SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION

Shaping the Next Phase of Your Child’s Learning Journey
The Ministry of Education formulates and implements policies on education structure, curriculum, pedagogy and assessment. We oversee the development and management of Government-funded schools, the Institute of Technical Education, polytechnics and autonomous universities. We also fund academic research.
Singapore’s Education System: An Overview

Singapore’s Education System offers many choices for the next phase of learning for your child. Its diverse education pathways aim to help each child discover his interests, abilities, and passions and develop to his full potential.

**PRIMARY**
6 years

**SECONDARY**
4-5 years

**POST-SECONDARY**

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1 Students in special education schools which offer the national primary curriculum will sit for PSLE. Some students in Pathlight School who take the national secondary curriculum may also sit for the GCE N- or O-Level examinations. Note: This has not been fully represented in the graphic.

2 Specialised Independent Schools offer customised programmes for students who are inclined towards hands-on and practical learning. Some also offer N(T)-Level exams. These schools are Northlight School, Assumption Pathway School, Crest Secondary School and Spectra Secondary School.

3 Specialised Independent Schools offer specialised education catering to students with talents and strong interests in specific fields, such as the arts, sports, mathematics and science, and applied learning. These schools are the School of the Arts, Singapore Sports School, NUS High School of Mathematics and Science, and the School of Science and Technology. Eligible students of the Singapore Sports School can progress directly to Republic Polytechnic. Eligible students of the School of the Arts can pursue a diploma programme at the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts via special admissions after their fourth year of study.

4 Secondary 4(N(A)) students who do well in their GCE N(A)-Levels can apply for the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA) Foundation Programme (NFP). NFP is a full-time one-year practice-based programme that prepares students to pursue a diploma in the creative arts at NAFA. Successful applicants will be given a provisional offer of admission to the diploma courses. Upon successful completion of the NFP, students will be offered a place in their chosen diploma courses.

5 Alternative Qualifications refer to qualifications not traditionally offered at mainstream schools in Singapore.

6 The Polytechnic Foundation Programme (PFP) is a diploma-specific foundation programme conducted by the polytechnics over two academic semesters for students who have completed Secondary 4(N(A)). Students who successfully complete the PFP may progress directly into the first year of their respective polytechnic diploma courses.

7 The Direct-Entry Scheme to Polytechnic Programme (DPP) is a through-train pathway to polytechnics via ITE, for students who have completed Secondary 4(N(A)). DPP students who successfully complete a two-year Higher Nitec programme at ITE and attain the required qualifying Grade Point Average (GPA) scores are guaranteed a place in a polytechnic diploma course mapped to their Higher Nitec course.

8 Adults and working professionals are encouraged to upskill and reskill through quality learning options in lifelong learning provided by our Institutes of Higher Learning as well as Singapore Workforce Skills Qualifications (WSQ) training providers accredited by SkillsFuture Singapore.

Note: Students can opt to transfer laterally between Express, N(A) and N(T) if they are assessed to be more suitable for these courses. (This has not been fully represented in the graphic.)
Learning Tailored to Different Abilities

Three courses are offered at the secondary-school level. Depending on your child’s Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) score, he will be placed in the Express (including the Integrated Programme in some schools), Normal (Academic) [N(A)], or Normal (Technical) [N(T)] courses.

While your child may initially be placed in a particular course to better support his learning pace and style, there are opportunities for him to transfer to another course if it is more suited to his abilities and interests. He can also take specific subjects at a higher academic level.

SUBJECT-BASED BANDING (SECONDARY)

With Subject-Based Banding (Secondary), students have greater flexibility in their learning and can better develop their strengths and interests. SBB (Sec) allows your child to take specific subjects at a more demanding level starting from Secondary 1 if he is found suitable to do so. If he is in the N(A) or N(T) course, he may be able to take some subjects at Express or N(A) Level to allow him to stretch himself and acquire deeper competencies in his area(s) of strengths.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

N(A) and N(T) students are eligible to take some subjects (English Language, Mathematics, Science and official Mother Tongue languages) at a more demanding level starting from Secondary 1 if they have performed well in these subjects at the Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE):

- N(A) and N(T) students who scored A* or A grade in a PSLE Standard subject can take the subject at the Express Level; and
- N(T) students who scored at least C grade in a PSLE Foundation subject can take it at N(A) Level.

Beyond the start of Secondary 1, other N(A) and N(T) students who do well in school-based examinations may be considered to take subjects at a more demanding level if found suitable to do so by their schools.

From 2020, some schools will additionally offer Geography, History and Literature in English at the Express Level in Secondary 2 to N(A) students who have done well in the subject in Secondary 1. You may check schools’ websites for their subject offerings.

Secondary schools will provide eligible students with more information and issue offer letters to invite them to take subjects at a more demanding level when they report to their secondary school in late December.

Developing Your Child for the Future

Guided by our framework for 21st Century Competencies and Student Outcomes, your child’s school will provide learning experiences that will develop his self-awareness, a sound moral compass, and the necessary attitudes, skills and knowledge to take on challenges of the future. He will be responsible to his family, community and nation. He will also appreciate the beauty of the world around him, possess a healthy mind and body, and have a zest for life.

Your child will be nurtured through our secondary-school education to become:

- A Confident Person who has a strong sense of right and wrong, is adaptable and resilient, knows himself, is discerning in judgment, thinks independently and critically, and communicates effectively.
- A Self-directed Learner who questions, reflects and perseveres and takes responsibility for his own learning.
- An Active Contributor who is able to work effectively in teams, is innovative, exercises initiative, takes calculated risks and strives for excellence.
- A Concerned Citizen who is rooted to Singapore, has a strong sense of civic responsibility, is informed about Singapore and the world, and plays an active part in bettering the lives of others around him.

Framework for 21st Century Competencies and Student Outcomes
CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (CCA)

CCA are an integral part of your child’s holistic education. He will discover even more interests and passions while developing values and competencies. This will prepare him to meet the challenges of a rapidly changing world.

CCA also promote friendships among students from diverse backgrounds as they learn, play and grow up together.

Participation in CCA fosters social integration and deepens your child’s sense of belonging, commitment and responsibility to school, community and nation.

Your child can choose from an exciting range of CCA, which include uniformed groups, clubs and societies, sports and games and visual and performing arts.

We believe in providing a range of options so that each child has the opportunity to build up his core and holistic set of skills. As such, there are many different secondary schools to choose from, each offering a variety of programmes to cater to the different strengths and interests of our students.

When choosing a school, we encourage you to consider the distinctive strengths of each school and place your child in an environment that can best broaden his horizons, motivate him to be an engaged learner, and build himself up continuously.

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APPLIED LEARNING

Our schools provide students with hands-on and authentic learning experiences. This way, knowledge can be applied in real-world contexts, and 21st Century Competencies and values can be developed.

• Applied Learning experiences are incorporated in the national curriculum, and these can be found in the various subjects and Co-Curricular Programmes such as CCA.

• Additional Applied Learning opportunities are made available through Applied Subjects, Advanced Elective Modules (AEM) and Elective Modules (EM).

• Applied Subjects broaden students’ educational experience in secondary school and expand their range of post-secondary education options. Examples of Applied Subjects include Electronics, Exercise and Sports Science, Drama, Mobile Robotics and Retail Operations. They cater to students who have the interest in and aptitude for specific fields of applied study. At the upper secondary level, some schools offer MOE Applied Subjects which are O-Level subjects, and MOE-ITE Applied Subjects which are N(T)-Level subjects.

• AEM and EM are short courses conducted by the polytechnics and the Institute of Technical Education (ITE) respectively. They extend our students’ learning of subjects, and expose them to possible educational and career pathways beyond secondary schools. AEM are offered to Express and Normal (Academic) students, while EM are offered to Normal (Technical) and Normal (Academic) students.

APPLIED LEARNING PROGRAMME (ALP) AND LEARNING FOR LIFE PROGRAMME (LLP)

The ALP is designed to give students the opportunity to discover their aptitudes and interests, build their strengths, and make informed decisions on their education and career pathways. This is complemented by the LLP where students develop skills and attributes that enable them to contribute to the betterment of society as socially responsible citizens.

• All secondary schools offer one ALP and one LLP while Autonomous, Independent, Integrated Programme and Specialised Schools offer their school-initiated distinctive programmes.

• Where relevant, secondary schools may offer direct admission to primary school students with outstanding talents and achievement and/or potential in areas related to the schools’ distinctive programmes.
**DIRECT SCHOOL ADMISSION — SECONDARY (DSA-SEC)**

DSA-Sec allows students to be admitted to secondary schools based on a diverse range of talents and achievements that may not be demonstrated by the PSLE.

Under this exercise, participating schools can select up to 20% of their non-integrated Programme Secondary 1 intake via DSA-Sec before the PSLE results are released. Students are selected based on their raw potential as demonstrated through trials, as well as their suitability for the school’s overall programmes. Upon admitting these students, the school will continue to grow their talents through suitable programmes.

**STUDENTS WITH MILD SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS (SEN)**
Most secondary schools are able to support students with mild special educational needs (SEN), such as dyslexia, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), mild Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), hearing loss and visual / physical impairments with the assistance of Teachers trained in Special Needs (TSNs), as well as Allied Educators (Learning and Behavioural Support) (AEDs/LBS).

Most secondary schools have an AED(LBS) who can provide in-class or pull-out intervention for students with SEN, for about 30 minutes a week. Schools also have a group of TSNs to plan and differentiate the learning strategies to support students with mild SEN.

Students with dyslexia can be supported through the MOE-subsidised Main Literacy Programme conducted by the Dyslexia Association of Singapore.

Students with hearing loss, visual impairment and physical impairment can also be supported by:
- MOE-funded assistive technology (AT) devices, e.g. Frequency Modulation system for hearing loss, electronic magnifiers, braille readers, and text-to-speech software for visual impairment, and customisable furniture for physical impairment.
- School-based itinerant support services provided by AHWA Ltd and Singapore Association for the Deaf.

Applications for MOE-funded AT devices and school-based itinerant support services for students can be done through the secondary school.

Students with moderate-to-profound hearing loss or visual impairment, who are able to follow the mainstream curriculum, can attend designated mainstream schools that provide specialised support. These schools are:

- Hearing Loss (Oral approach)  
  Outram Secondary School  
  St. Anthony’s Canossian Secondary School

- Hearing Loss (Signing approach)  
  Beatty Secondary School

- Visual Impairment  
  Ahmad Ibrahim Secondary School  
  Bedok South Secondary School  
  Dunearn Secondary School

Schools with barrier-free facilities are located in different parts of Singapore to provide convenient access to students with physical disabilities.

If your child requires specialised support, you should include suitable schools in your child’s school choices. Visit SchoolFinder website at https://moe.gov.sg/schoolfinder-secondary to find out more.

Learn more about available transport schemes at: https://bit.ly/2m3EoaY

For more information on support provided by mainstream schools: https://www.moe.gov.sg/education/special-education/

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**CATALOGUE OF PROGRAMMES**

**Catering to Interests and Holistic Development**

Our schools recognize that every child is unique, with different interests, abilities and passions. Students with a passion for language, art and music can select from a range of elective programmes that focus on these areas of interest. Our schools also offer a wide variety of sports and students can select schools that offer quality sports development programmes in the sport of their choice. More information on programmes that schools offer can be found at the School Information Service website at https://sis.moe.gov.sg/.

As a parent, you can draw on your knowledge of your child’s talents and engage him in his interests.

**MOE LANGUAGE, ART AND MUSIC PROGRAMMES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>PROGRAMME</th>
<th>CRITERIA</th>
<th>WHERE IT IS HELD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LANGUAGE PROGRAMMES</td>
<td>Higher Mother Tongue Languages (HMTL)</td>
<td>Top 10% of the PSLE OR Top 11% to 30% band who meet the language criteria of A* grade in the MTL or at least a Merit in the HMTL</td>
<td>Selected schools (schools decide on a yearly basis whether to offer any one, two or all HMTL)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Qualify for Higher Malay</td>
<td>Note: Higher Malay and Higher Tamil are also offered at MOE Language Centre (Bishan) and the Umar Pulavar Tamil Language Centre, respectively</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Third Languages | • Chinese (Special Programme) [CSP]  
  • Malay (Special Programme) [MSP]  
  • Bahasa Indonesia  
  • Arabic  
  • French  
  • German  
  • Japanese  
  • Spanish | CSP and MSL  
  • Express and Normal (Academic) course  
  • Have not taken Higher Chinese/Chinese (for CSP) and Higher Malay/Malay (for MSL) at PSLE  
  | Note: Higher Malay and Higher Tamil are also offered at MOE Language Centre (Bishan) | Anderson Secondary School  
  Build Panjang Government High School  
  Tanjong Katong Secondary School |

Note: Higher Malay and Higher Tamil are also offered at MOE Language Centre (Bishan) and the Umar Pulavar Tamil Language Centre, respectively.

**Third Languages**

- Chinese (Special Programme) [CSP]
- Malay (Special Programme) [MSP]
- Bahasa Indonesia
- Arabic
- French
- German
- Japanese
- Spanish

**Elective Programme in Malay Languages for Secondary Schools (EMAS)**

Selected schools (schools decide on a yearly basis whether to offer any one, two or all HMTL) Note: Higher Malay and Higher Tamil are also offered at MOE Language Centre (Bishan) and the Umar Pulavar Tamil Language Centre, respectively.

**Foreign Languages Programme**

- French, German, Japanese, Spanish
  - Top 10% of the PSLE
  - Student/Parent is a Singapore Citizen or Singapore Permanent Resident
  - Pass Higher Chinese/Chinese at the PSLE (for Japanese)

**Third Languages**

- Chinese (Special Programme) [CSP]
- Malay (Special Programme) [MSP]
- Bahasa Indonesia
- Arabic
- French
- German
- Japanese
- Spanish

**Foreign Languages Programme**

- MOE Language Centre (Bishan) offers French, German, and Japanese
- MOE Language Centre (Newton) also offers Spanish, French and Japanese
<table>
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<th>CRITERIA</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| LANGUAGE PROGRAMMES | Language Elective Programme | Secondary 2 students who have attained at least:  
- Grade B3 in their respective Higher Mother Tongue Language (HMTL) or  
- Grade A2 in their respective Mother Tongue Language (MTL) | CLEP-Sec: Anglican High School  
Chung Cheng High School (Main)  
Dunman High School  
Hwa Chong Institution  
Nanyang Girls' High School  
Nan Chiau High School  
Nan Hua High School  
Temasek Junior College  
MLEP-Sec: Anderson Secondary School  
Bukit Panjang Government High School  
Tanjong Katong Secondary School  
TLEP-Sec: Commonwealth Secondary School  
Riverside Secondary School  
Yishun Town Secondary School |
| | | | |
| | Bicultural Studies Programme (BSP) | Qualify for Higher Chinese | Catholic High School  
CHIJ St Nicholas Girls' School  
Dunman High School  
Hwa Chong Institution  
Nanyang Girls' High School  
River Valley High School  
Singapore Chinese Girls' School |
| | Regional Studies Programme (RSP) | • Must offer MSP or Bahasa Indonesia (BI) as L3  
• Must be a student in one of the RSP centres | Anglo-Chinese School (Independent)  
Raffles Institution  
Raffles Girls' School (Secondary)  
Victoria School  
Cedar Girls' Secondary School |
| | Mother Tongue Language 'B' (MTLB) | Obtain Grade C or below in MTL at the PSLE | Schools offering MTLB course  
MTLB Centres* |
| ART AND MUSIC ELECTIVE PROGRAMMES | Art Elective Programme (AEP) | Pass AEP Selection Exercise | Bukit Panjang Government High School  
CHIJ Secondary (Toa Payoh)  
Hwa Chong Institution  
Nanyang Girls' High School  
National Junior College  
Victoria School  
Zhanghua Secondary School |
| | Music Elective Programme (MEP) | Pass MEP Selection Exercise | Anglo-Chinese School (Independent)  
Catholic High School  
CHIJ St Nicholas Girls' School  
Crescent Girls' School  
Dunman High School  
Methodist Girls' School (Secondary)  
Raffles Girls' School (Secondary)  
Raffles Institution  
Tanjong Katong Girls' School  
Temasek Junior College |

**LANGUAGE PROGRAMMES**

The bilingual policy is a cornerstone of Singapore's education system. Our schools equip students with language and cultural competencies from young to help them develop a broader outlook and enable them to tap into opportunities in the regional and global environment.

Each student is required to learn English and a Mother Tongue Language (MTL) under our bilingual policy. To encourage students to study a MTL for as long and to as high a level as they are capable of, schools offer different programmes to cater to the needs of different students.

**HIGHER MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGES (HMTL)**

Your child can choose to study HMTL if he takes Chinese/Malay/Tamil or Higher Chinese/Higher Malay/Higher Tamil at the PSLE and
- is ranked among the top 10% of PSLE candidates; or
- is in the top 11% to 30% band and meet the language criteria (i.e. an A* grade in the MTL or at least a Merit in the HMTL).

Schools also have the flexibility to allow students who do not meet the above criteria to take HMTL on a case-by-case basis, if they are assessed to have exceptional ability in MTL and are able to take on HMTL without affecting their performance in the other subjects.

Interested students can apply to take HMTL when they report to their secondary school in late December. They will attend classes in their school, if the course is offered by the school. If not, they will attend HMTL lessons at secondary schools designated as Higher Malay (HML) and Higher Tamil (HTL) centres outside school curriculum time.

The HML and HTL classes are also offered at the MOE Language Centre (Bishan) and the Umar Pulavar Tamil Language Centre, respectively.

*The MTLB centres are: CLB Centres, only for Chinese B; MOE Language Centre (Bishan), only for Malay B; Umar Pulavar Tamil Language Centre, only for Tamil B.*
ELECTIVE PROGRAMME IN MALAY LANGUAGE FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS (EMAS)
If your child has an aptitude for the Malay language, EMAS can help him reach a higher level of proficiency. This will deepen his understanding and appreciation of the Malay language, history and culture.

The four-year programme is offered at Anderson Secondary School, Bukit Panjang Government High School, and Tanjong Katong Secondary School as a niche programme. Students taking Higher Malay in these schools will be offered the programme.

NATIONAL ELECTIVE TAMIL LANGUAGE PROGRAMME (NETP)
This programme is offered to Higher Tamil Language (HTL) students. NETP aims to nurture and enable students with an aptitude in the Tamil Language to acquire greater proficiency. NETP will also cultivate a deeper understanding and appreciation of the Tamil Language, literature and culture. This programme is offered at Umar Pulavar Tamil Language Centre.

THIRD LANGUAGES
Your child can also choose to take a third language from the eight languages offered, namely, Chinese (Special Programme), Malay (Special Programme), Bahasa Indonesia, Arabic, French, German, Japanese and Spanish.

CHINESE (SPECIAL PROGRAMME)/ MALAY (SPECIAL PROGRAMME)
Chinese (Special Programme) [CSP] is offered to all Secondary 1 students from the Express and Normal (Academic) courses as long as they have the interest and inclination, and did not offer Higher Chinese/Chinese as their MTL at the PSLE.

Similarly, Malay (Special Programme) [MSP] is offered to all Secondary 1 students from the Express and Normal (Academic) courses as long as they have the interest and inclination, and did not offer Higher Malay/Malay at the PSLE.

Students would be offered CSP/MSP as a third language in addition to English and their MTL.

Students being offered these programmes will attend lessons twice a week*, two hours per session outside the school curriculum time, either in their own secondary school if the school offers it, or at the nearest CSP/MSP centre.

Your child may apply for these programmes online once he gets his PSLE results. If the number of applicants exceeds the number of vacancies available at the CSP/MSP centres, the applicants will be selected based on their PSLE results.

* With the exception of MSP at MOE Language Centre (Bishan), where lessons are conducted once a week for three hours and fifteen minutes.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES PROGRAMME
Your child may be offered a Foreign Language (French/German/Japanese/Spanish) if his PSLE result is among the top 10% of the cohort.

Your child, you or your spouse must be a Singapore Citizen or Singapore Permanent Resident.

The Foreign Languages Programme is a six-year course with various exit points at the end of Secondary 4, JC1 and JC2. Students sit for the O-Level, H1 and H2 exam respectively. Lessons are conducted outside school curriculum time at the MOE Language Centre at Bishan or Newton.

To qualify for application to study Japanese, your child must have passed Higher Chinese or Chinese at the PSLE as the standard written form of Japanese uses Kanji (Chinese characters).

If the number of applications exceeds the number of vacancies available, the applicants will be selected based on their PSLE results.

BAHASA INDONESIA AND ARABIC
Your child may be offered one of these languages if he is from the Express and Normal (Academic) courses.

For Bahasa Indonesia, he must not have offered Higher Malay/Malay as his MTL at the PSLE. The student or one of his parents must also be a Singapore Citizen or Singapore Permanent Resident.

Bahasa Indonesia and Arabic is a four-year course leading to the O-Level exam. Lessons are conducted outside the school curriculum time at the MOE Language Centre at Bishan. Bahasa Indonesia is also offered at Victoria School as part of their Regional Studies Programme.
LANGUAGE ELECTIVE PROGRAMME
The Language Elective Programme (LEP-Sec) for Chinese, Malay and Tamil aims to nurture promising students to attain a high level of language proficiency in the three Mother Tongue Languages (MTL), and enhance their understanding of the MTL literature. The programme aims to develop these students to become effectively bilingual so as to better serve the needs of our nation.

There is a wide range of activities to enhance students’ learning and cultivate a deep appreciation of their MTL and culture. The activities include overseas immersion trip, literary camp, lecture series and school-based projects.

This two-year programme is offered at 15 schools from Secondary 3. Eligible Singapore Citizens who are successfully enrolled in the LEP-Sec may be considered for the LEP-Sec Scholarship.

BICULTURAL STUDIES PROGRAMME
Your child could take up the Bicultural Studies Programme (BSP) if he has an interest in contemporary China and its culture.

The four-year programme is offered at seven schools starting from Secondary 3, namely, Catholic High School, CHIJ St Nicholas Girls’ School, Dunman High School, Hwa Chong Institution, Nanyang Girls’ High School, River Valley High School and Singapore Chinese Girls’ School.

Students from Catholic High School, CHIJ St Nicholas Girls’ School and Singapore Chinese Girls’ School will continue the programme at Eunoia Junior College.

Other than a camp and symposium held locally, your child can also look forward to immersion experiences in China for up to two weeks during their four-year programme.

Eligible Singapore Citizens who are successfully enrolled in the LEP-Sec may be considered for the BSP Scholarship.

REGIONAL STUDIES PROGRAMME (RSP)
The Regional Studies Programme (RSP) focuses on the culture and contemporary society of the Southeast Asian region.

The secondary schools offering the programme are Anglo-Chinese School (Independent), Raffles Institution, Raffles Girls’ School (Secondary), Victoria School and Cedar Girls’ Secondary School.

Students who are successfully enrolled in the RSP will be considered for the RSP Scholarships.

MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGE ‘B’
Your child could take the Mother Tongue Language ‘B’ (MTL ‘B’) if he obtains Grade C or below in MTL at the PSLE.

Schools also have the flexibility to offer students MTL ‘B’ even if they do not meet the eligibility criterion above.

Students offered MTL ‘B’ will attend classes in their secondary schools if MTL ‘B’ is offered in the schools. If not, the students will have to study Chinese B at CLB centres, Malay B at the MOE Language Centre (Bishan) and Tamil B at Umar Pulavar Tamil Language Centre outside the school curriculum time.

Learn more about the criterion for each programme and obtain the application forms from the respective secondary schools upon the release of your child’s PSLE results.

ART AND MUSIC ELECTIVE PROGRAMMES
MOE also offers elective programmes in Art and Music.

ART ELECTIVE PROGRAMME (AEP)
A child who is artistically inclined could consider the Art Elective Programme (AEP), a four-year course leading to the O-Level Higher Art exam. The enriched art curriculum in the AEP covers historical and theoretical studies in Art, places emphasis on creative processes and exposes students to a wide range of media and art forms.

Students in the AEP will take Art in place of Design & Technology and Food and Consumer Education at the lower secondary level. They are expected to complete the four-year programme, following which they will offer Higher Art as an exam subject at O-Level.

The AEP is offered at these schools:
- Bukit Panjang Government High School
- CHIJ Secondary (Toa Payoh)
- Hwa Chong Institution
- Nanyang Girls’ High School
- National Junior College
- Victoria School
- Zhonghua Secondary School

AEP students in these Integrated Programme (IP) schools – Hwa Chong Institution, Nanyang Girls’ High School and National Junior College – will take a school-based Higher Art exam in the fourth year and have the option to continue the two-year AEP at Year 5 and 6. Upon successful completion of the six-year AEP, they will offer H2 and H3 Art as exam subjects at the A-Level.

There is no additional school fee required for the AEP. Primary 6 students who are admitted to Independent Schools offering the AEP are eligible for the AEP fee subsidy. They will be offered the subsidy if they are successfully admitted to and enrolled in the AEP at an Independent School offering the programme at Secondary 1, and not receiving any other fee subsidy.

CENTRE FOR AEP
National Junior College (NJC) operates as an AEP Centre. It caters to secondary school students with a talent for art and are enrolled in schools that do not offer the AEP or Enhanced Art Programme (EAP).

Students will travel to NJC for their weekly lessons throughout the four-year secondary level AEP. Students will enjoy the same specialised and rigorous AEP curriculum in art practice, history and theory.

Secondary 1 students who have a keen interest in art can apply to be an external AEP student at NJC by submitting their online application verified and supported by their own secondary schools in January. Applicants will participate in a selection comprising drawing and creativity exercises. Those shortlisted will be invited for a portfolio interview. Application details will be posted on the Ministry’s AEP website by the end of November.

For more information on AEP, visit: https://bit.ly/2pQz38t
A child who is musically-inclined could consider the Music Elective Programme (MEP), a four-year course leading to the O-Level Higher Music exam.

This programme allows students to pursue an in-depth study and practice in music. Students in the MEP will take Music in place of Design & Technology and Food and Consumer Education at the lower secondary level. They are expected to complete the four-year programme, following which they will offer Higher Music as an exam subject at O-Level.

The MEP is offered at these schools:
- Anglo-Chinese School (Independent)
- Catholic High School
- CHIJ St Nicholas Girls’ School
- Crescent Girls’ School
- Dunman High School
- Methodist Girls’ School (Secondary)
- Raffles Girls’ School (Secondary)
- Temasek Junior College

Integrated Programme (IP) students enrolled in Anglo-Chinese School (Independent) [ACS (I)], Catholic High School, CHIJ St Nicholas Girls’ School and Methodist Girls’ School (Secondary) would be required to sit for the O-Level Higher Music exam.

IP students in Dunman High School (DHS) have the option to take the O-Level Higher Music exam in the fourth year or continue on to offer the two-year MEP at Year 5 and 6.

MEP students in these IP schools – Raffles Girls’ School (Secondary), Raffles Institution and Temasek Junior College – will take a school-based Higher Music exam in the fourth year and have the option to continue the two-year MEP at Year 5 and 6.

Upon successful completion of the six-year MEP, students in Anglo-Chinese School (Independent) [ACS (I)] will offer the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme Music at Higher Level, while students in other IP schools will offer H2 and H3 Music as exam subjects at A-Level.

There is no additional school fee required for the MEP. Primary 6 students who are admitted to Independent Schools offering the MEP are eligible for the MEP fee subsidy. They will be granted the subsidy if they are successfully admitted to and enrolled in the MEP of an Independent School offering the programme at Secondary 1, and not receiving any other fee subsidy.

CENTRE FOR MEP
Both ACS(I) and Dunman High School (DHS) operate as MEP centres. They cater to secondary school students who have a talent for music and are enrolled in schools that do not offer MEP or the Enhanced Music Programme (EMP).

Students will travel to either MEP centre for their weekly lessons throughout the four-year secondary level MEP. Students will enjoy the same specialised and rigorous MEP curriculum in music practice, history and theory.

Secondary 1 students who have a keen interest in music can apply to be an external MEP student at either ACS(I) or DHS by submitting their application through their own secondary schools in January. The centres accept students of both genders. Selection for the MEP will be on the basis of musical concepts and skills covered in the Primary Music syllabus, with a competent level of performance skills that can be developed through music CCA (e.g. display basic fluency and sound fundamental technique) and/or through other musical experiences.

All applicants must go through a Selection Exercise, which consists of a Written Test, a Practical Audition, an Aural Test, and Interview. Application details will be posted on the Ministry’s MEP website by the end of November.

For more information on MEP, visit: https://bit.ly/2JyZDuh

ENHANCED MUSIC PROGRAMME (EMP)
The Enhanced Music Programme (EMP) is another enriched Music programme that musically-inclined students can consider. The EMP is an upper secondary programme that leads to the GCE O-Level Music or Higher Music exam. The EMP develops students’ understanding in different music traditions, as well as theory and practices in the creative industries. Students will also have opportunities to know more about and deepen their skills in different fields of music studies.

Schools that offer the EMP are:
- CHIJ Katong Convent
- Jurong West Secondary School
- Meridian Secondary School
- Nan Chiau High School
- Naval Base Secondary School
- New Town Secondary School
- Ngee Ann Secondary School
- Orchard Park Secondary School
- St Andrew’s Secondary School

As the EMP is only offered to students enrolled in these schools, students interested in the programme are advised to include them among their six choices when selecting a secondary school. To enrol in the programme, students must meet any entry requirements set by the school.


ENHANCED ART PROGRAMME (EAP)
The Enhanced Art Programme (EAP) is another enriched programme that artistic-inclined students can consider. The EAP is an upper secondary programme that leads to the GCE O-Level Art or Higher Art exam. The EAP exposes students to different art media, creative processes and practices in the creative industries. Students will also have opportunities to know more about and deepen their skills in select media.

Schools that offer the EAP are:
- Ahmad Ibrahim Secondary School
- Chung Cheng High School (Main)
- St Margaret’s Secondary School
- Yuhua Secondary School

As the EAP is only offered to students enrolled in these schools, students interested in the programme are advised to include them among their six choices when selecting a secondary school. To enrol in the programme, students must clear a selection exercise based on musical concepts and skills covered in the Primary Music syllabus, as well as performance skills that can be developed through music CCA (e.g. display basic fluency and sound fundamental technique) and/or through other musical experiences.

All applicants must go through a Selection Exercise, which consists of a Written Test, a Practical Audition, an Aural Test, and Interview.

INTEGRATED PROGRAMME (IP)
The Integrated Programme (IP) provides a six-year Secondary and Junior College (JC) education for academically-strong students who can benefit from programmes that provide broader learning experiences. The IP aims to stretch their potential in non-academic aspects that are beyond the academic curriculum.

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The IP culminates in the A-Level qualification, or other diplomas.

Schools that offer the IP admit students at Secondary 1. Places are also available to admit suitable students at Secondary 3.

More details on the respective schools’ IP and application procedures are available on their websites.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHOOL</th>
<th>JC PARTNER</th>
<th>QUALIFICATION ATTAINED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Catholic High School*</td>
<td>Eunoia Junior College</td>
<td>A-Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHIJ St Nicholas Girls’ School*</td>
<td>Hwa Chong Institution</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore Chinese Girls’ School*</td>
<td>Raffles Institution</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hwa Chong Institution (Secondary) Nanyang Girls’ High School</td>
<td>Victoria Junior College</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raffles Girls’ School (Secondary) Raffles Institution (Secondary)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cedar Girls’ Secondary School* Victoria School*</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunman High School</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Junior College</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>River Valley High School</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Temasek Junior College</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methodist Girls’ School* Anglo-Chinese School (Independent)*</td>
<td>Anglo-Chinese School (Independent)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National University of Singapore (NUS) High School</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SCHOOL-BASED GIFTED EDUCATION
Students who have done well in the Gifted Education Programme (GEP) in primary level can choose to enroll in IP schools offering School-Based Gifted Education (SBGE) programmes, which provide enrichment opportunities tailored to the needs of the GEP students.

The IP schools that offer SBGE programmes for GEP students are:
- Anglo-Chinese School (Independent)
- Catholic High School
- Cedar Girls’ Secondary School
- CHIJ St Nicholas Girls’ School
- Methodist Girls’ School (Secondary)
- Singapore Chinese Girls’ School
- St Joseph’s Institution
- Victoria School

Primary 6 GEP students who prefer to enrol in the O-Level programme may join the dual-track IP schools that offer both the IP and O-Level programmes, so that they can participate in school-based enrichment programmes in these schools.

The schools offering both the IP and O-Level programme are:
- Anglo-Chinese School (Independent)
- Catholic High School
- Cedar Girls’ Secondary School
- CHIJ St Nicholas Girls’ School
- Methodist Girls’ School (Secondary)
- Singapore Chinese Girls’ School
- St Joseph’s Institution
- Victoria School

*Dual-track schools that offer both the IP and O-Level programme.
TYPES OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS
There are five types of secondary schools: Government Schools, Government-aided Schools, Independent Schools, Specialised Independent Schools, and Specialised Schools.

GOVERNMENT AND GOVERNMENT-AIDED SCHOOLS
- Government schools and government-aided schools are the mainstay of our education system, and offer high-quality education at standardised fees. Students at these schools will access the national curriculum, including electives and applied subjects. Each school also offers unique student development programmes to provide opportunities for applied learning and developing 21st-century competencies.
- Some government/government-aided schools have autonomous status. This means that they offer a wider range of programmes that can enhance your child’s learning experience and develop their talents. Autonomous schools collect autonomous school fees, on top of the standardised fees charged by other government schools and government-aided schools.
- Some government/government-aided schools are also Special Assistance Plan (SAP) schools that nurture students to be bilingual and bicultural in English and Chinese.

Key offering:
- Standardised fees and curriculum.

INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS
- Independent schools have the flexibility to set their own fees and develop their academic and non-academic curriculum and programmes.
- Some independent schools are also Special Assistance Plan (SAP) schools that nurture students to be bilingual and bicultural in English and Chinese.

Key offering:
- Some flexibility in programmes and curriculum, and flexibility to charge different fees.

SPECIALISED INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS (SIS)
SIS offer specialised education catering to students who have talent and strong interest in mathematics and science, the arts, sports, or applied learning.

The four specialised independent schools are:
- NUS High School of Mathematics and Science, for mathematics, science, technology, and engineering
- School of Science and Technology, for applied learning in science, technology, aesthetics, engineering, and mathematics
- Singapore Sports School, for sports and athletics
- School of the Arts, for visual, literary, and performing arts

Key offering:
- Specialised education for students who have talent and strong interest in mathematics and science, the arts, sports, or applied learning.

Special requirements
Students must apply through the Direct School Admission for secondary schools (DSA-Sec) process for NUS High School of Mathematics and Science and School of Science and Technology. Students interested in Singapore Sports School and School of the Arts must apply directly to these schools, because of their unique admission requirements.

SPECIALISED SCHOOLS
- NorthLight School and Assumption Pathway School are specialised schools that offer an experiential and hands-on learning approach for students who do not qualify for a secondary course of education after the PSLE. Students graduate with an ITE Skills Certificate (ISC) at the end of Year 4, which prepares them for employment or admission into the Institute of Technical Education (ITE).
- Crest Secondary School and Spectra Secondary School are specialised schools for Normal (Technical) students (SSNT). They offer an alternative educational pathway for students who prefer a customised, hands-on, and practice-oriented curriculum. Students graduate with a combination of Normal (Technical) and ISC qualifications at the end of Year 4.
- With effect from 2021, the Secondary 3 SSNT cohort will offer the ITE Skills Subject Certificate (ISSC) instead of the ISC, as part of the regular curriculum review to better cater to the needs of the SSNT students. The ISSC provides a more broad-based curriculum that allows students to better discover their interests and make more informed choices about their post-secondary education and future careers.

Key offering:
- Customised hands-on curriculum for students who are inclined towards practice-oriented learning.

Special requirements
For NorthLight School and Assumption Pathway School, students can apply if they:
- Do not qualify for any secondary school course after 1 to 3 attempts at the PSLE.

Applications by students who have attempted the PSLE only once will require the recommendation of their primary school principals.

For Crest Secondary and Spectra Secondary:
- Students must be eligible for the Normal (Technical) course.

For more information on fees, scholarships and financial assistance offered by the different types of secondary schools, please visit the MOE website at: https://beta.moe.gov.sg/schools/types
Edusave Scholarships & Awards and Financial Assistance Schemes

Singaporean students with academic and non-academic achievements may be eligible for the following scholarships and awards:

- Edusave Character Award
- Edusave Scholarships for Secondary Schools
- Edusave Scholarships for Independent Schools
- Edusave Awards for Achievement
- Good Leadership & Service (EAGLES)
- Edusave Merit Bursary
- Edusave Good Progress Award

GETTING FINANCIAL HELP

Financial assistance schemes are available to all Singapore Citizens in our schools. This will ensure that no Singapore Citizen child is denied an education because of his financial background.

Financial assistance application forms are available from the schools and on MOE’s website at https://www.moe.gov.sg/education/financial-assistance. Applications must be submitted together with the relevant documents to your child’s school directly.


MOE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME FOR SINGAPORE CITIZENS IN GOVERNMENT, GOVERNMENT-AIDED SCHOOLS AND SPECIALISED SCHOOLS

(i) Criteria
- The child must be a Singapore Citizen studying in a Government, Government-aided School or a Specialised School.
- Meet the following income criteria:
  a. The family’s gross household income (GHI) must not exceed $2,750 per month; or
  b. The family’s per capita income (PCI) must not exceed $690 per month.

(ii) Benefits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHOOL FEES</th>
<th>STANDARD MISCELLANEOUS FEES</th>
<th>TEXTBOOKS</th>
<th>SCHOOL ATTIRE</th>
<th>TRANSPORT SUBSIDY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100% subsidy</td>
<td>100% subsidy</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>$10 transport credits per month, up to $120 per annum (for students taking public transport)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. PCI is gross monthly household income divided by the number of members in the household.

MOE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL BURSARY (ISB)

MOE provides additional support through the ISB to help Singapore Citizens from lower- and middle-income families cope with the relatively higher fees charged by Independent Schools and Specialised Independent Schools.

INCOME CRITERIA AND BENEFITS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME CRITERIA* (Meet either GHI or PCI)</th>
<th>FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO STUDENTS AT SECONDARY LEVEL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monthly gross household income (GHI)</td>
<td>Financial Assistance to students at secondary level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not exceeding $2,750</td>
<td>Students do not have to pay school fees and miscellaneous fees as well as exam fees – they are fully subsidised.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Students also receive:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Free textbooks and school attire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 10 transport credits per month, up to $120 per annum (for students taking public transport)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2,751 - $4,000</td>
<td>Students pay the same fees as those studying in Government and Government-aided Schools (GGAS), after subsidy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$4,001 - $6,900</td>
<td>Students pay 1.5 times GGAS fees, after subsidy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$6,901 - $9,000</td>
<td>Students pay 67% of school and miscellaneous fees, after subsidy.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Singapore Sports School and School of the Arts have their own schemes to provide financial assistance to students. Please refer to the schools’ websites for information.

**Applicable to students enrolled in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) only. Exam fees are waived for Singapore Citizens sitting for national exams in Government-funded schools.

GGAS fees comprise school fee, standard miscellaneous fee and maximum 2nd-tier miscellaneous fee payable by students in a GGAS.

SCHOOL MEALS PROGRAMME (SMP)

Under the SMP, secondary school students on MOE FAS will receive meal subsidies of $2.50 per meal for ten meals per school week. The SMP is also extended to students receiving 100% fee subsidy on the ISB. Application for meal subsidies is not required.
Choosing a Secondary School

As a parent, you play an important role in helping your child choose a secondary school. You are encouraged to discuss schools holistically with your child, choosing one that can cater best to his needs. Here are some factors you may wish to consider.

• What are my child’s needs, interests, strengths and aspirations?
• What are the programmes and schemes available in the school?
• What are the school’s culture and ethos?
• Do co-curricular activities offered by the school match my child’s interests?
• Will the secondary school provide an appropriate environment for my child to learn among other children with similar academic abilities?
• How far is the school from my home?

For more information on choosing a secondary school, please visit MOE website:
https://beta.moe.gov.sg/secondary/

Secondary 1 Posting

SECONDARY 1 (S1) SCHOOL CHOICE
1. Once you have received your child’s PSLE results, you should discuss with your child and choose six schools in order of preference, and submit them to MOE.

2. Bear in mind the programmes and schemes offered by the various schools. You may want to choose the schools which offer programmes that your child will benefit from and which he would be interested in.

3. Your child’s PSLE results will also guide your choice.

The PSLE aggregate ranges for schools are not predetermined by MOE or schools before posting. Each school’s eventual PSLE aggregate ranges for that year depend on students’ PSLE results and their school choices during the annual S1 Posting.

Each secondary school publishes the aggregate range of the previous year’s PSLE intake in the ‘Choosing your Secondary Schools for Admission to Secondary 1 in 2020’ information booklet. These indicate the highest and lowest scores of the students who were admitted to the school for each of the courses. The previous year’s PSLE aggregate ranges serve only as an approximate guide, and the eventual ranges may vary depending on demand patterns and cohort size for that year.

SUBMISSION OF SCHOOL CHOICES AND OPTIONS
In the S1 Option Form, you should indicate the six secondary schools that you wish your child to be posted to in order of preference. The school choices and other options, if applicable, can be submitted via the S1 Internet System or in person at your child’s primary school.

If you encounter any difficulties, you can seek help from your child’s primary school when filling out the S1 Option Form.
RELEASE OF POSTING RESULTS

1. All students will be posted to their preferred schools, in the order they have stated in their S1 Option Form, based on their PSLE results and availability of vacancies in the school.

2. If your child does not get into any of the six schools he had chosen, he will be posted to a school near your home which still has vacancies.

3. You may check the posting results through these modes: (a) short messaging system (SMS) messages received through the mobile number provided during the school choice submission period; (b) S1-IS or (c) visit your child’s primary school, after release of the secondary school posting results.

DON’T MISS THE SUBMISSION DATES!

KEY EVENT                           DATE (TENTATIVE)
Receive PSLE Results            Between 21 and 25 November 2019 (Tentative)
Submit school choices and options
   a. Via S1 Internet System ($1-IS)      Seven calendar days starting from the release of the PSLE results (e.g. if the PSLE results are released on 21 November, submission will be from 21 to 27 November).
   b. Via Primary School      Five working days starting from the release of the PSLE results (e.g. if the PSLE results are released on 21 November, submission period will be from 21 to 27 November). Primary schools are not open on weekends.

Receive the school posting results     20 December 2019 (Tentative)
Students to report to secondary schools for registration     23 December 2019 at 8.30am (Tentative)

WHAT IF I AM NOT IN THE COUNTRY DURING S1 POSTING?

As a parent, you may authorise a representative as proxy to collect the PSLE results and S1 Option Form from the primary school, to submit the options and/or to report to the posted school for registration.

The authorised person is required to produce the following documents for verification at the school:

• A completed proxy form from the parent; the form can be found in Reference L of the ‘Choosing Your Secondary Schools for Admission to Secondary 1 in 2020’ booklet.
• Photocopy of the NRIC of both parents.
• Photocopy of the child’s Birth Certificate.
• Original NRIC of the person the parent(s) have appointed to act on their behalf.

For more information on S1 Posting, please refer to the booklet titled ‘Choosing Your Secondary Schools for Admission to Secondary 1 in 2020’, which is given out to all Primary 6 students in October 2019.

DIRECT SCHOOL ADMISSION—SECONDARY (DSA-SEC)

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW
• Primary 6 students have a choice of whether or not to participate in DSA-Sec. If they choose not to participate in it, they will continue to participate in Secondary 1 (S1) Posting after the release of the PSLE results.
• Students who have been offered a place in a school under DSA-Sec must qualify for a course (i.e. Express/Normal (Academic)/Normal (Technical)) offered by the DSA-Sec school.
• Students who have been successfully allocated to a school under DSA-Sec will not be allowed to participate in the annual S1 Posting to opt for secondary schools as places have already been reserved for them in the DSA-Sec school.
• They will also not be allowed to transfer to another school after the release of the PSLE results, as they are expected to honour the commitment to study in the allocated DSA-Sec schools for the full duration of the programme that they are admitted to.
Choosing a School: Principals’ Perspectives

“Choosing a secondary school is a big decision. It is very important for children to like the school that they have chosen as they will be spending the next four to five years there. Parents can help their children find a good fit: this will help them transit to secondary school life more easily, and thrive in the new environment.

What constitutes a good fit? Beyond meeting the school’s cut-off point, parents will need to consider how it will value add to their children’s learning and growth. They will also need to find out what programmes the school has, and how these will help their children pursue their interests, uncover their strengths and realise their potential to the fullest.

The best way to go about this is for parents to visit the school with their children, talk to the staff and students, and get to know the school better.”

MDM JESSIE KOH
Principal, Greenridge Secondary School

“Going on to secondary school is one of the most exciting phases in your child’s life; it is also the start of the journey into adulthood.

So, the decision on which secondary school to select should be mutual – one that is decided by both you and your child. Do have that important conversation.

Schools now have distinctive programmes, from outdoor education to aesthetics, and robotics to aeronautics that can stimulate your child. Consider what would best meet the needs of your child’s aptitude and interests. It is good to be in a learning environment that offers just the right challenges, with a belief system and values that are aligned to yours.

When your child’s passion is ignited and talent optimised, he will find purpose and endless possibilities.”

MDM SHANTI DEVI
Principal, Riverside Secondary School

Visit MOE’s website at www.moe.gov.sg or call the MOE Customer Service Centre at 6872 2220 if you need more information on secondary school education.

You may also visit MySkillFuture portal for students at www.myskillfuture.sg/secondary using your child’s account. You can explore the various educational and career interests open to your child.

For the latest news on education and features on schools and teachers, please visit www.schoolbag.sg and Schoolbag mobile app available on Apple iTunes Store (for iOS) or the Google Play store (for Android).

You can also connect with us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/moesingapore.