



Briefing for Primary 4 Parents 6 January 2017



Programme Outline

Subject-Based Banding (SBB)



(<http://www.moe.gov.sg>)



What is SBB

Every child will be encouraged to do the subjects at the levels that best meet his abilities

From 2008, SBB replaced merged and EM3 stream in Primary 5 and 6



Why introduce SBB

To recognise different abilities of pupils and allow greater flexibility to concentrate on subjects they are good at

To encourage greater interaction among pupils with different strengths



How does SBB work

At P4

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

At P5

Pupil takes subject combination chosen by parents



How does SBB work

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

At P4

If your child
(at the end of P4)

Passes all 4 subjects
and performs very well
in Mother Tongue
Language

Your child will be
recommended to take

- 4 standard subjects +
Higher Mother Tongue
Language

** Subject combination will differ based on different needs of the child*



How does SBB work

School recommends a subject combination based on P4 examination results. Parents select preferred combination. At P4

If your child (at the end of P4)	Your child will be recommended to take
Passes all 4 subjects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4 standard subjects

** Subject combination will differ based on different needs of the child*



How does SBB work

School recommends a subject combination based on P4 examination results. Parents select preferred combination. At P4

If your child (at the end of P4)	Your child will be recommended to take
Passes 3 subjects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4 standard subjects

** Subject combination will differ based on different needs of the child*



How does SBB work

School recommends a subject combination based on P4 examination results. Parents select preferred combination. At P4

If your child (at the end of P4)	Your child will be recommended to take
Passes 2 subjects or less	• 3 standard subjects + 1 other foundation subject; or
	• 2 standard subjects + 2 other foundation subjects; or
	• 1 standard subject + 3 other foundation subjects; or
	• 4 foundation subjects

** Subject combination will differ based on different needs of the child*



Possible Options (at a glance)

If your child (for P4 exam)	Your child may be recommended to take
Passes all 4 subjects and performs very well in Mother Tongue Language	4 standard subjects + Higher Mother Tongue Language
Passes all 4 subjects	4 standard subjects
Passes 3 subjects	4 standard subjects
Passes 2 subjects or less	3 standard subjects + 1 other foundation subject; or
	2 standard subjects + 2 other foundation subjects; or
	1 standard subject + 3 other foundation subjects; or
	4 foundation subjects

** Subject combination will differ based on different needs of the child*



Parental Option

School recommends P5 subject combination for students to study, based on the Primary 4 End-of-Year Examination results

Parents indicate their choice for the type of subject combination shortly after the release of the Primary 4 End-of-Year Examination results (in November).

Arrangements will be made for some parents to meet the teachers when they are in the process of making the choices



Passing Mark

❖ *Based on overall examination score for Primary 4 at year-end*

❖ *Assessment weighting:*

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
10%	30% (SA1)	10%	50% (SA2)

❖ *Passing Mark:*

English	50 marks / Band 3
Mathematics	
Science	
Mother Tongue	



Recommendation for pupils taking Higher Mother Tongue in P5

Mother Tongue	MATHS	English	Science
Band 1	Band 1 or high Band 2		

- ❖ HMT is an additional subject – pupils **MUST BE** strong in the other subjects to cope well with studies
- ❖ Option to take HMT in P5 is given only **ONCE** at the end of P4
- ❖ Subsequent movement will be based solely on pupils' performance and the advice of the school



Higher Mother Tongue

HMT pupils will sit for both MT and HMT papers during the examination

HMT classes are conducted after school

Scores for HMT will be reflected in the result slip as Pass, Merit or Distinction

Scores for HMT will not be included in the calculation of the total score for the PSLE



Offering HMT at Secondary Level

Pupils who are

- ❖ *top 10% of the PSLE cohort OR*
- ❖ *top 11 – 30% of the PSLE cohort and obtain an A* in MT or at least Merit for HMT*

→ may opt to study HMT at Secondary level



How does SBB work

End of P5

Pupil takes a subject combination determined by the school

Pupils who do very well

upgrade or continue with the same subject combination



How does SBB work

End of P5

Pupil takes a subject combination determined by the school



Pupils who do not meet expectations



switch some subjects to foundation level



How does SBB work

End of P5

Pupil takes a subject combination determined by the school



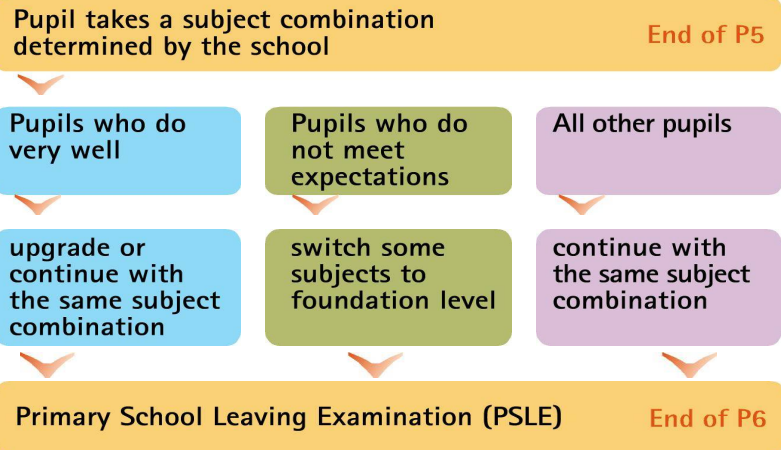
All other pupils



continue with the same subject combination



End of P5 (at a glance)



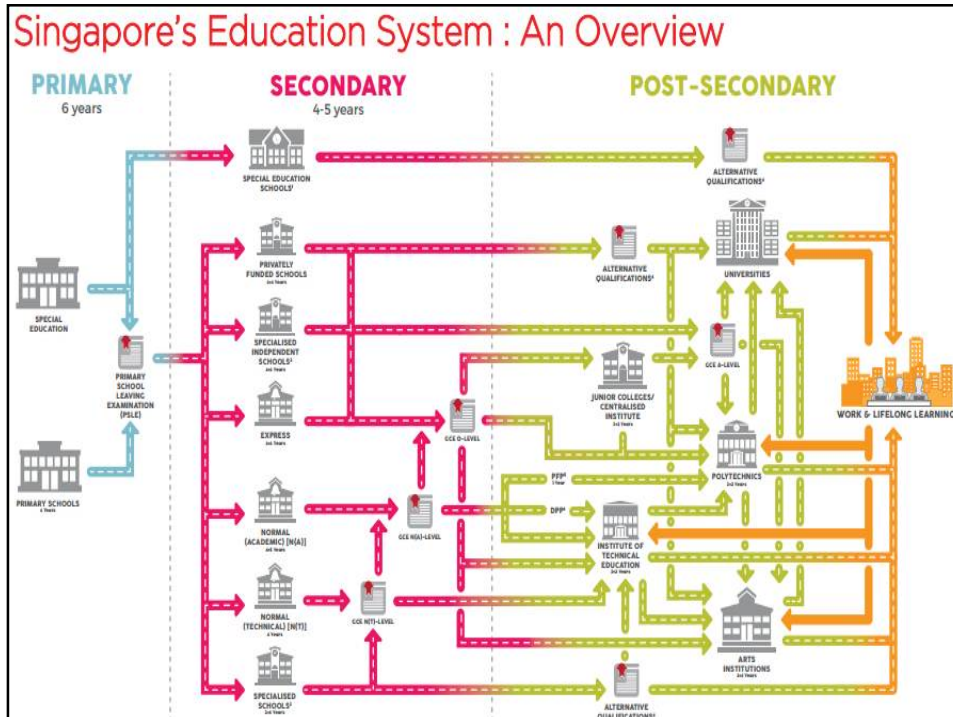
How will PSLE scores be calculated

- ❖ The PSLE Scoring System remains unchanged
- ❖ The raw mark for each subject is converted to a transformed score (T-score)
 - ❖ *The T-score reflects the pupils' standing relative to other pupils on a common scale*
- ❖ The Aggregate Score is the sum of the T-score in all subjects (excluding HMT)
 - ❖ *Each subject carries equal weighting*



Points to consider: At PSLE

- ❖ Pupils who take 4 standard subjects
 - ❖ may have chance for Express, N(A), N(T)
- ❖ Pupils who take 4 foundation subjects or 3 foundation subjects and 1 standard subject
 - ❖ may have greater chance for N(A) / N(T) option



Thank You



Q & A