

Briefing for Parents on Subject-based Banding (SBB)

9 April 2021



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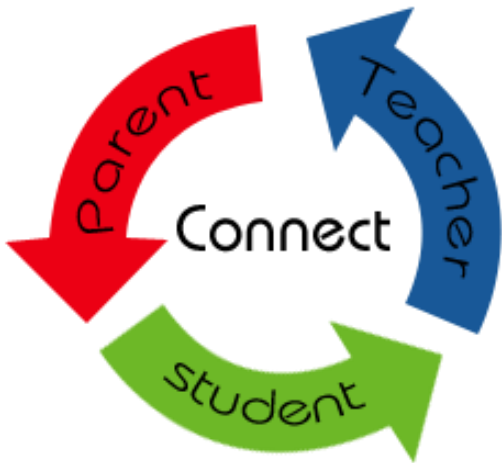
Vision: Hearts of Service * Minds of Inquiry * Joy in Learning * Confidence in Life

Mission: Together we bring out the best in every child for a better nation.

Motto: Play * Passion * Purpose

School Core Values:

Loyalty * Honesty * Compassion * Diligence * Excellence * Unity * Resilience * Self-Discipline



Subject-based Banding (SBB)



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Rationale for SBB

Students can take a mix of standard and foundation subjects through SBB at P5 and P6.

This would allow your child to:

- Stretch their potential in subjects they are strong in.
- Build up their understanding in subjects they need more help with.



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Implementation of SBB at P4

End of P4

- ~ School recommends a subject combination based on P4 examination results
- ~ Parents select preferred combination

At P5

- ~ Student takes subject combination
chosen by parents



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Implementation of SBB at P4

At the end of P4,
If your child...

School's Recommendation

(i) Passes* all 4 subjects
and performs very well
in Mother Tongue
Language

- 4 Standard Subjects +
Higher Mother Tongue
Language

*at least 80 for EMS and 85
for MT



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Higher Mother Tongue

- It does not replace the Mother Tongue Language.
- An additional hour per week outside curriculum time is required to complete the HMT syllabus.
- For students who demonstrate an interest, passion and aptitude in learning the subject.



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Higher Mother Tongue

- Student will not gain additional points in the PSLE Achievement Level (AL) Score.
- PSLE HMT results will be reflected as Pass, Merit or Distinction.
- If your child takes HCL in primary school, there will be an advantage only when applying to SAP schools. The same approach is taken in today's T-Score system.



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Higher Mother Tongue

- If multiple students with the same PSLE Score apply for places in the same SAP school, those with better HCL grades will be allocated a place ahead of other students. This applies before the tie-breakers for S1 posting.
- **This is only applicable for SAP schools that offer HCL.**



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Implementation of SBB at P4

At the end of P4, If your child...	School's Recommendations
(ii) Passes* 3 or 4 subjects	■ 4 Standard Subjects
(iii) Passes* 2 subjects or less *Scores 80% of basic items – 24 out of 30 marks	■ 3 Standard + 1 Foundation Subject (usually MT) ■ 2 Standard + 2 Foundation Subjects ■ 4 Foundation Subjects



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Implementation of SBB at P5

- Subject combination will be determined by the school at the end of P5.
- This will be the subject combination taken by the student at PSLE.



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Implementation of SBB at the end of P5

End of P5

Students take subject combination determined by the school

(i) All students who perform within expectations	Continue with same subject combination
(ii) Score at least 70% for MT and passes HMT	Continue to take HMT
(iii) Score below 30% for standard subjects	Take foundation subjects in P6



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Achievement Levels (AL) Score

Each PSLE subject will be scored using 8 ALs. Students who perform similarly will be placed in the same AL for each subject.

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



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Scoring For Foundation Subjects

- Under the new AL system, if your child is taking foundation subjects, your child will be graded AL A to AL C.
- Like standard subject ALs, the foundation subject ALs will reflect a student's level of achievement, rather than how they have performed relative to their peers.
- For the purpose of S1 posting, Foundation Level AL A to AL C will be mapped to a Standard Level subject's equivalent of AL 6 to AL 8 respectively, to derive a student's overall PSLE score.

Grades for Foundation	Foundation Raw Mark Range	
A	75 - 100	
B	30 - 74	
C	< 30	



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Secondary School Placement

- Your child will be placed in secondary school courses – Express, Normal (Academic) or Normal (Technical) - based on their PSLE scores.

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, <u>with AL7 or better in both English Language and Mathematics</u>



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SCORING OF SUBJECTS FOR S1 POSTING

- A student's PSLE Score is the sum of the four AL scores across his/her Standard and Foundation subjects.
- Students taking Foundation subjects are eligible for the Express Course, as long as they meet the course placement criteria.
- With Full Subject-based Banding in secondary schools, students may also take subjects at a higher level for those that they are strong in.



ENGLISH	AL3
FOUNDATION MOTHER TONGUE	ALB
FOUNDATION MATHEMATICS	ALB
SCIENCE	AL5

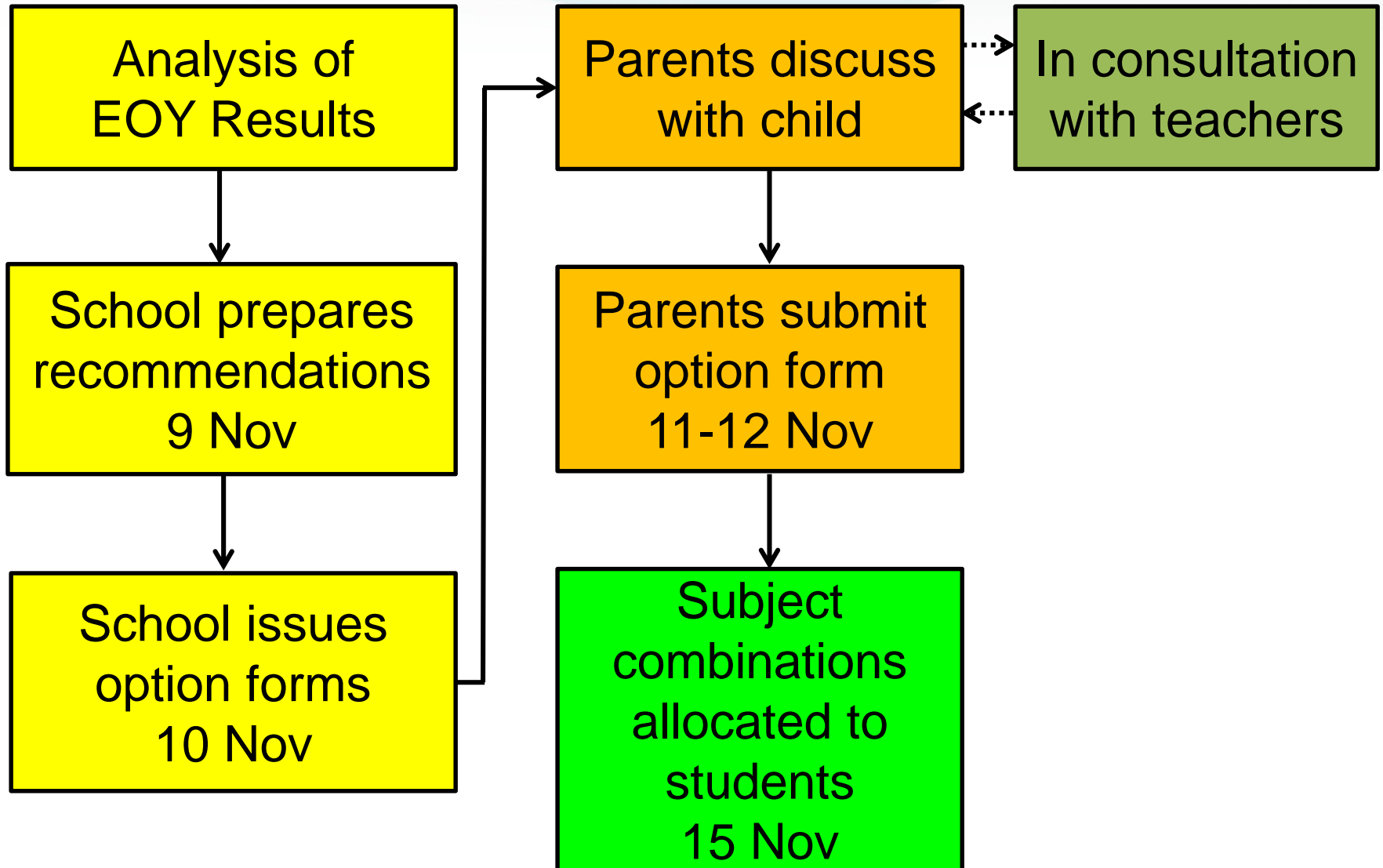
PSLE SCORE: 22

PLACEMENT OUTCOME	PSLE SCORE
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N(T)	26 – 30, with AL7 or better in both EL and MA



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Administrative Schedule



Useful Links



<https://go.gov.sg/newpsle scoringsys>

<https://go.gov.sg/subjectbased banding>



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