**SCHOOL-BASED SCIENCE MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME**

The **School-Based Science Mentorship Programme** **(SB SMP)** is one of the Science Mentorship Programmes (SMP)organised by the Gifted Education Branch.

# Aim

It aims to cultivate in students the spirit of inquiry as well as to develop attitudes and values for the proper conduct of science.  To accomplish this, the students are provided with the opportunity to initiate scientific investigations under the guidance and mentorship of their science teachers. This will help prepare and equip them better for a mentorship experience with a professional scientist when they are ready.

# Objectives

1. To promote scientific study through investigative science fair projects
2. To encourage the use of creative and innovative methods in problem solving
3. To nurture values and positive attitudes towards scientific inquiry and competitions

# Target Group

Secondary 2 and 3 students from Integrated Programme and partner schools

# Structure Of Programme

In teams of not more than three, students initiate a project under the guidance of their teacher-mentor. After the project is confirmed within the school, students may apply to present their project at the Youth Science Conference (YSC).

# Application to YSC

1. Application to participate in YSC is open in April each year.
2. A participant can enter only one project. It must be the participant’s own work. The participant must design and carry out the project. Parents and teachers must limit their involvement to advice and supervision.
3. Each project is limited to 2 or 3 students per team. All students in a team project must work together. Projects that start as a team project must remain a team project and individual projects may not become team projects.
4. Team may not repeat projects from the previous year. Please refer to SB SMP Google Site (<http://tinyurl.com/scimp>) for the list. Participants may exhibit a continuing project that shows significant progress from the previous year.
5. Team initiates and designs scientific investigations under the guidance of science teachers as their mentors. Team should have collected some preliminary findings prior to YSC application.
6. Interested teams are required to submit a softcopy MS Word application form, found on the SB SMP Google Site, to their SB SMP teacher coordinator. It includes a write up comprising
7. research question
8. review of literature
9. methodology
10. preliminary findings
11. list of references
12. Interested teams are also required to complete the Risk Assessment and Under-taking form, also found on the SB SMP Google Site. You are not required to submit it as part of the YSC application.

# Successful YSC Applicants

Teams that are selected to participate in the YSC are required to submit:

1. a research paper, and
2. a poster for project presentation

The YSC Poster Judging / Plenary held in early September serves the purpose of assessing the participants’ ability to present their findings succinctly and their depth of knowledge in their respective research areas. Participants will also receive feedback from professional scientists.

The Youth Science Conference held at the end of September showcases all participants’ projects through poster and oral presentations to an audience of peers, teachers and scientists.

# For more information

Refer to the SB SMP Google Site (<http://tinyurl.com/scimp>)