#### Welcome to

## Primary 6 Parents' Briefing

11 March 2022



#### **Outline of Sharing**

- I. Intent of PSLE
- 2. Understanding How the PSLE Scoring System Works
- 3. Understanding How the SI Posting System Works
- 4. Choice of Secondary School & DSA
- 5. PGPS Performance at PSLE 2021
- 6. Strategies in Supporting Your Child to Achieve Academic Excellence

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



A useful checkpoint at the end of primary school

A fair way to determine secondary school posting

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

- Reducing fine differentiation of students' examination results at a young age.
- Recognising a student's level of achievement, regardless of how his/her peers have done.
- Encouraging families to choose secondary schools holistically based on students' strengths, interests and abilities.

## How the PSLE Scoring System Works FROM T-SCORE TO SCORING BANDS

## a) Reduces fine differentiation of students' examination results at a young age

- Students with similar scores in each subject are grouped into wider scoring bands measured in 8 ALs.
- b) Reflects a student's individual level of achievement.
  - Students' Achievement Level (AL) for each subject will reflect their level of achievement, rather than how they have performed relative to their peers.

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

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

Foundation subject grades are graded in scoring bands from **ALA to C**.

To derive a student's overall PSLE Score for S1 Posting, AL A to AL C for Foundation level subjects are mapped to AL 6 to AL 8 of Standard level subjects respectively.

Similar to the PSLE T-score system, this mapping is based on the learning and assessment load of the subjects, and informs students of how ready they are for the curriculum in secondary school.

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



#### **Overall PSLE Score**

- A student's PSLE Score is the sum of the four AL scores across his/her Standard and Foundation subjects. The PSLE Score can range from 4 to 32, with 4 being the best.
- Students are placed in secondary school courses based on their PSLE Score – Express, Normal (Academic) or Normal (Technical).

ENGLISH LANGUAGE	AL 3	
MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGE	AL 2	
MATHEMATICS	AL 4	
SCIENCE	AL 3	
PSLE SCORE: 12		

ENGLISH LANGUAGE	AL 5
MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGE	AL 2
FOUNDATION MATHEMATICS	ALB
SCIENCE	AL 6
PSLE SCORE:	21

PLACEMENT OUTCOME	PSLE SCORE
EXPRESS	4 – 20
EXPRESS / N(A) option	21 – 22
N(A)	23 – 24
N(A) / N(T) option	25
N(T)	26 – 30, with AL7 or better in both EL <u>and</u> MA

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



## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR HIGHER MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGE (HMTL) IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS

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

#### **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR HMTL**

(i) An overall PSLE Score of 8 or better

or

- (ii) An overall PSLE Score of 9 to 14 (inclusive); and attain
  - AL 1 / AL 2 in MTL or
  - Distinction / Merit in HMTL



## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGE (MTL) 'B' IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS

- The MTL 'B' curriculum is designed to help students in the Express and N(A) courses who face exceptional difficulty coping with MTL.
- Schools have discretion to offer MTL 'B' to students who face exceptional difficulty with MTL but do not meet the eligibility criteria at Secondary I based on PSLE results.
- As students progress in secondary school, they may also take up MTL 'B' if they are assessed to be suitable by their schools.

#### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR MTL 'B' (FOR STUDENTS OFFERED THE EXPRESS OR N(A) COURSE)

AL 7 or 8 in Standard MTL

<u>or</u>

AL B or C in Foundation MTL



## SUBJECT-BASED BANDING (SECONDARY) [SBB (SEC)] ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- SBB (Sec) provides students posted to the N(A) and (NT) courses with **greater flexibility** to take various subjects at a more demanding level based on their subject-specific strengths.
- Under the new PSLE Scoring System, the SBB (Sec) eligibility criteria is as follows:

FOR STUDENTS POSTED TO THE N(A) OR N(T) COURSE			
PSLE SUBJECT GRADE OPTION TO TAKE SUBJECT			
AL 5 or better in a Standard level subject	Express level		
AL 6 or better in a Standard level subject  OR  AL A in a Foundation level subject	N(A) level		

 As students progress in secondary school, they continue to have opportunities at various junctures to take subjects at more demanding levels based on their performance in school

## SUBJECT-BASED BANDING (SECONDARY) [SBB (SEC)] ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

N(A)-Level English

Exp-Level Math N(A)-Level MTL

N(A)-Level Science



#### **EXAMPLE:**

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

AL6

AL6

MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGE

**MATHEMATICS** 

AL5

SCIENCE

AL6

**PSLE SCORE:** 

23

Offered N(A) course

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

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



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

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

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

- Removal of Express, N(A) and N(T) courses
- Mixed form classes
- Common Curriculum subjects
- Offering subjects at a more demanding level, including Humanities subjects
- Common National Examinations
- Post-secondary Admissions

(More information will be made available at a later date.)



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

Link to PSLE-FSBB Microsite





31 schools

Next phase of schools

Final phase of schools

2024

Common National Exam

2020

Full SBB pilot commenced in 28 secondary schools. Feedback from pilot schools has been positive.

2022

2023

Full SBB will continue to be rolled out to more schools in phases.

From 2024,

- There will no longer be Express, N(A) and N(T) courses.
- Students will be able to study subjects at different levels that suit their interests, strengths and learning needs.

2027

From 2027, students will sit for the common national examination and receive a new national certification with subjects at different levels.

PUNGGOLGREEN

#### **Entering a Secondary School**



#### **PSLE/SI Posting Exercise**

- Based on a student's PSLE score (Total AL Score)
- Most students enter secondary schools this way

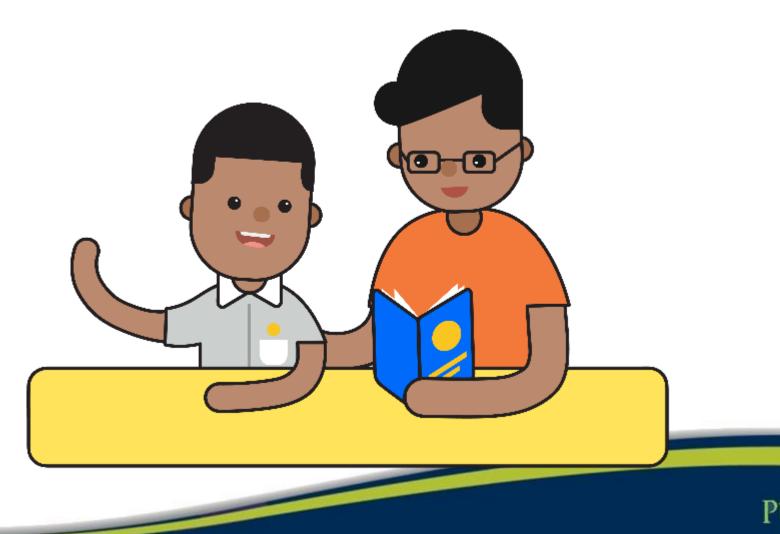


#### **DSA**

- Based on a diverse range of talents and achievements in specific academic subjects or non-academic areas, before taking the PSLE.
- Allows students to access school programmes to develop their talents



## CHOOSING SUITABLE SECONDARY SCHOOLS WITH YOUR CHILD



#### SCHOOL CHOICE JOURNEY

- The PSLE Score ranges are a **useful reference point** for parents and students to consider secondary schools.
- Use this information, together with other **important factors** such as the secondary schools' distinctive programmes, CCAs, ethos and cultures, to shortlist schools that would best fit the educational needs of the student.
- If your child has specific talents and strengths beyond the PSLE (e.g. areas such as sports, performing arts and leadership), consider the **Direct School Admission-Secondary (DSA-Sec)** as an alternative admission pathway to access secondary schools that have talent development programmes in these areas.



## UNDERSTANDING HOW THE S1 POSTING SYSTEM WORKS





## CHOICE ORDER OF SCHOOLS MATTERS MORE

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

#### Tie-breakers

in the new S1 Posting System

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

#### Here's a simplified example.

5 students are vying for the last places in the schools of their choice.

> Jane SCHOOL CHOICES:

Singapore 1) Sch A Citizen

2) Sch ... 3) Sch ... 4) Sch ...

1) Sch B

2) Sch ...

3) Sch ...

4) Sch ...

1) Sch A

2) Sch B

3) Sch C

4) Sch ...

1) Sch A

2) Sch B

3) Sch D

4) Sch ...

4) Sch E

SCHOOL CHOICES:

SCHOOL CHOICES:

SCHOOL CHOICES:

Bryan

16 pts

Singapore Citizen

20 pts

Mary

Singapore Citizen

20 pts

Alan

Permanent Resident

20 pts

Rina

Permanent Resident

20 pts

Students with better scores will be posted first



Tie-breaker #1: Citizenship

They will have

priority to enter

School B.



Tie-breaker #2: Choice order of schools



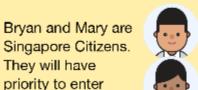
Tie-breaker #3: Computerised balloting

Jane has a better PSLE score. She will be posted first, to School A.



Bryan, Mary, Alan and Rina have the same score.

As Jane has taken the last available place in School A, Bryan, Mary, Alan and Rina will vie for the last available place in their next choice, School B.



Since Bryan has taken the last place in School B, Mary will be posted to School C.

Because Bryan ranked

he will be posted to

School B.

School B higher than Mary,



Alan and Rina have both ranked School D as their third choice. They will go through computerised balloting to vie for the last remaining place in School D.

Through computerised balloting, Alan is posted to School D

Since Alan has taken the last place in School D. Rina will be posted to her fourth choice, School E.

SCHOOL CHOICES: 1) Sch A 2) Sch B 3) Sch D

Alan and Rina will be tie-broken out as they are Permanent Residents. They will be considered for their next choice.

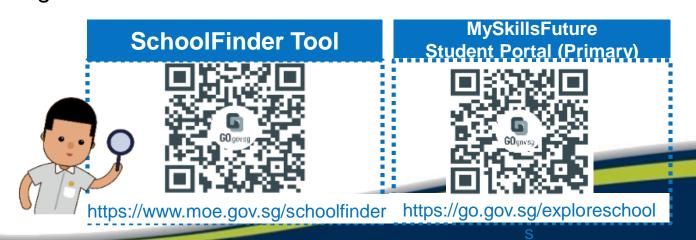
School D.

## PSLE SCORE RANGES FOR INDIVIDUAL SECONDARY SCHOOLS



## PSLE SCORE RANGES FOR ALL SECONDARY SCHOOLS

- Use the PSLE Score ranges as a reference alongside other important factors, such as the school's distinctive programmes, Co-Curricular Activities (CCA), culture, ethos, and proximity to home when shortlisting school choices that would best fit a student's educational needs.
- The 2021 PSLE Score ranges for individual secondary schools will be available for your reference on
   <a href="https://moe.gov.sg/schoolfinder">https://moe.gov.sg/schoolfinder</a> and <a href="https://go.gov.sg/exploreschools">https://go.gov.sg/exploreschools</a> by end March 2022. They reflect the PSLE scores of the student posted into these schools at the 2021 S1 Posting Exercise.
- A school's PSLE Score range (including Cut-Off-Point) for a particular year is not pre-determined before the
  posting, and may vary from year to year, depending on the cohort's PSLE results and their school choices in that
  year's SI Posting Exercise.





## PSLE SCORE RANGES FOR INDIVIDUAL SECONDARY SCHOOLS

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

#### **Example**

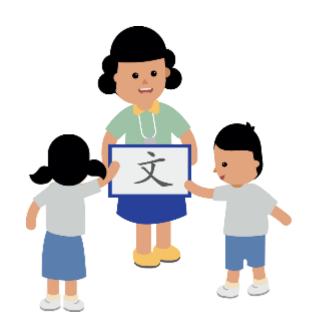
XX Secondary School PSLE Score range of 2021

Express	15 – <mark>20</mark>
Normal (Academic)	21 - 24
Normal (Technical)	25/- <mark>28</mark>

PSLE Score of the <u>first</u> student posted into the school in the respective courses

PSLE Score of the <u>last</u> student posted into the school in the respective courses [i.e., the school's <u>Cut-Off Point (COP)</u>]

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



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

Students who obtained a Distinction/Merit/Pass for HCL at the PSLE and an overall PSLE Score of 14 or better will receive a posting advantage when applying to SAP schools.

Students will be considered for admission to SAP schools in the following order: Students with better PSLE Scores will be NO HCL posted first, even if they did not take HCL DISTINCTION 2nd MERIT Amongst students with the same PSLE Score, those with better HCL grades will be posted first PASS NO HCL DISTINCTION

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

## EXAMPLE OF A SAP SCHOOL'S PSLE SCORE RANGE

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

#### **Example**

XX Secondary School
PSLE Score range of 2021

Express	<mark>5 (D)</mark>	)-(	12 (P)	
Normal (Academic)				
Normal (Technical)				

PSLE Score and HCL grade of the first student posted into the school in the Express course

PSLE Score and HCL grade of the <u>last</u> student posted into the school in the Express course [i.e. the school's <u>Cut-Off Point (COP)</u>]



- Allows students to seek admission to a secondary school on the basis of talents and achievements in specific areas before taking the PSLE
- Enables students to enter academic and non-academic programmes in secondary schools that can develop the students in these areas (e.g. sports and games, aesthetics, leadership, uniform groups etc.)
- Every secondary school offers distinctive programmes and sets its own selection process and criteria to admit up to 20% of its students with talents who can be further developed by their programmes.

#### **Selection Criteria**

Schools have different selection criteria, but in general, applicants must be able to demonstrate a high level of ability in that talent area.

For example, your child might have:

- represented the school in a CCA
- held a prominent role in a play or performance
- Shown talent in oratorical skills or creative writing
- held a leadership role in class or a CCA

**Note:** Academic results and non-academic school-based achievements will be shared automatically to the school that you have chosen

#### Who can apply?

Primary 6 students can apply for DSA-Sec based on a wide-range of talents, including:

- Sports and games
- Visual, literary and performing arts
- Debate and public speaking
- Science, mathematics and engineering
- Languages and humanities
- Uniformed groups
- Leadership (for example, prefects)

Up to 3 choices and in 3 talent areas.



Is the DSA-Sec right for my child?

If your child has specific talent in an area which a secondary school offers the DSA-Sec in,

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

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



### If your child has a DSA Confirmed Offer, does it mean that his PSLE results will not matter?

- His PSLE results will still be used to determine the secondary school course he/she is eligible for [i.e. Express, Normal (Academic), Normal (Technical)]
- Even if he has a confirmed offer, he must qualify for a course offered by the school to be successfully admitted through the DSA.

#### Note

If your child is admitted through DSA-Sec, they must commit to their chosen school for the duration of the programme. They are not allowed to transfer to another secondary school.

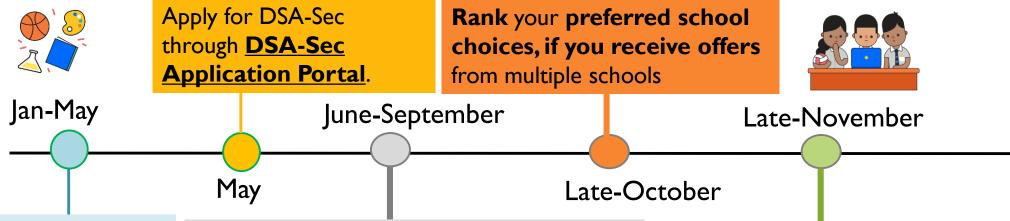
Which school should my child apply to?

- Look for a school with programmes that match your child's strengths and interests
  - > Schools are looking out for students whose interests and talents they can develop further.
  - Learn more about the secondary school's pace of learning and overall range of programmes
- Get the latest information about what each school offers by:
  - Visiting schools' websites
  - > Attending schools' Open Houses to also experience their environments and cultures
  - Visiting the MOE's DSA-Sec website (will be updated around April 2022)

#### **DSA-Sec Application Portal**

- To encourage students to tap on the expanded DSA opportunities, the DSA-Sec application process has been simplified
- Students now apply for DSA through a centralised DSA-Sec Application Portal, using a common application form.
- The portal will simplify and streamline the DSA application process, making it convenient for all students.

#### **Timeline for a DSA-Sec Exercise at Primary 6**



**Explore school choices.** Visit schools' websites for their selection process and schedule.

e-interviews and e-auditions conducted by DSA schools at their primary school. Schools will inform you of the selection outcome by September.

You will know whether you have been allocated to a school through the DSA at the same time you receive your PSLE results.

#### A Summary of 2021 DSA-SEC Applications in PGPS

Number of applicants: 58

Total Number of students with at least 1 DSA-Sec Offer:

13

Top 3 Talent areas (based on applications):

- 1) Sports and Games (62)
- 2) Leadership and Uniformed groups (50)
- 3) STEM (20)



# PGPS PSLE Performance 2021



## Eligibility to Secondary School (Standard)

 2020
 2021

 98.14%
 99.58%

# Eligibility to Secondary School (Foundation)

2020 2021 100% 92.7%



## Popular Secondary School Choices of PGPS Students

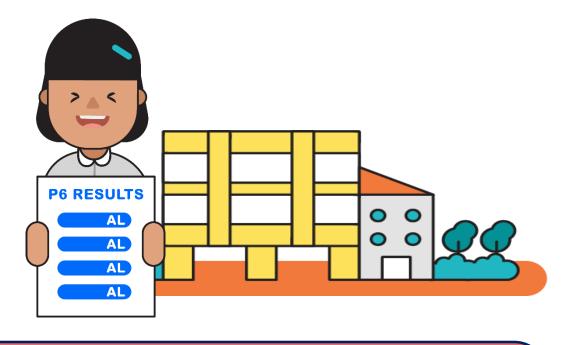
Edgefield Secondary School Yusof Ishak Secondary School

**Greendale Secondary School** 

Nan Chiau High School



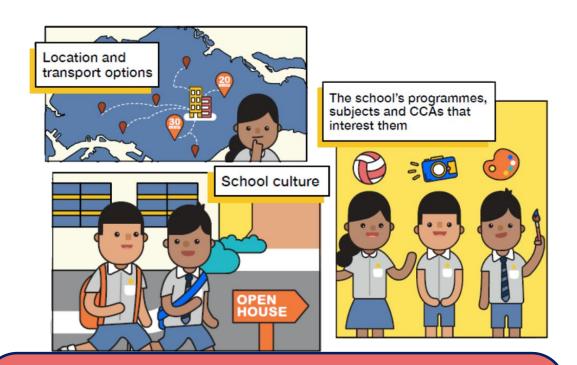




Use all <u>6 options</u> with a range of Cut-off Points as this will increase your child's chances of being posted to a school of his/her choice.

Take reference from schools' PSLE Score ranges, which serves as a guide for you and your child to shortlist school choices.

Consider at least 2-3 schools where your child's PSLE Score is better than the school's Cut-off Point.



Shortlist schools that offer programmes that cater to the <u>your child's strengths and interests</u>, and that provide suitable learning environments.

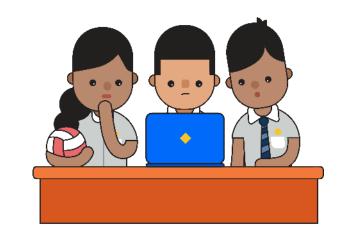


Rank your child's preferred school higher in the school choice order.

This will increase your child's chances of being posted to that school, if tiebreakers are required.

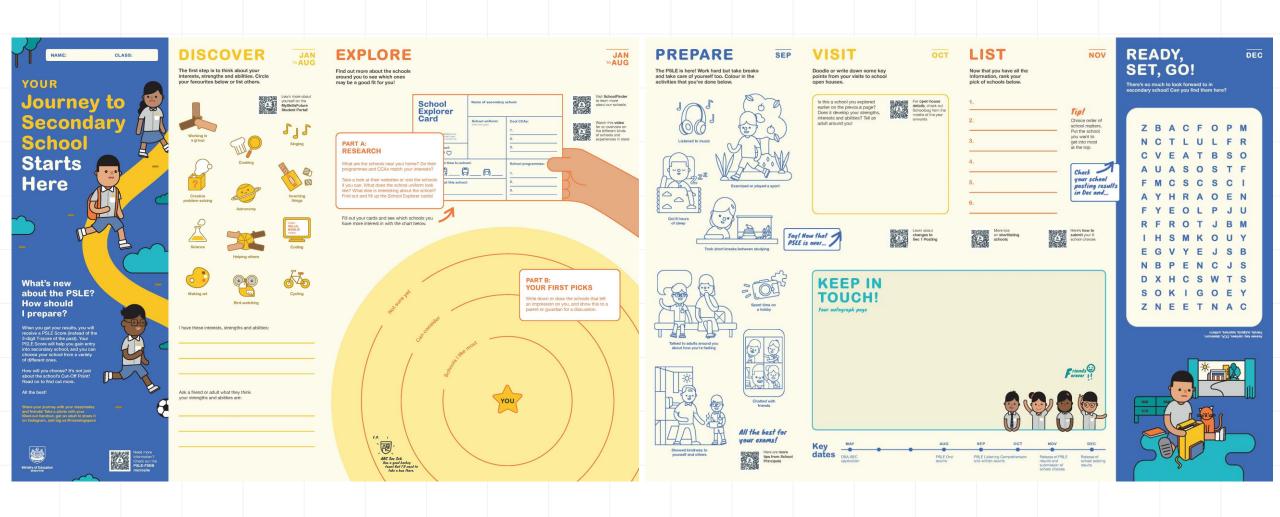
Students will be guided by the YH and Form Teachers in Term 2 Week 2 during Form Teacher Guidance Period to find out more about secondary schools and matching them to students' interests, strengths and abilities.

Students will be given a Journey Map handout and six School Explorer cards (as seen in the next 2 slides).





## USING THE JOURNEY MAP



TO AUG

The first step is to think about your interests, strengths and abilities. Circle your favourites below or list others.



Learn more about MySkillsFuture

















Helping others







Bird-watching

I have these interests, strengths and abilities:

Ask a friend or adult what they think your strengths and abilities are:



filled-out handout, get an adult to share it on Instagram, and tag us @moesingapore





## **EXPLORE**

What are the schools near your home? Do their

programmes and CCAs match your interests?

Take a look at their websites or visit the schools

if you can. What does the school uniform look like? What else is interesting about the school?

Find out and fill up the School Explorer cards!

Fill out your cards and see which schools you have more interest in with the chart below.

Find out more about the schools around you to see which ones may be a good fit for you!

PART A:

RESEARCH



0

Name of secondary school:

School uniform: Cool CCAs:

I time to school

ut this school

JAN TO AUG



about our schools



Watch this video the different kinds of schools and experiences in store

# DISCOVER YOUR STRENGTHS

Has a good hockey team! But I'll need to take a bus there.

# HOW DO YOU USE THE SCHOOL EXPLORER CARDS?



Visit the secondary schools' websites



Talk to your parents and teachers



Visit schools during the Open House



Find out your travel routes to the different schools



Find out the time it takes to travel to the schools



Note the schools' programmes and CCAs on your cards

Each student will receive 6 School Explorer Cards.

School Explorer Card  Visit SchoolFinder to learn more about our schools  W W W W W	Name of secondary school:	
	School uniform: Draw in this space	Cool CCAs: 1. 2. 3.
Estimated travel time to school:  What I love about this school:		School programmes:  1.  2.  3.







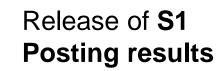


Choosing your Secondary Schools













**OCTOBER** 

**NOVEMBER** 

**DECEMBER** 



**TIPS FOR PARENTS!** 

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

Manage your own expectations and do not project these expectations onto your child.

Have regular conversations with your child to understand more about his/her interests and aspirations.

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

## Strategies to Achieve Excellence

- Set high expectations but encourage small progress and affirm good effort
- Plan your holidays (June last week, last 2 days of Sept)
- Set routines and adopt good habits such as setting limits to use of handphones and playing of computer games



## Strategies to Achieve Excellence

- Adopt a whole family approach and encourage a healthy lifestyle
- Talk to your child about his/her school of choice Make school visits
- Work closely with your child's teachers
- Balance and manage tuition work (if any)



# FIND OUT MORE ON THE PSLE-FSBB MICROSITE!



https://go.gov.sg/pslefsbb



### **OTHER RESOURCES**

SchoolFinder
Tool

SCHOOL FIND:R



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





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







https://go.gov.sg/p sle-sec-schbrochure 4 ECG Parent Guide





https://go.gov.sg/ parent-guide



# THANK YOU & HAVE A LOVELY WEEKEND AHEAD!

