

2025 Primary 6 Parents Engagement Frequently Asked Questions:

PSLE and Assessment Matters

Q: Why are WA papers are not given a specified date but a range of dates instead?

A: Building on efforts to move away from an over-emphasis on academic results, the Ministry of Education (MOE) has adjusted school-based assessment structures at the Primary level from 2019. Formative assessments aim to reduce perceived high examination stakes and free up time for engaged learning. Each formative assessment may be assigned different weightings and can take various modes, e.g. class tests, quizzes, presentations etc.

Providing a range of dates for formative and weighted assessment enables teachers to have the flexibility in terms of time and space to adjust their pace of teaching according to the profile of their respective students. This also enables older students adequate time to adjust to new topics, and/or higher content rigour and expectations.

Q: When will CCA activities stop for Primary 6 student?

A: CCA will stop at the end of Term 2 for Primary 6 students to provide them with extra curriculum time in preparation for PSLE. From Term 3, CCA periods on Friday will be taken by the various subject teachers to continue with curriculum. However, there may be possibilities for certain competitive CCAs to continue engaging the Primary 6 students in CCA practices into Term 3 for national competitions. Parents will be informed and consent to be sought should their children be involved in such additional activities

Q: Will there be PSLE Practice for students and will students be given opportunities to experience a full paper prior to the Preliminary Examinations or PSLE?

A: Consistency is the key when preparing students for the milestone examination. Daily work assignments given to students are good opportunities for them to exercise discipline and develop rigour . Parents can support by drawing up a work schedule with their child or monitoring the completion of daily work assigned by teachers.

In school, there will be ample time and opportunities for students to experience a full paper during curriculum time. All Primary 6 students are to purchase the PSLE Practice Papers booklets and teachers will administer timed practice in class. These practice booklets may also be given as homework for students to practice at home. Preliminary Examinations will be administered in school to simulate the actual PSLE setting. Students can also use this opportunity to experience attempting the full paper in a PSLE setting.

Q: Is there study break for PSLE?

A: Yes. In accordance with MOE guidelines, the 3 days leading up to PSLE written papers will be a study break for all Primary 6 students. However, teachers may conduct just-in-time classes for selected students based on needs. Parents will be informed and consent sought should their children be required to attend the classes.

Q: What is the minimum requirement for students to be promoted to secondary school?

A: All students are required to achieve AL7 and below for BOTH English Language and Mathematics for them to be promoted to secondary schools.

Supplementary and Remedial Classes

Q: In March and June Holidays, will there be extra classes?

A: In support of nation's concerted effort in ensuring student well-being and mental health, there will be no supplementary classes for Primary 6 students during the Term Breaks. However, subject teachers may conduct remedial classes for selected students based on needs. Parents will be informed and consent sought should their children be required to attend the classes.

Student Well-Being Matters

Q: What is an alternative way to connect with friends for out of school interactions if students are discouraged from joining online chatgroups with friends?

A: Social media has impacted the way our children use and consume online content. Studies have shown that excessive screen use and unrestricted access to digital technology may hinder our children's learning and affect their mental well-being. Guidelines on screen use have been rolled out in schools ([Straits Times, 21 Jan 2025](#)) and in support of that, Rivervale Primary School has advised students not to join or start chatgroups amongst friends. This is to prevent forms of cyberbullying, sharing of inappropriate content and chatting online past bedtime when unsupervised.

Alternatively, students can work at home with their classmates with the permission of their parents. This way, parents can observe and monitor your child's activities with friends to ensure healthy social interactions between them. Should students need to communicate online regarding schoolwork, parents are highly encouraged to monitor and supervise all online activities either through checks or parental control apps.

DSA Matters

Q: How many schools can a student apply for DSA?

Q: How is the selection process like for the different talent areas (e.g. STEM)?

A: DSA-Sec seeks to broaden the recognition of talents and achievements beyond academic grades. Primary 6 students can gain direct entry to certain secondary schools based on their talent in sports, CCAs and specific academic areas etc., before taking the PSLE. Students can apply up to 3 DSA schools and in 3 talent areas. Student may indicate up to 2 talent areas for the same school.

DSA selection process can come in various forms to assess a student's attitude and aptitude in the talent areas. They can include performance tasks, interviews and/or quizzes. If student is accepted into a secondary school through DSA-Sec, student will need to make a choice to accept the offer. Students will not participate in the S1 posting exercise should they accept the offer and are required to honour their commitment to the posted DSA-Sec school.

Q: What happens if my child was initially accepted through DSA-Sec but could not achieve the minimum Posting Group (e.g. G3) for the chosen school when PSLE result is released?

A: Students must attain the minimum Posting Groups (G3, G2 or G1) required by the DSA-Sec school. For instance, if the DSA-Sec school chosen only offers G3 and student was not given Posting Group G3 when PSLE result is released, student will have to take part in the S1-Posting exercise to make his/her option for secondary schools. However, if the DSA-Sec school chosen offers all 3 Posting Groups (G3, G2, G1), student will be posted to the DSA-Sec school based on the Posting Group assigned to student in his/her PSLE result.

For more information on DSA-Sec: <https://www.moe.gov.sg/secondary/dsa>

Q: Can students seek help from school in preparation for DSA-Sec selection?

A: Students can approach their CCA teachers for advice. The school will continue to support students during their CCAs. CCA teachers can also advise students on how to prepare for the interviews or performance tasks. However, no additional CCAs or one-on-one sessions will be conducted.

Q: Do DSA-Sec schools look at P5 and P6 school results? Is entry to some schools dependent on my child's participation in competitions (e.g. National Math/Science Olympiad for NUS High)?

A: While the DSA-Sec schools have access to your child's P5 and P6 academic results via the MOE School Cockpit, admission into the DSA-Sec School is based on the PSLE score achieved. To gain admission, your child will still need to achieve a PSLE score that qualifies them for a Posting Group offered by the school.

Admissions to schools such as NUS High, School of the Arts (SOTA) and Singapore Sports School are purely through DSA exercise. For application to the respective institutes, please visit their school websites:

- NUS High: <https://www.nushigh.edu.sg/admissions/year-1-and-3-admissions/year-1-admissions/>
- SOTA: <https://www.sota.edu.sg/talent-academy/>
- Singapore Sports School: <https://www.sportsschool.edu.sg/admissions/admission-to-secondary-1>

Entry to any school is not dependent on your child's participation in selected programmes or competitions

Secondary 1 and Sec-1 Posting Matters

How big is the gap between G3 and G2? Are G2 and G3 students mixed at secondary schools?

A: MOE is moving towards a secondary school education where students learn each subject at the level that best caters to their overall strengths, interests and learning needs. Under Full SBB, there will no longer be separate Express, N(A), and N(T) streams, and students will be in mixed form classes where they can interact with peers of different strengths and interests.

The three Posting Groups are mapped to the PSLE Score ranges of G1, G2 and G3 based on differing levels of demands. This means that students who excel in a particular subject, may be offered to

take that subject at a more demanding level (e.g. G3) while they may be offered to take another subject at a less demanding level (e.g. G2) depending on their strengths.

Q: What are the demands of the Sec 1 syllabus and how can we better prepare our children for secondary school?

A: Secondary school life can be both exciting and daunting for our children. In addition to learning to juggle with the academic demands and rigour, preparing your child to transit from primary to secondary school include helping them to manage challenges such as new school environment, new friends and new routines. It is important that parents help to encourage your child by discussing these challenges with them and excite them about the new experiences secondary school students can have to reduce anxiety.

For more information on supporting your child's transition through secondary school: <https://www.moe.gov.sg/-/media/files/programmes/gb-transitions.pdf>

For information on secondary school syllabuses: <https://www.moe.gov.sg/secondary/schools-offering-full-sbb/syllabus>

Parent-School Partnership

Q: I appreciate my child's Form Teacher updating me on my child's behaviour and learning regularly. Could other subject teachers also connect with parents regularly to update us on their learning progress?

A: Subject teachers are encouraged to update parents on student's learning and progress via the various platforms such as Class Dojo, Student Handbook or via telephone calls. The school organizes Student-Led Conference and Parent Engagement for parents to meet with their child's Form Teachers. Parents are also encouraged to reach out to their child's respective subject teachers should they require any update on their child's progress. Parents may contact the teachers via their official MOE email address that could be found on the school website.