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.
Our 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.
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) (SBB [Sec]) is one of many pathways for students to nurture their aptitudes and enhance their access to opportunities throughout their educational journey. SBB [Sec] allows your child to take specific subjects at a higher academic 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 higher academic 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 Standard subject or ‘1’ 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 higher-level subjects if found suitable to do so by their schools.

Secondary schools will provide eligible students with more information and offer letters to invite them to apply to take higher-level subjects 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 initiatives, 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

1 Selected programmes will be progressively made available as SkillsFuture Earn and Learn Programmes, which are work-learn programmes designed to give fresh polytechnic and ITE graduates a head-start in their careers related to their discipline of study.
2 Students who intend to pursue a Bachelor of Engineering (B.Eng) in Mechanical Engineering or TED in Automotive Engineering are eligible to apply for admission into a relevant part-time Bachelor of Technology (B.Tech) programme at NUS.
3 Relevant modular courses may count towards the attainment of a full qualification at the universities, polytechnics and ITE.
4 Schools that offer the Integrated Programme admit students at Secondary 1. Places are also available to admit students at Year 3. (This has not been fully represented in the diagram.)

Note: The Arts Institutions, NAFA and LASALLE, also offer diploma and degree programmes in the creative arts. For the pathways for education placement of students with special needs, please refer to: https://www.moe.gov.sg/education/special-education/special-education-schools/education-pathways-for-children.
CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (CCAs)

CCAs 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.

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

Participation in CCAs 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 CCAs, which include uniformed groups, clubs and societies, sports and games and visual and performing arts.

Maximising Your Child’s Potential

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.

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 CCAs.

• 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. For the list of Applied Subjects and the schools that offer them, please visit the relevant web link (at right of this page).

• 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. It 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.

• 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.

For more information on Applied Learning, please visit: www.moe.gov.sg/education/secondary/applied-learning
Catering to Interests and Holistic Development

Our schools recognise 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 http://sis.moe.gov.sg/.

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

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Some secondary schools are resourced with Allied Educators (Learning and Behavioural Support), who have deeper expertise in supporting students with SEN. They work closely with teachers to provide the necessary support to facilitate a positive school experience.

Our mainstream secondary schools provide support to students with sensory and/or physical impairment in these areas:

- Provision of assistive learning devices.
- Itinerant school-based specialised educational services run by VWOs.
- Deployment of resource teachers in designated secondary schools for students with hearing loss and/or visual impairment.
- Full handicapped facilities for barrier-free accessibility for students with physical impairment.

For a list of the secondary schools resourced to support students with mild SEN and physical/sensory impairments, please refer to the MOE website at www.moe.gov.sg/education/programmes/support-for-children-special-needs.

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 some Primary 6 students for admission to Secondary 1 before the PSLE results are released, based on their talents and achievements in specific academic and/or non-academic areas, 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)

Additional provisions have been made in schools to support the inclusion of students with mild special educational needs who can access national curriculum, such as students with Dyslexia, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, and mild Autism, as well as students with physical and sensory impairment.

Each secondary school has a core group of teachers who are trained to support students with mild SEN.
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 meets 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.

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)

The programme is offered to all Secondary HTL students who have an aptitude for Tamil language and culture. The NETP can help your child reach a higher level of proficiency in, and deepen his understanding and appreciation of the Tamil language, literature and culture. This programme is offered at the 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.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES PROGRAMME

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

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 been 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.
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, Hwa Chong Institution, Dunman High School, Nanyang Girls’ High School, River Valley High School, Catholic High School, CHIJ St Nicholas Girls’ 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.

Your child can look forward to an immersion experience in China for up to six months and in a Western country for up to two weeks.

Students who are successfully enrolled in the programme will be considered for the Bicultural Studies Programme 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.

For more information on the highlighted programmes, please refer to the MOE website at www.moe.gov.sg/education/secondary/language-programmes/.

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.

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 of 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.

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 in the Express course who have a keen interest in art can apply to be an external AEP student at NJC by submitting their application through 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 the AEP, please visit the MOE website at www.moe.gov.sg/education/secondary/other/art-elective-programme/.

**MUSIC ELECTIVE PROGRAMME (MEP)**

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.

The programme allows students to build their conceptual and creative skills through the practical and theoretical study of 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)
- Raffles Institution
- 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) gives students the option to take the O-Level Higher Music exam in the fourth year or continue on to offer the two-year MEP at Years 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.

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 with 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 MEP. Students will enjoy the same specialised and rigorous MEP curriculum in music practice, history and theory.

Secondary 1 students in the Express course 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 from both genders. Applicants will participate in a selection comprising theory and musical-perception exercises. Those shortlisted will be invited for an audition and interview. Application details will be posted on the Ministry’s MEP website by the end of November.

For more information on the MEP, please visit the MOE website at www.moe.gov.sg/education/secondary/other/music-elective-programme/.

**ENHANCED ART PROGRAMME (EAP)**

The Enhanced Art Programme (EAP) is another enriched art programme that artistically-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:
- 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
- Orchid Park Secondary School
- St Andrew’s 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 qualify for GCE O-Level Art at the upper secondary level and meet any entry requirements set by the school.

For more information on the EAP, please visit the MOE website at www.moe.gov.sg/education/secondary/other/enhanced-art-programme/.

**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, and theory and practices in the creative industries. Students will also have opportunities to know more about and deepen their skills in the different fields of music studies.

Schools that offer the EMP are:
- Ahmad Ibrahim Secondary School
- Chung Cheng High School (Main)
- St Margaret’s Secondary School
- Yuhua 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 qualify for GCE O-Level Music at the upper secondary level and meet any entry requirements set by the school.

For more information on the EMP, please visit the MOE website at www.moe.gov.sg/education/secondary/other/enhanced-music-programme/.
INTEGRATED PROGRAMME (IP)
The Integrated Programme (IP) provides an integrated 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.

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.

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*Dual-track schools that offer both the IP and O-Level programme.

GIFTED EDUCATION PROGRAMME (GEP)

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 schools offering 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 to better engage them in learning.

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
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 the following schools: NUS High School of Mathematics and Science, School of Science and Technology, and School of the Arts.

Note: Students interested in the Singapore Sports School must apply directly to the school.

TYPES OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS

There are five types of secondary schools: Government Schools, Government-aided Schools, Independent Schools, Specialised Independent Schools, Specialised Schools.

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 also 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 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 AND GOVERNMENT-AIDED SCHOOLS

(i) Criteria:
- The child must be a Singapore Citizen studying in a Government or Government-aided 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.

(i) 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>Financial Assistance to Students at Secondary Level</td>
<td>100% subsidy</td>
<td>100% subsidy</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

MOE INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS 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 LIMITS* (Meet one of the following criteria)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MONTHLY GROSS HOUSEHOLD INCOME (GHI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not exceeding $2,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free textbooks and school attire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2,751 - $4,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>$4,001 - $6,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$6,901 - $9,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

- Singapore Sports School, School of the Arts, NorthLight School, Assumption Pathway School, Crescent Secondary School and Spectra Secondary School have their own schemes to provide financial assistance to students. Please refer to the schools’ websites for information.
- For ISB recipients who are eligible for partial subsidy of school fees and are also recipients of MOE scholarships, special awards or bursaries which provide partial payment of school fees, the total subsidy received by them will be capped at the annual school fees charged by each Independent School or Specialised Independent School less the annual amount of school and standard miscellaneous fees paid by students in Government/ Government-aided secondary schools.

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 personality, 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?

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 pre-determined 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 Process.

   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 2019’ 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.

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.
DON'T MISS THE SUBMISSION DATES!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KEY EVENT</th>
<th>DATE (TENTATIVE)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Release of PSLE Results</td>
<td>Between 22 and 26 November 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submission of school choices and options</td>
<td>Seven calendar days starting from the release of the PSLE results (e.g. if the PSLE results are released on 22 November, submission will be from 22 to 28 November).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Via S1 Internet System (S1-IS)</td>
<td>S1-IS is 24-hour accessible starting from 11am on the first day until 3pm on the last day of the school choice submission period.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Via Primary School</td>
<td>Five working days starting from the release of the PSLE results (e.g. if the PSLE results are released on 22 November, submissions will be from 22 to 28 November). Primary schools are not open on weekends. Submission starts from 11am to 3pm on the first day; and 9am to 3pm from the second to last day of the school choice submission period. If your child missed the one-week period for submission, you can approach the primary school for assistance the day after the submission closes, from 9am to 12pm. This half-day submission is only for new submission of S1 school choices and options and not for amendments to earlier submissions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Release of S1 Posting Results</td>
<td>19 December 2018 [tentative]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students to report to secondary schools for registration</td>
<td>20 December 2018 at 8.30am [tentative]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

RELEASE OF POSTING RESULTS
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WHAT IF I AM NOT IN THE COUNTRY DURING THE S1 POSTING PROCESS?
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 K of the “Choosing Your Secondary Schools for Admission to Secondary 1 in 2019” 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 2019”, which is given out to all Primary 6 students in October 2018.
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

"Involving your child in the selection of a school. Each child is unique and has his strengths, interests and needs. Listen to your child’s perspective and explore what various schools have to offer in terms of programmes and experiences. Find out the school vision, mission and values. Visit schools to observe the environment, and talk to the staff, students and parents to have a sense of the school culture.

The school that you and your child select should be one that can best nurture him in the next phase of his development, where opportunities and experiences provided will engage and excite him, and motivate him towards attaining his potential. The values, skills and knowledge imbued in your child will shape and develop him holistically, and prepare him for the future.”

MR MOHD AZHAR TERIMO
Principal, Bartley 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

SUPPORT AND CONTACT

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 MySkillsFuture 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.