

## Primary 1 Orientation 2024 FAQs

### Curriculum Matters

- **What should I do if my child always reads comic? How can I encourage to joy of reading in my child?**

Your child may read comics but you should encourage them to read books from other genres as well e.g. fiction, expository, biographies etc. to expose your child to different types of literary texts.

- **Is there a list of recommended books for each language/level?**

Yes, a list of recommended books for each language/level will be made available on the school website soon.

- **What is the purpose of the word bank book and how can I use it to support my child?**

Your child's English teacher will be guiding your child in using the word bank book during English lessons.

- **Will there be learning support programme for Mother Tongue and Science?**

There is no learning support programme for Primary 1 and 2 Mother Tongue Languages and Science. However, if your child faces any difficulty in these subjects, you may approach the subject teachers for advice.

- **My child will not be taking MTL in the school. What she will be doing during the Lesson when the other children are having their MTL classes?**

Your child will be having CCE lessons during MTL lessons. If there are no CCE lessons, your child will be completing their schoolwork or reading their storybooks in their respective form classes during MTL lessons.

### Parent-Teacher/School Communication

- **What are the various modes or platform for communication between me and the school/teacher? How can my child's teacher feedback to me about my child's progress. Also how often is the parent-teacher meeting? Is it in person?**

The school website and Parents Gateway (PG) will be the main platforms used to update parents. Other forms of communication on matters pertaining to individual child or class will be arranged by the respective Form and Subject Teachers. Given the wide array of communication apps and channels, the school does not insist on any specific platforms to be used by teachers or parents as long as effective

communication is achieved.

The school organises an in-person Student-Led Conference once a year in April. Teachers will engage parents on a needs basis the rest of the year.

- **Will there be frequent updates on the P1s such as posting of photos?**

You may refer to our school's Instagram for updates on pictures of events.

### **School Uniform**

- **Are there any dedicated days for P1 uniform sales? All smaller sizes on the website and at physical venue are sold out.**
- **The uniform supplier was out of stock for the smallest size for PE T-Shirt (Ubin) and was unable to advise when will stocks replenish. We only managed to get one T-shirt.**

Provisions have been made to cater to students who are unable to purchase uniforms in time. For Primary 1 students (2024) who are unable to purchase uniforms, they are allowed to:

1. wear their PE attire/ school uniform (whichever is available);
2. loan PE attire and/ or school uniforms from the school's general office (subject to availability)

For sales and exchange of school uniforms, parents may contact the uniform supplier directly. Their contact details can be found on the school website.

### **Do the kids need to put the name tag on their PE uniform?**

Yes, it is a requirement. Please refer to Pg 14 and 15 of the Student Handbook.

- **Which are the days my child needs to report in full school uniform or PE attire?**

Students are to wear their full uniform with tie every Monday. The tie can be removed after recess. On Mondays, students can change into their PE attire for physical activities e.g., PE after assembly and continue wearing them throughout the whole day. Students are allowed to wear their PE attire to school on other days (Tuesday to Fridays).

**Mondays: Full Uniform with Tie**

The tie can be removed after recess. Students can change into their PE attire for physical activities e.g., PE after assembly and continue wearing them throughout the whole day.

**Tuesdays to Thursdays: Full Uniform or PE Attire****Classroom Learning**

- **When will my child receive the class timetable for packing of their school bags for Friday onwards?**

Your child would have received their class timetable by now. Please inform the Form Teacher if he/she has not received the timetable.

- **For Primary 1 Tamil books (Part B) has yet to be published. My child is under FAS. Hence, will Teachers make arrangements for the collection of Part B books?**

The school will inform parents when to collect the books once they are available.

- **Can the child leave some of their books in school or under their desks to reduce weight of their school bag.**

A class timetable will be given to all students. Students are not required to bring all textbooks to school every day. Students are to follow the timetable given and bring the necessary books and materials accordingly. Parents may wish to remind your child to pack his/her bag according to the timetable and also instill in them the habit of checking their student handbook for other instructions provided by the teachers.

Your child's teachers will be collecting his/her activity books and keeping them in class. A class timetable may change due to changes in staff deployment. However, this should not affect or disrupt students' learning. Your child is encouraged to bring his or her books home as their desks are also used by other students.

- **Do P1 follow up to P2? How does the school sort students into their classes from P2 to P3?**

The Primary 1 students will be in the same class when they are promoted to Primary 2. The students will be randomly allocated based on their gender and racial mix when they are promoted to Primary 3.

- **Will there be buddy system if child needs to go toilet?**

The teachers will assign a buddy for your child if they need to go to the toilet on a needs basis.

### **Dismissal**

- **Which is the pick-up gate for the various levels?**

#### **Front Gate Dismissal**

Primary 1 and 2: Gate 3 (Front gate just outside the General Office)

Primary 3 to 6: Gate 2 (Front gate next to the guard post)

#### **Back Gate Dismissal**

All Levels: Gate 5 (Opposite block 188A)

- **My child has an older sibling, does he/she wait in the canteen for the older sibling? Whilst I will tell my child to wait accordingly, how can I ensure that this process goes smoothly?**

Your child has been informed to wait for his or her sibling at a designated table in the canteen.

### **CCA Matters**

- **In what year do they start having CCAs? Do they get to choose the CCA and can they switch CCAs along the way?**

At the end of Primary 1, the school conducts a CCA Day for Primary 1 students to experience the different CCAs offered by the school. In Primary 2, your child will be experiencing modular CCA where they will be exposed to different CCAs throughout the year. Students at Rivervale Primary School will be able to join a CCA of their choice from Primary 3.

Students are not encouraged to change their CCAs as the assignment of CCAs are by students' choices.

### **Student Safety, Discipline and Well-Being**

- **Is there any way we can ensure our kids receives the correct change if they buy things (food/bookshop etc) in school? Some kids might not be strong in calculation yet.**

Parents are strongly encouraged to give their child money in small denominations, teach their child to keep track of their daily expenses and count their change after

purchasing the items. All students are advised to check if they have received the correct amount of change after purchasing items from the canteen or the bookshop. Students may approach the canteen vendors, bookshop staff, the administrative staff in the General Office or even their teachers if they require any assistance in this matter.

- **Would you advise for students to keep their wallets in their bags during lesson time or in their pocket? ~~is theft a problem in school?~~**
- **Where should the child's wallet be kept during PE lessons? In the pocket or school bag?**

Depending on your child's comfort level, he or she may choose to leave their wallets in their schoolbags with their bags zipped up in the classrooms. Your child may also bring his or her wallet to the PE venue and place the wallet together with their water bottles at a designated point during PE lessons.

- **On mornings when it rains heavily, will there be provisions for students if they are late? Some may encounter heavy traffic or difficulty getting transportation.**

Punctuality is expected for school and school-organised events. However, the school does take into consideration on a case-by-case basis if students have valid reasons for being late to school.

For more information, please refer to Student Handbook Pg 6 and 7 on School Rules and Regulations.

- **Where is the assembly point every morning? Where will my child report to in the morning?**

The students will report to the parade square from Monday to Thursday for flag raising ceremony. Students will report to the hall, if there are morning assembly programmes on Mondays. All students will report to their classroom for flag raising ceremony on every Friday before going for their CCAs.

- **What time is recess?**

Recess timing will be as follows:

Primary 1 and Primary 4 is from 9.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m.

Primary 2 and Primary 5 is from 9.30 a.m. to 10.00 a.m.

Primary 3 and Primary 6 is from 10.00 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.

- **How much is the cost of food sold in the canteen?**

Bento set meals consisting of a main dish with vegetables and a fruit are sold in the canteen for \$2.00 each. Your child may purchase other side dishes as an add-on to the bento set meal at an additional cost.