)

# P6 Level Highlights

### **P6 Programmes**

Timeframe	Activity
Term 1 Week 8 - 10	Learning Journey to ACM
Term 2 Week 2 - 3	PSLE Registration
Term 2 Week 10 (26 May)	Shoot for the Stars (Enrichment Programme)
June Hols (20-22 June)	P6 Remedial Lessons (selected students)
Term 3 (July)	Learning Journey to LKCNHM
Term 3 (August)	P6 Prelims
Term 4 Week 3 - 4	P6 PSLE
Term 4 Week 5 - 10	Post-PSLE Activities

# **PSLE Matters**

### **IMPORTANT** Dates (tentative)

Event	Dates
PSLE Registration	Mon, 03 Apr- Wed, 19 Apr
PSLE Oral	Tue, 15 Aug - Wed, 16 Aug
PSLE Listening Compre	Fri, 15 Sep
Written Papers	Thu, 28 Sep - Wed, 04 Oct
PSLE Results & S1 Posting	First week of Nov hols

Note: (1) The examination timetable will be made available by 2 March 2023 .(2) Please note that dates in this calendar are tentative and may still be subjected.

### **PSLE Scoring** & S1 Posting

#### **OVERVIEW**

#### RECAP

- How the PSLE Scoring System Works
- How the S1 Posting System Works

#### SUPPORTING STUDENTS AND THEIR PARENTS IN MAKING INFORMED SCHOOL CHOICES

- Understanding the PSLE Score Ranges
- School Choice Journey



#### WHAT IS THE INTENT OF THE PSLE?

A useful checkpoint at the end of primary school

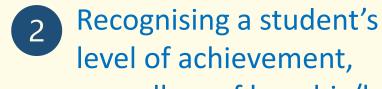
A fair way to determine secondary school posting

Over the years, we have been changing the education system to help our students discover and develop their strengths and interests, while moving away from an over-emphasis on academic results. Our PSLE Scoring changes reduce an over-emphasis on academic results by:



PSLE

differentiation of students' examination results at a young age.



level of achievement, regardless of how his/her peers have done.

**Encouraging families to** 3 choose secondary schools holistically based on students' strengths, interests and 14 abilities.

### HOW THE PSLE SCORING SYSTEM WORKS



#### **FROM T-SCORE TO SCORING BANDS**

- a) Reduces fine differentiation of students' examination results at a young age
- Students with similar scores in each subject are grouped into wider scoring bands measured in 8 ALs.
- b) Reflects a student's individual level of achievement
- Students' ALs for each subject reflect their level of achievement, rather than how they have performed relative to their peers.

AL	RAW MARK RANGE
1	≥ 90
2	85 – 89
3	80 - 84
4	75 – 79
5	65 – 74
6	45 – 64
7	20 – 44
8	< 20

#### **GRADING OF FOUNDATION SUBJECT GRADES**

- Foundation subject grades are graded in scoring bands from <u>AL A to C</u>.
- To derive a student's overall PSLE Score for S1 Posting, AL A to AL C for Foundation level subjects are mapped to AL 6 to AL 8 of Standard level subjects respectively.
- Similar to the PSLE T-score system, this mapping is based on the learning and assessment load of the subjects, and informs students of how ready they are for the curriculum in secondary school.

FOUNDATION LEVEL AL	FOUNDATION RAW MARK RANGE	EQUIVALENT STANDARD LEVEL AL
А	75 – 100	6
В	30 – 74	7
С	< 30	8

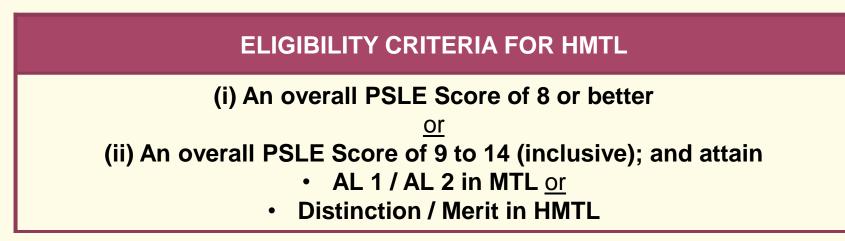
#### 4 SUBJECT ALs WILL BE ADDED TO FORM THE OVERALL PSLE SCORE

- The PSLE Score can range from 4 to 32, with 4 being the best.
- Students are placed in secondary school courses based on their PSLE Score Express, Normal (Academic) or Normal (Technical).

ENGLISH LANGUAGE	AL 3	PLACEMENT OUTCOME	PSLE SCORE
MOTHER TONGUE	AL 2	EXPRESS	4 – 20
LANGUAGE		EXPRESS / N(A) OPTION	21 – 22
MATHEMATICS	AL 1	N(A)	23 – 24
SCIENCE	AL 2	N(A) / N(T) OPTION	25
PSLE SCORE: 8		N(T)	26 – 30, with AL 7 or better in both EL <u>and</u> MA

Express, N(A) and N(T) courses will be phased out by 2024.

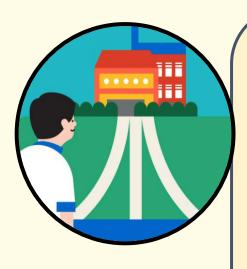
#### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR HIGHER MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGE (HMTL)



- The eligibility criteria for taking HMTL takes reference from past criteria.
- It ensures students can cope with the higher academic load.
- Secondary schools continue to have the flexibility to offer HMTL to students who do not meet the criteria if they:
  - $\,\circ\,$  have high ability and interest in MTL, and
  - $\,\circ\,$  are able to cope with the learning load required.

### FULL SUBJECT-BASED BANDING (FULL SBB)

- Full SBB in secondary schools in 2024.
- This is in line with the changes to PSLE Scoring to recognise each student's own level of achievement and encourage them to choose secondary schools that fit their strengths and interests.
- Full SBB aims to further nurture the joy of learning and develop multiple pathways to cater to the different student profiles. Through Full SBB, we want students to:



- have greater ownership of their education, and learn each subject at the level that best caters to their overall strengths, interests and learning needs, and
- have more opportunities to interact with friends of different strengths and interests.
- not be held back by negative self-concepts and labelling.
- have increased access to post-sec pathways, while having strong fundamentals in their subjects so that they are able to thrive in the pathway they choose.

#### FULL SUBJECT-BASED BANDING (FULL SBB)

• The following are changes that students will experience from Full SBB:

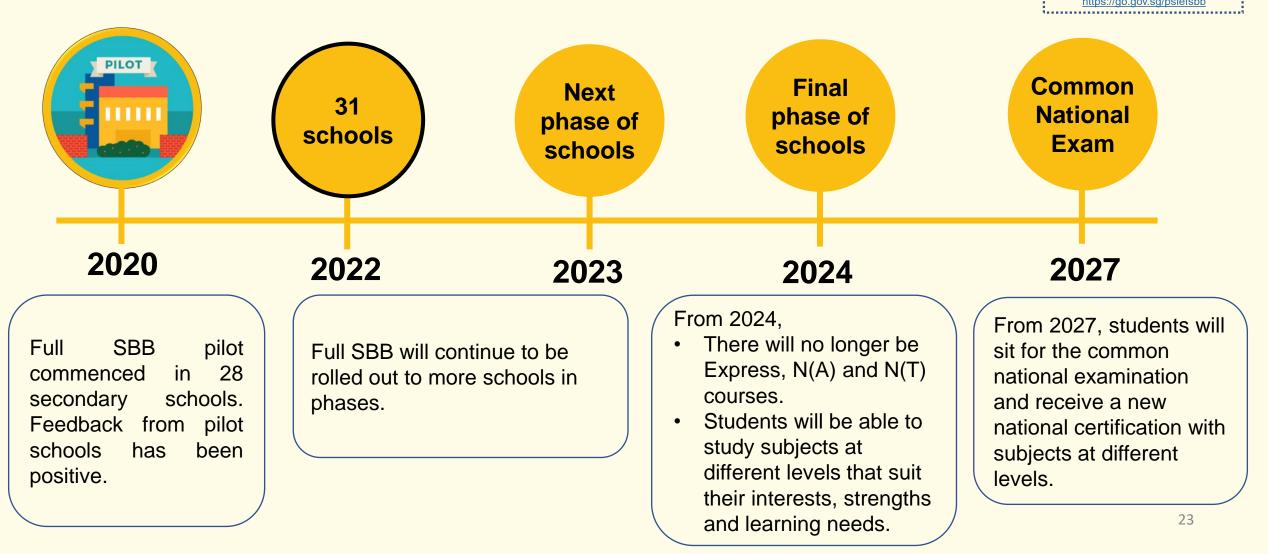
- Removal of Express, N(A) and N(T) courses
- Mixed form classes
- Common Curriculum subjects
- Offering subjects at a more demanding level, including Humanities subjects
- Common National Examinations
- Post-secondary Admissions (More information will be made available at a later date.)

#### Full Subject-Based Banding (Full SBB)



- At the start of Secondary 1, students will take a combination of G1/2/3 subjects based on their PSLE scores, suited to their pace of learning.
- Thereafter, their subject levels will be based on their strengths and interests.

#### FULL SUBJECT-BASED BANDING (FULL SBB) TIMELINE



Link to PSLE-FSBB Microsite

#### HOW THE S1 POSTING SYSTEM WORKS



#### CHOICE ORDER OF SCHOOLS MATTERS MORE

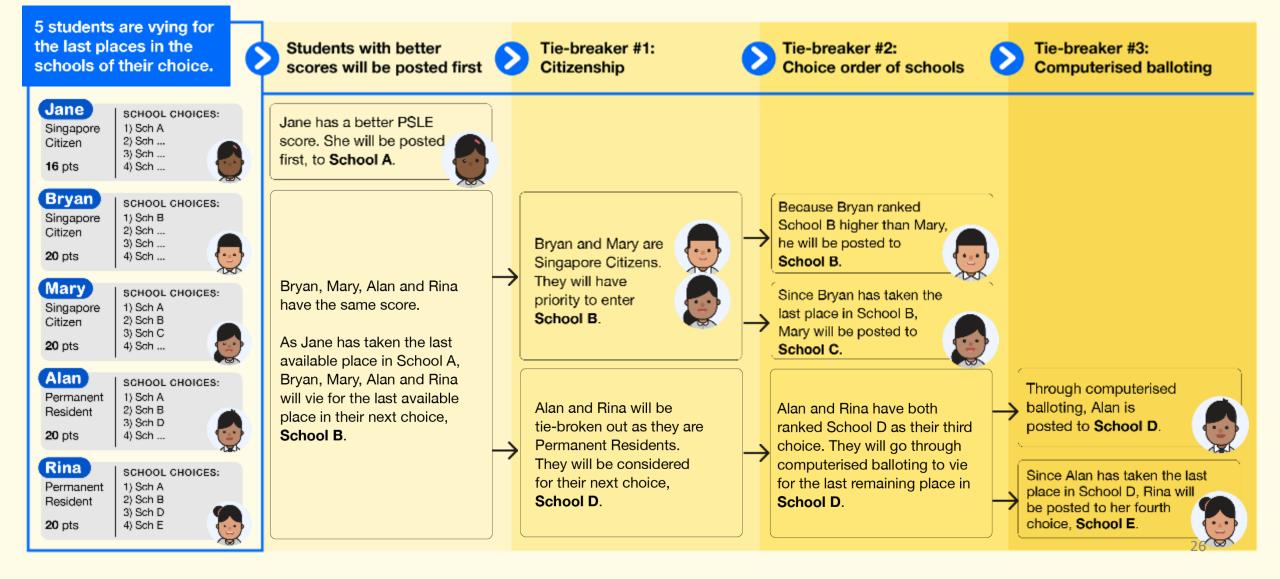
- Students continue to have six choices in selecting their secondary schools.
- Similar to past years, students continue to be posted to a secondary school based on academic merit, i.e., PSLE Score, and their school choice order.
- If there are two or more students with the same PSLE Score vying for the last remaining place(s) in a school, the following tie-breakers will be used in the following order:
  - **1. CITIZENSHIP**
  - 2. CHOICE ORDER OF SCHOOLS (New tie-breaker from 2021 onwards)
  - **3. COMPUTERISED BALLOTING**
- The new tie-breaker based on school choice order recognises the different considerations that families have in making school choices.



### **Tie-breakers**

#### in the new S1 Posting System

Tie-breakers are used only if there are two or more students with the same PSLE Score vying for the last available place(s) in a school. Here's a simplified example.



#### PSLE SCORE RANGES FOR INDIVIDUAL SECONDARY SCHOOLS



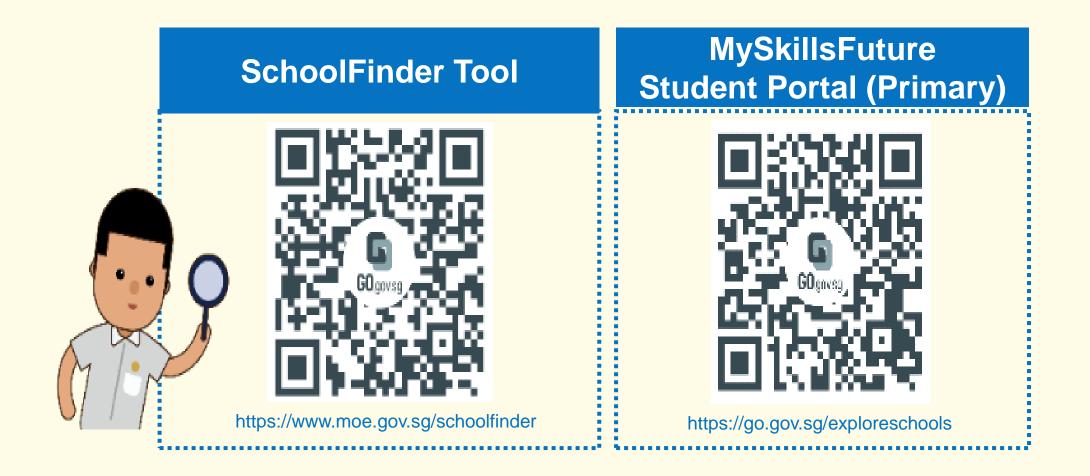
#### PSLE SCORE RANGES FOR ALL SECONDARY SCHOOLS

- Use the PSLE Score ranges as a reference alongside other important factors, such as:
  - the school's distinctive programmes,
  - Co-Curricular Activities (CCA),
  - culture,
  - ethos, and
  - proximity to home when shortlisting school choices that would best fit a student's educational needs.

#### PSLE SCORE RANGES FOR ALL SECONDARY SCHOOLS

- The 2022 PSLE Score ranges for individual secondary schools will be available for your reference on <u>https://moe.gov.sg/schoolfinder</u> and <u>https://go.gov.sg/exploreschools</u> by end March 2023. They reflect the PSLE scores of the student posted into these schools at the 2022 S1 Posting Exercise.
- A school's PSLE Score range (including Cut-Off-Point) for a particular year is not pre-determined before the posting, and may vary from year to year, depending on the cohort's PSLE results and their school choices in that year's S1 Posting Exercise.

#### PSLE SCORE RANGES FOR ALL SECONDARY SCHOOLS



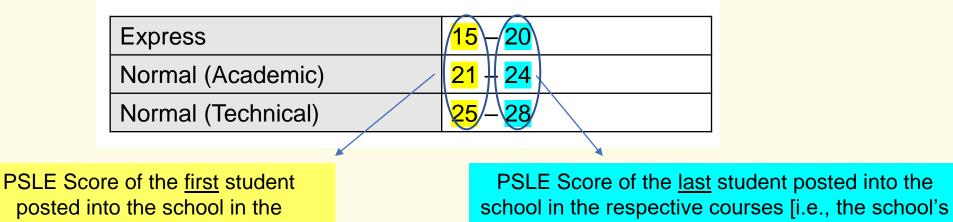
#### PSLE SCORE RANGES FOR INDIVIDUAL SECONDARY SCHOOLS

The PSLE Score range refers to the PSLE Score of the <u>first and last student</u> admitted to a particular school in the previous year via the S1 Posting Exercise. This shows the range of student profiles who enter each school.

#### **Example**

respective courses

XX Secondary School PSLE Score range of 2021

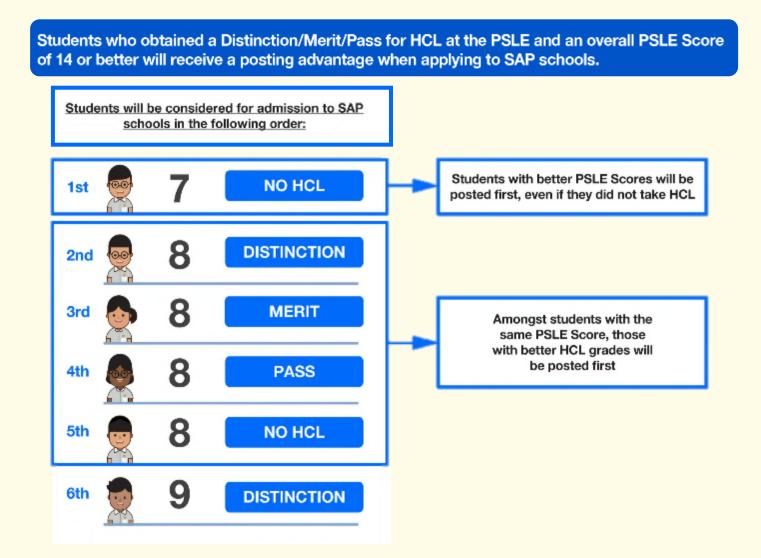


Cut-Off Point (COP)]

#### USE OF HIGHER CHINESE LANGUAGE (HCL) FOR ADMISSION INTO SPECIAL ASSISTANCE PLAN (SAP) SCHOOLS



#### HCL POSTING ADVANTAGE FOR ENTRY TO SAP SCHOOLS WILL CONTINUE

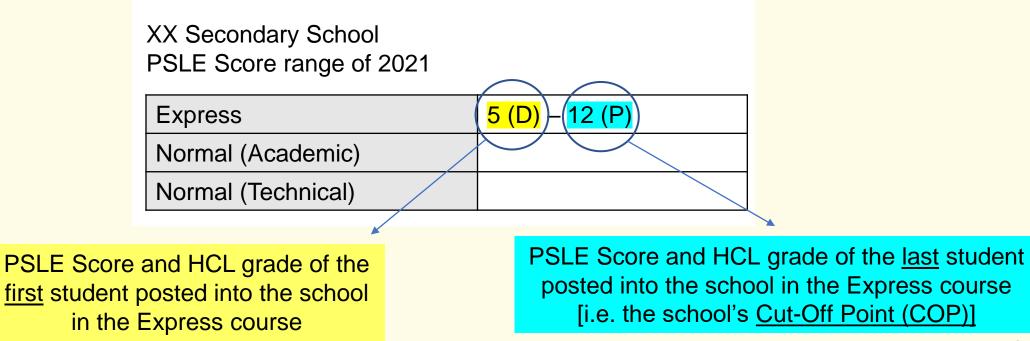


- Students' HCL results are denoted as 'D' (Distinction), 'M' (Merit) or 'P' (Pass).
- Students who obtain (i) a Distinction / Merit / Pass in HCL and (ii) a PSLE Score of 14 or better are eligible for posting advantage to SAP schools.
- Students are ranked taking into account their performance in HCL.
- This posting advantage applies before the tie-breakers for S1 Posting.

#### EXAMPLE OF AN SAP SCHOOL's PSLE SCORE RANGE

While students need not take HCL to enter SAP schools, students who pass HCL receive a posting advantage for admission. To reflect this, the PSLE Score ranges of SAP schools include the HCL grades of the first and last student admitted in the previous year via S1 Posting.

#### **Example**



#### CHOOSING SUITABLE SECONDARY SCHOOLS WITH YOUR CHILD



#### **SCHOOL CHOICE JOURNEY**

- The PSLE Score ranges are a **useful reference point** for parents and students to consider secondary schools.
- Use this information, together with other important factors such as the secondary schools' distinctive programmes, CCAs, ethos and cultures, to shortlist schools that would best fit the educational needs of the student.



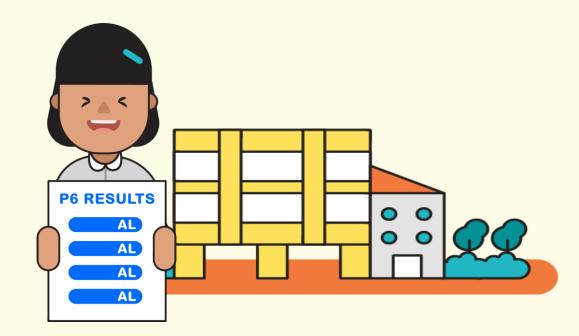
#### **SCHOOL CHOICE JOURNEY**

 If your child has specific talents and strengths beyond the PSLE (e.g. areas such as sports, performing arts and leadership), consider the Direct School Admission-Secondary (DSA-Sec) as an alternative admission pathway to access secondary schools that have talent development programmes in these areas.



#### **PREPARING FOR THE S1 POSTING EXERCISE**

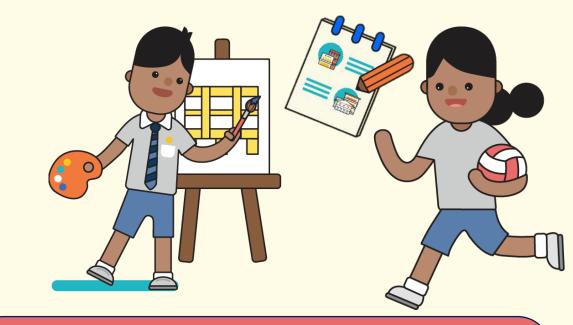




Use all <u>6 options</u> with a range of Cut-off Points as this will increase your child's chances of being posted to a school of their choice. Take reference from schools' PSLE Score ranges, which serves as a guide for you and your child to shortlist school choices. <u>Consider at least 2-3 schools</u> where your child's PSLE Score is better than the school's Cut-off Point.

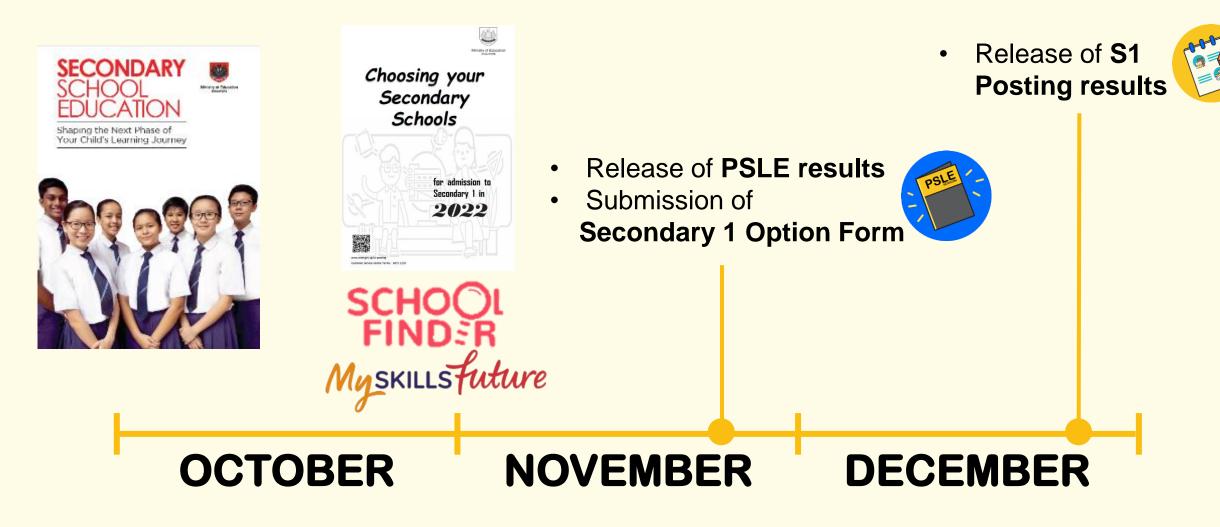
#### **PREPARING FOR THE S1 POSTING EXERCISE**





Shortlist schools that offer programmes that cater to the <u>your</u> <u>child's strengths and interests</u>, and that provide suitable learning environments. Rank your child's preferred school higher in the school choice order. This will increase your child's chances of being posted to that school, if tiebreakers are required.

#### **PREPARING FOR THE S1 POSTING EXERCISE**



#### **TIPS FOR PARENTS!**

Be open and flexible when discussing your child's preferences, needs and choices.

Have regular conversations with your child to understand more about his/her interests and aspirations. Manage your own expectations and do not project these expectations onto your child.

> Affirm your child and offer support when he/she shares his/her plans with you.

#### FIND OUT MORE ON THE PSLE-FSBB MICROSITE!



https://go.gov.sg/pslefsbb



#### **OTHER RESOURCES**

1

#### SchoolFinder Tool

#### SCHOOL FIND R



https://go.gov.sg/ secschoolfinder "Welcome to Secondary School" video

2





https://go.gov.sg/welc ome-to-secondaryschool Secondary School Education Booklet





https://go.gov.sg/p sle-sec-schbrochure







## DSA for Secondary Schools

## Direct School Admission -Secondary

 Secondary schools have flexibility to select a percentage of their students for admission via their own selection criteria

 Selection criteria can include diverse academic and non-academic achievements and talents

## Is the DSA-Sec right for my child?

If your child has specific talents which a school offers the DSA-Sec in And is passionate about and

Passion

Commit-

ment

And is **passionate** about and **committed** to developing his/her strengths and interests

DSA-Sec can support his/her development in that talent area.

## Which school should my child apply to?

- Look for a school with programmes that match your child's strengths and interests
  - Schools are looking out for students whose interests and talents they can develop further.
  - Learn more about the secondary school's pace of learning and overall range of programmes
- Get the latest information about what each school offers by:
  - Visiting schools' websites
  - Attending schools' Open Houses to also experience their environments and cultures
  - Visiting the MOE's DSA-Sec website

## **DSA-Sec Application Portal**

 Students will apply for DSA through a centralised
 DSA-Sec Application Portal, using a common application form.

## What is the timeline for DSA-Sec?



Shortlisting and selection by secondary schools. Each secondary school has different selection criteria for its categories and programmes. Schools will inform you of the selection outcome **by Aug**. You will know whether you have been allocated to a school through the DSA-Sec, at the same time you receive your PSLE results.

## What are schools looking for?

- The selection process **differs** across schools, and across different DSA-Sec categories.
- Generally, schools are looking for candidates with:

Talent, passion, commitment	Strong personal qualities	Good academic fit
<ul> <li>Schools may look at achievements and participation (e.g. in Junior Sports Academy).</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Schools may look at CCA records and VIA participation.</li> <li>Schools may also conduct interviews.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Schools may look at primary school results to ensure students can benefit from the school's pace of learning.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Schools may also conduct tests, trials or selection camps to identify students with strengths, or sound fundamentals and potential, in particular areas.</li> </ul>		

### What are the possible DSA-Sec outcomes?

- Confirmed Offer (CO) → Your child has a place reserved in the school, as long as his/her PSLE results qualify him/her for a course the school offers (i.e. Express, Normal (Academic) or Normal (Technical)).
- Wait List (WL) → Your child will be given a place in the school if other students with Confirmed Offers do not take up those offers, and if his/her PSLE results qualify him/her for a course the school offers. Allocation will be based on students' rank on the school's Wait List.
- Unsuccessful → Your child has not been given a place in the school. If your child still wishes to enter the schools he/she applied for, he/she can apply through the S1 Posting process using his/her PSLE results.

## If my child have a DSA-Sec Confirmed Offer, does it mean that his/her PSLE results will not matter?

- Your child's PSLE results will still be used to determine the secondary school course he/she is eligible for (i.e. Express, Normal (Academic), Normal (Technical))
- Even if he/she has a Confirmed Offer, he/she must qualify for a course offered by the school to be admitted to the DSA-Sec school.

**Example:** Leo has a **Confirmed Offer** from Courage Secondary, which offers **the Express Course only**. However, Leo's PSLE results **qualify him for the Normal (Academic)** course. Hence, Leo will <u>not</u> be able to go to Courage Secondary through DSA-Sec. If he is not allocated a place in another DSA-Sec school whose CO/WL offer he had accepted at the School Preference stage, he will participate in the S1 Posting.

# Where can I find more information on DSA-Sec?

 Check the MOE DSA-Sec website for important dates and timelines, and for information on how DSA-Sec will be conducted.

 The updated DSA-Sec information will be published around April.

 The MOE DSA-Sec website also contains information on DSA categories and secondary schools offering them.

## Supporting your Child

#### Supporting Our Students' Social-Emotional Well-being

• Form Teacher Guidance Period and pupils' Grow and Glow Journal

• Motivational/Values Talk by Key Personnel

- Chit-chat sessions by Form teachers
- Support from School Counsellor

### **How to Support Your Child**

 Ensuring that the children spend their time wisely and do monitor their stress level

• **Role modelling** so that the children have a more positive attitude to reading

• Monitoring **external sources of help** (if any) and check that they are value-adding to your child's learning

### Working with YOU

• Update us on what is happening to your child at home so that we can provide the necessary support

 We will do our best to support your child academically and where possible emotionally and would appreciate your support and understanding

• Be consistent in our messaging

### Conclusion

• We intend to **work with and build up your child's capacity** over the years

 We appreciate their active participation during and regular attendance of lessons

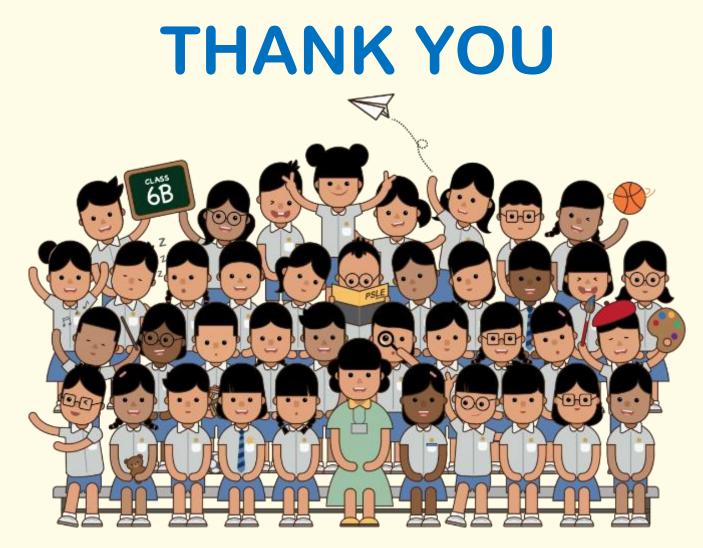
 We continue to strive to partner you in realising your child's potential

#### **Contact Info**

#### Year Head (Upper Primary): Mdm Abidah Bibi Marikar

## Email abidah\_bibi\_marikar@moe.edu.sg Phone 6315 7600





© MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT GROUP, 2021