Preparing Your Child For Tomorrow
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.

The primary school years are an important phase of your child's education. During these formative years, the Ministry of Education (MOE) wants to build every child's confidence and desire to learn. Our curriculum aims to provide your child with a broad range of learning experiences that will help him to discover his talents and interests.

**PRIMARY SCHOOL EDUCATION AT A GLANCE**
- Six years of compulsory education.
- Subject-based Banding to cater to children with different strengths.
- Co-curricular Activities and Values in Action activities to provide a holistic education.
- Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) at the end of six years.
- Singapore Citizens need not pay school fees, but a standard monthly miscellaneous fee of $6.50, and second-tier miscellaneous fee capped at $6.50 will be levied.

Schooling for Every Child

In Singapore, every child receives a six-year compulsory primary school education, which builds a strong foundation to prepare him for future learning and work.

To help each child thrive in a future shaped by globalisation and technological advancements, our schools develop in him 21st Century Competencies and nurture him 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;

- **an active contributor** who is able to work effectively in teams, is innovative, exercises initiative, takes calculated risks and strives for excellence; and

- **a self-directed learner** who questions, reflects, perseveres and takes responsibility for his own learning:

- **a concerned citizen** who is rooted to Singapore, has a strong sense of civic responsibility, is informed about Singapore and the world, and takes an active part in bettering the lives of others around him.

Nurturing Our Young for the Future

In school, your child will be able to gain the knowledge, skills and values he needs to thrive in the 21st century.

Our framework for the 21st Century Competencies encapsulates values and competencies which we have identified as being fundamental in the development of every child. The framework incorporates:

- **Core values** (respect, responsibility, resilience, integrity, care, harmony);

- **Social and emotional competencies** (self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship management, responsible decision-making); and

- **Emerging 21st Century Competencies** (critical and inventive thinking; communication, collaboration and information skills; civic literacy, global awareness and cross-cultural skills).

All these values and competencies are integral to the total curriculum.

Teachers develop these values and competencies in their students through subject disciplines, Character and Citizenship Education (CCE), enrichment programmes, as well as teachable moments.

The diverse range of Co-curricular Activities (CCAs) offered in each school also provides a platform for students to learn and apply these values and competencies, while discovering their interests and talents.

We have also strengthened the quality of Physical Education, Art and Music education for students’ holistic development. They enable our students to develop physical robustness, enhance their creative and expressive capacities, and shape their personal, cultural and social identities.
The primary school curriculum is designed to give your child a strong foundation that includes:
- Nurturing sound values;
- Loving Singapore; and
- Developing language and numeracy skills.

The curriculum offered by the Ministry focuses on three main aspects of education – subject disciplines, knowledge skills and character development.

- **Subject disciplines** comprise subject areas such as languages, humanities & the arts, and mathematics & sciences, designed to give your child a good grounding in different fields of study.
- **Knowledge skills** focus on developing your child’s thinking and communication skills. Knowledge skills are taught through a variety of subjects and often through a project-work approach.
  - This enables students to tap into their knowledge skills, and clearly demonstrate what they have acquired, either individually or collaboratively in teams.
- **Character development** is facilitated through daily interactions, as well as the different learning experiences planned by the school. These experiences focus on instilling sound values in your child. Your child will have many opportunities to develop values and skills for life and civic responsibility through Character and Citizenship Education, and Co-curricular Activities.

Following the introduction of **Subject-based Banding**, your child will be offered English Language, Mother Tongue Language, Mathematics and Science as either foundation or standard subjects at Primary 5 and 6, depending on his learning needs and strengths.

In addition, students who have demonstrated good competency in their Mother Tongue Language may also be offered Higher Mother Tongue Language.

---

**SUBJECTS TESTED IN PSLE**

- **Standard Subjects:** English Language, Mother Tongue Language, Mathematics, Science
- **Foundation Subjects:** Foundation English Language, Foundation Mother Tongue Language, Foundation Mathematics, Foundation Science
- **Optional Subject:** Higher Mother Tongue Language

**LEGEND**

- CCA: Co-curricular Activities
- CCE: Character and Citizenship Education
- PAL: Programme for Active Learning
- PE: Physical Education
- PW: Project Work

* Students offer standard or foundation subjects depending on their learning needs and strengths in each subject.
* Science is taught from Primary 3 onwards.
* CCE includes National Education (NE), Values in Action (VIA) and Form Teacher Guidance Period (FTGP).
* PW is a non-examinable subject.
**Language Mastery**

ENGLISH AND MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGES

Your child will learn English as a first language in primary school. English is the lingua franca of international business, science and technology. Therefore, a strong foundation in the English Language remains an essential skill to develop in our young.

Your child will learn his Mother Tongue Language (Chinese Language, Malay Language or Tamil Language) as a second language. Bilingualism, a cornerstone of our education system, has been a valuable asset to our students, enabling them to tap the opportunities that can be found in the global environment.

With more Primary 1 students coming from households where English is the dominant language spoken at home, we will continue to refine the teaching of Mother Tongue Languages. Schools adopt differentiated teaching approaches to cater to students from different home-language backgrounds.

We promote the use of the Mother Tongue Languages, with greater emphasis on listening and speaking skills.

REVISED MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGE CURRICULUM: KEY FEATURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHINESE LANGUAGE CURRICULUM</th>
<th>MALAY LANGUAGE CURRICULUM</th>
<th>TAMIL LANGUAGE CURRICULUM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Emphasis on listening, speaking, reading and writing.</td>
<td>• Emphasis on listening, speaking, reading and writing.</td>
<td>• Emphasis on listening, speaking, reading and writing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Emphasis on interaction skills.</td>
<td>• Emphasis on interaction skills.</td>
<td>• Emphasis on interaction skills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Teaching tailored to meet the different learning needs of students.</td>
<td>• Teaching tailored to meet the different learning needs of students.</td>
<td>• Teaching tailored to meet the different learning needs of students.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• More engaging and appealing teaching materials that capture students’ interest.</td>
<td>• More engaging and appealing teaching materials that capture students’ interest.</td>
<td>• More engaging and appealing teaching materials that capture students’ interest.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• Modular approach where all students will take the Core Module; students who require more support can take Bridging/Reinforcement Modules; students with interest and ability to go further can take Enrichment Modules.

• Students will have the opportunity to progress to different levels of achievement in their learning.

• Students will have the opportunity to progress to different levels of achievement in their learning. They will also be given more opportunities to practise Spoken Tamil.

**Differentiated Learning Environment**

LEARNING SUPPORT PROGRAMMES

Schools have Learning Support Programmes (LSP) for students entering Primary 1, to ensure that help is provided for those who need it.

The LSP for English provides additional support for students with weak literacy skills. Students attend lessons one period a day in small groups, and are taught by specially trained teachers using strategies that will improve their reading ability.

The LSP for Mathematics provides additional support to students who need help in acquiring basic numeracy skills. Students are taught in smaller classes during their regular mathematics periods or supplementary lessons by specially trained teachers.

PROGRAMMES FOR INTELLECTUALLY GIFTED STUDENTS

The Gifted Education Programme (GEP) caters to students who are intellectually gifted.

Your child’s school will invite him to participate in a Screening Exercise when he is in Primary 3, as part of a two-stage Identification Exercise, to select students for the GEP.

GEP students will be placed in selected primary schools for Primary 4 to Primary 6. The enriched curriculum in the GEP is built upon the subject syllabi of the regular curriculum, and taught by teachers selected and trained by MOE’s Gifted Education Branch.

GEP students have many opportunities to learn and play with fellow non-GEP students during planned lessons and activities for Mother Tongue Language, Physical Education, Art and Music, as well as Values in Action (VIA) projects and CCA.

For learners with high ability in specific areas, who are not in the GEP, there are opportunities to enrich their learning through both school-based and MOE centrally organised activities during or outside of school hours.
SUBJECT-BASED BANDING (PRIMARY)

Subject-based Banding for Primary Schools begins in Primary 5 and continues till Primary 6.

It provides greater flexibility for your child by offering him the option of a combination of standard and/or foundation subjects, depending on his strengths. This will help him focus on and stretch his potential in the subjects that he is strong in, while building up the fundamentals in the subjects in which he needs more support.

HOW DOES SUBJECT-BASED BANDING WORK?

At Primary 4

Student sits for school-based examinations
School recommends a subject combination based on the student’s results.
Parents fill up an option form indicating the preferred combination.

At Primary 5

Student takes subject combination chosen by parents
English Language, Mathematics, Science and Mother Tongue Language are available at standard and foundation levels.
Students may be offered their respective Higher Mother Tongue Language if they demonstrate good competency in their Mother Tongue Language.
School assesses student’s ability to cope with the current subject combination at the end of the year. Adjustments to the number of standard and foundation subjects can be made, if necessary.

At Primary 6

Student takes subject combination decided by his school and sits for the Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) at the end of Primary 6.

Learn Through Play

The MOE has progressively implemented a series of enhancements to primary school education from 2009, so as to incorporate the recommendations made by the Primary Education Review and Implementation (PERI) committee. These enhancements aim to make learning more enjoyable and meaningful for your child, and seek to develop in him a balance of skills and values.

MORE ENGAGING TEACHING METHODS

Our teachers are adopting more creative learning strategies in the curriculum to make lessons come to life. For example, your child will be able to learn mathematical concepts through investigative tasks and real-life activities, and language skills through role-play and drama.

FORM TEACHER GUIDANCE PERIOD

As Form Teachers play a central role in shaping the development of their young charges, the Form Teacher Guidance Period (FTGP) has been introduced in all primary schools since 2012.

The allocated one period per week carves out time for more quality teacher-student interaction, and allows teachers to equip students with social and emotional competencies.

PROGRAMME FOR ACTIVE LEARNING

To encourage learning beyond the classroom, we offer the Programme for Active Learning (PAL), which will give your child the chance to discover new interests, learn new skills and develop his character.

Your child will have the opportunity during curriculum time to try out activities in sports and outdoor education, as well as in the performing and visual arts.

All primary schools offer PAL to their Primary 1 and 2 students.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Co-curricular Activities (CCAs) are an integral part of a well-rounded education and play an important role in building character. There is a whole spectrum of exciting co-curricular activities for your child to choose from, ranging from physical sports, uniformed groups, visual and performing arts, to clubs and societies. They help nurture in your child qualities such as resilience, cross-cultural awareness, confidence and creativity.
Choosing the Right School

To help you choose a school that matches the needs of your child, below are some possible factors to consider.

**TRAVEL TIME AND DISTANCE TO SCHOOL**
A shorter distance from the school to your home means a shorter travelling time and reduced transport costs. It also provides better opportunities for you to forge a strong relationship with the school of your choice.

For a list of schools near (within 1 km and 1-to-2 km) your residential address, visit the Singapore Land Authority’s One Map School Query Service (www.onemap.sg).

**MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGES**
There are Mother Tongue Language options offered at the school. Parents should note that:

- Chinese Language is offered in all schools;
- Malay Language is offered in all except Special Assistance Plan schools; and
- Tamil Language is offered in most schools, but do confirm this with the school of your choice.

**YOUR CHILD’S INTERESTS**
Consider your child’s non-academic interests like sports, performing arts, music and technology, and find out if the school offers activities that match these interests.

**SCHOOL IDENTITY**
Each school has its own unique strengths. Learning about the school will enable you to find out about the:

- School’s vision and mission;
- Culture of the school; and
- Parent Support Groups.

**AFFILIATED SCHOOLS**
Some primary schools (mostly those with religious/clan associations) have close ties with certain secondary schools, in the form of affiliation. Your child can enjoy priority for admission to the secondary school affiliated to his primary school, provided he meets the school’s admission criteria, and he indicates the affiliated secondary school as his first choice.

**AFFILIATED SCHOOLS**

The majority of government primary schools have transitioned to a single-session structure in 2016. This means schools will have more time and space to focus on non-academic aspects such as leadership training and character building.

A single-session structure does not mean a full day of school; it only means an extension of one to two hours on certain days to facilitate your child’s non-academic development. Schools are given the flexibility to plan these activities based on their specific needs.

New infrastructure will be put in place to support these non-academic activities. School facilities and spaces are being redesigned, and this includes outdoor learning spaces and additional venues for performing arts.

**HOLISTIC ASSESSMENT TO SUPPORT LEARNING**
Assessment is integral to the learning process.

Holistic Assessment emphasises the development of skills and values, as well as the acquisition of knowledge to enable your child to build greater confidence and develop a stronger desire to learn. This would in turn help him to develop his potential.

With Holistic Assessment, schools are moving beyond tests and examinations, and using other appropriate assessment modes to provide useful information that supports your child’s learning and holistic development.

At Primary 1, there will be no examinations so that your child can ease into formal schooling more smoothly.

As parents, you will receive more meaningful and regular feedback that highlights areas where your child has done well, and also ways to improve his learning.
SPECIAL ASSISTANCE PLAN SCHOOLS

Special Assistance Plan schools nurture in their students a deep understanding of the Chinese Language, culture and heritage, and enable them to be effectively bilingual in both English and Chinese languages.

SPECIAL EDUCATION SCHOOLS

Special Education (SPED) schools provide an alternative education pathway for children with moderate to severe special educational needs who are unable to benefit from learning in mainstream school setting, and who require intensive specialised assistance in their education. This is to fully optimise their potential and abilities for learning and independent living.

SPED schools provide a customised educational and training pathway to cater to the diverse needs of children with moderate to severe special educational needs.

There are 20 government-funded SPED schools run by Voluntary Welfare Organisations. For more details, visit www.moe.gov.sg/education/special-education.

SPECIAL NEEDS

Support is available in all national schools for students with mild special education needs (SEN).

If your child has mild SEN such as Dyslexia, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder or mild Autism Spectrum Disorder, all mainstream primary schools have Allied Educators (Learning and Behavioural Support) to help them integrate into the school environment.

In addition, all schools have a core group of teachers trained in special needs to support students in their learning. All schools also have access to MOE psychologists who provide consultation and advice on supporting students with SEN.

The School-based Dyslexia Remediation (SDR) programme is available in all primary schools. SDR is intended to identify students with dyslexia and provide them with school-based intervention in Primary 3 and 4.

Students with hearing, visual or physical impairment can access school-based itinerant support services provided by selected volunteer welfare organisations through their respective schools. This service is available in all national schools. Additionally, there are also designated schools with full facilities for students with physical disabilities. These schools are located in different parts of Singapore to provide convenient access to students. (Please see the Primary School Education Insert in back cover pocket for a list of designated schools.)*


*Second-tier miscellaneous fees are decided by schools up to a cap of 100% of the standard miscellaneous fees.

EDUSAVE SCHEME

The Edusave Scheme maximises educational opportunities for all Singaporean children by providing both the children and schools with funds to pay for enrichment programmes, or to purchase additional resources. It also rewards those who perform well, or who make good progress in their academic and non-academic work.

Your child will receive an annual contribution in his Edusave account, if he is a Singapore Citizen and aged 7 to 16 or enrolled at primary and secondary levels in MOE-funded schools. The amount contributed for 2017 is $200 for primary-level students.

For more Information on school fees payable for your child, please visit www.moe.gov.sg/education/primary/ and www.moe.gov.sg/education/admissions/international-students/general-info/#monthly-school-fees.

EDUSAVE PUPILS FUND

Your child may use the funds in his Edusave account to pay for:
- Enrichment programmes organised by his school; and
- Second-tier miscellaneous fees in government or government-aided primary schools.

EDUSAVE GRANTS

Your child’s school will also receive annual grants to purchase teaching tools or organise enrichment activities that will benefit your child.

FINANCING YOUR CHILD’S SCHOOLING

FEES

School and miscellaneous fees in our local schools have been kept affordable so that every child can enjoy the benefits of primary school education.

SCHOOL FEES AND MISCELLANEOUS FEES: MONTHLY FEES PAYABLE IN GOVERNMENT AND GOVERNMENT-AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHOOL FEES</th>
<th>STANDARD MISCELLANEOUS FEES</th>
<th>SECOND-TIER MISCELLANEOUS FEES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Singapore Citizen</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$6.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore PR</td>
<td>$130.00</td>
<td>$6.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Student (ASEAN)</td>
<td>$390.00</td>
<td>$6.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Student</td>
<td>$550.00</td>
<td>$6.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Fees are correct as at March 2017, subject to change.


NEED TO KNOW MORE?

- Please visit www.moe.gov.sg
- Information on individual primary schools is also available in the School Information Services section on the MOE website (http://sis.moe.gov.sg/).
- To find out more about the school of your choice, visit the school’s website, attend the school’s Open House, or call the school. 
EDUSAVE AWARDS

The Edusave Awards recognise students’ achievements in academic and non-academic domains and encourages them to continue to excel.

Your child may qualify for the Edusave Awards if he is a Singapore Citizen and performs well in the following areas in school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EDUSAVE AWARDS</th>
<th>ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA</th>
<th>VALUE (PER YEAR)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Edusave Character Award**         | Up to 2% of students who have demonstrated exemplary character and outstanding personal qualities through their behaviour and actions. | • $200 for Pri 1 to Pri 3  
• $350 for Pri 4 to Pri 6 |
| **Edusave Scholarship**             | Top 10% of students in the level/course in terms of academic performance and have good conduct. | • $350 for Pri 5 to Pri 6 |
| **Edusave Awards for Achievement, Good Leadership and Service** | Top 10% of students who have demonstrated leadership qualities, service to community and schools, excellence in non-academic activities, and good conduct. | • $250 for Pri 4 to Pri 6 |
| **Edusave Merit Bursary**           | Top 25% of students in the level/course in terms of academic performance and have good conduct. Their household income does not exceed $6,000 (or per capita income* does not exceed $1,500). | • $200 for Pri 1 to Pri 3  
• $250 for Pri 4 to Pri 6 |
| **Edusave Good Progress Award**     | Top 10% of students in each level/course who showed improvement in academic performance and have good conduct. | • $100 for Pri 2 to Pri 3  
• $150 for Pri 4 to Pri 6 |

* Per capita income is the Gross Household Income divided by the number of household members which include the student, his parents, unmarried siblings and grandparents.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE SCHEMES

Financial assistance schemes are available to ensure that no child is denied an education because of his financial situation.

The MOE Financial Assistance Scheme (FAS) provides needy students with free textbooks, school attire, transport subsidy and waiver of standard miscellaneous fees. Primary school students on MOE FAS are also provided meal subsidies.

In addition, schools provide discretionary assistance (e.g. meal subsidies) using school-based funds. This school-based assistance can benefit those who do not meet the qualifying criteria for the MOE FAS, as well as provide additional assistance to those on the MOE FAS.

Parents and students can approach the schools directly if they require financial assistance.

MOE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME (FAS) FOR GOVERNMENT AND GOVERNMENT-AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELIGIBILITY</th>
<th>STANDARD MISCELLANEOUS FEES</th>
<th>TEXTBOOK</th>
<th>SCHOOL ATTIRE</th>
<th>MEALS</th>
<th>TRANSPORT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family with gross household income not exceeding $2,500 per month</td>
<td>100% waived</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Subsidies for seven meals a week</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per Capita Income* not exceeding $625 per month</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Students taking school bus: 50% of school-bus fares</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students taking public transport: $120 transport credit per annum</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Per capita income is the Gross Household Income divided by the number of household members which include the student, his parents, unmarried siblings and grandparents.

OPPORTUNITY FUND

Beyond the financial assistance schemes, MOE provides the Opportunity Fund which our schools, ITE and polytechnics can use for the provision of enrichment activities and other co-curricular development opportunities for Singaporean students from less-advantaged backgrounds. The Fund can also be used to subsidise the purchase of computers for needy students in our schools under the IDA’s NEU PC Plus Programme. This ensures that they will not be denied learning opportunities due to family circumstances.
Parents and Schools as Partners

Bringing up a child is an enriching journey, and as a parent, you are the key navigator of your child’s growth. His development is set primarily at home and in school, and when these two environments are attuned to each other, your child benefits the most. Working hand-in-hand with schools will help you better understand the needs and development of your child, so that you may give him the necessary care, support and reinforcement at home.

MOE encourages more parents to step forward and lend their expertise to school programmes and activities. Partnerships between home and schools, as well as the community, can enrich your child’s learning experience.

When your child enters Primary 1, you will receive a copy of the Parent-Child Activity Book, which is a resource for parents to support their child’s transition from pre-school to Primary 1. The book offers parenting tips and suggests activities to encourage conversations at home. It also helps you reinforce values and routines that your child practises in school.

Here are some tips on how you can help your child in his early years of education so he can enjoy his learning experience while in primary school.

HELP YOUR CHILD KNOW HIS SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

The earlier your child becomes familiar with his new environment, the more positive he will feel about going to school.

• Visit or tour the school grounds with your child or show him pictures of the school.
• Talk to your child about the new routines he will be going through every day, such as wearing a school uniform, going to the canteen and playing with his peers at recess.
• Encourage your child to practise skills such as asking for permission, buying food, organising his school bag and passing messages between his school and parents.

VALUE YOUR CHILD

• Value your child for who he is, not just for what he has achieved.
• Build and strengthen a good relationship with your child. Respect his opinions and listen to what he has to say.
• Love your child regardless of his results.
• Affirm your child’s effort – focus on the process, not the marks or grades.
• Help your child achieve the targets he sets. Avoid comparing your child’s performance with that of others.
• Be generous with your praise.

HELP AND GUIDE YOUR CHILD IN HIS LEARNING

• Help him to know the sources of help available in school (such as his Form Teacher or School Counsellor) and how he can seek assistance. You can even role-play with your child.
• Get him excited about new experiences, such as making new friends or learning new things.

BUILD YOUR CHILD’S CHARACTER

Parents play a key role in values education. In the primary school CCE curriculum, a new segment titled “Family Time” has been included to promote parent-child bonding through suggested activities that parents and children can carry out together. This helps to reinforce what is taught in school.

• Understand your child’s strengths and weaknesses. Help your child develop his strengths further.
• Have realistic expectations and achievable goals for your child.
• Set step-by-step goals to enable your child to achieve them and experience success.
• Discipline with empathy and care. Your child’s misbehaviour, though incorrect, may be his best attempt to meet his needs at that moment. Misbehaviours require consequences and correction with understanding and love. Help your child understand why his chosen behaviour is wrong, and learn what are the right ways to meet his needs.

HELP YOUR CHILD KNOW HIS SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

The earlier your child becomes familiar with his new environment, the more positive he will feel about going to school.

• Visit or tour the school grounds with your child or show him pictures of the school.
• Talk to your child about the new routines he will be going through every day, such as wearing a school uniform, going to the canteen and playing with his peers at recess.
• Encourage your child to practise skills such as asking for permission, buying food, organising his school bag and passing messages between his school and parents.

VALUE YOUR CHILD

• Value your child for who he is, not just for what he has achieved.
• Build and strengthen a good relationship with your child. Respect his opinions and listen to what he has to say.
• Love your child regardless of his results.
• Affirm your child’s effort – focus on the process, not the marks or grades.
• Help your child achieve the targets he sets. Avoid comparing your child’s performance with that of others.
• Be generous with your praise.

HELP AND GUIDE YOUR CHILD IN HIS LEARNING

• Help your child to develop a routine for school and homework.
• Create a conducive learning environment that suits your child’s learning style or habits.
• Teach your child to monitor his own behaviour so as to develop self-discipline.
• Be alert to his needs and fears. Seek help from school personnel such as the Form Teacher, School Counsellor, Head of Department overseeing student welfare, Learning Support Coordinator, or other professionals, if necessary.
Singapore's Education System: An Overview

**PRIMARY**
- 6 years

**SECONdARY**
- 4-5 years

**POST-SECONDARY**
- 2-3 years

---

### PRIMARY SCHOOLS
- 6 Years

#### SPECIAL SCHOOLS
- Special Education Schools
- Normal (Academic) [N(A)]
- Normal (Technical) [N(T)]
- Express

#### PRIVATELY FUNDED SCHOOLS
- 4-5 Years

### SPECIALS
- Specialised 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.

### SPECIALISED INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS
- 3-6 Years

#### NORMAL SCHOOLS

- Normal (Academic) [N(A)]
- Normal (Technical) [N(T)]

### EXPRESS SCHOOLS
- 4-6 Years

### PRIVATELY FUNDED SCHOOLS
- 4-6 Years

#### SPECIALISED SCHOOLS
- 3-6 Years

### POLYTECHNICS
- 2-3 Years

### UNIVERSITIES
- GCE A-Level

### POLYTECHNICS
- GCE O-Level

### INSTITUTE OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION
- GCE N-Level

### ARTS INSTITUTIONS
- Junior Colleges/Centralised Institute

### ALTERNATIVE QUALIFICATIONS
- Polytechnic Foundation Programme (PFP)
- Direct-Entry Scheme to Polytechnic Programme (DPP)
- Alternative Qualifications

### WORK & LIFELONG LEARNING
- Adult education and training options

---

1. Students taking the mainstream curriculum in Pathlight School will sit for the PSLE, and may also sit for the N- or O-Level exams.
2. Specialised 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 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. Alternative Qualifications refer to qualifications not traditionally offered at mainstream schools in Singapore.
5. 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 4N(A). Students who successfully complete the PFP may progress directly into the first year of their respective polytechnic diploma courses.
6. The Direct-Entry Scheme to Polytechnic Programme (DPP) is a through-train pathway to polytechnics for students who have completed Secondary 4N(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.
7. 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 the Singapore Workforce Development Agency (WDA).

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.)
SUPPORT AND CONTACT

Find out more about the various school programmes and be in regular contact with your child’s teachers. The partnership established between parents and the school will help you stay constantly informed and involved in your child’s progress.

Your child’s holistic development is the focus of our schools’ efforts. Together, we can help your child realise his full potential.

Parents keen to serve in their child’s school can consider joining its Parent Support Group (PSG). As part of the PSG, parents will have opportunities to work with school personnel on programmes and projects that will benefit their child and the school.

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).

If you need further information on primary school education, visit MOE’s website at www.moe.gov.sg or call the MOE Customer Service Centre at 6872 2220. You can also connect with us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/moesingapore.