Notice Update – 11 May 2020

In view of Covid-19, the following has been updated:
1) Application Period extended to 23 May, 5:00 pm (SGT)
2) Release of the Shortlisting Outcome changed to 8 June 2020, 6:00 pm
3) TA Auditions from 23 June to 18 July 2020
4) All TA activities will be conducted online

Notice Update – 6 May 2020

Audition for Shortlisted Applicants

In view of the current COVID-19 situation, we are currently reviewing the selection process and criteria for this year's TA. Updates will be posted on the website.

Notice Update – 27 March 2020

The Talent Academy is currently scheduled for 23-26 June 2020. However, in view of the current COVID-19 situation, these dates may change. More information will be provided as soon as possible. Applicants are advised not to make travel plans in June. Shortlisted applicants must attend and complete all scheduled TA activities. Incomplete attendance will result in disqualification.

Talent Academy 2020
Preparation Notes and Checklist for Year 1 Literary Arts Applicants
DSA-Secondary and DSA-Secondary (Non-MOE)

No.	Items
1.	All Applicants – Important Dates to Note
2.	All Applicants – Checklist of Submission of Supporting Documents via the TA Portal
3.	All Applicants – Preparation Notes for Portfolio Submission in Literary Arts via the TA Portal
4.	Shortlisted DSA-Sec (Non-MOE) Applicants – Guide to the Entrance Tests
5.	All Shortlisted Applicants – What You Will Experience During the TA
6.	Annex A – Cover Page for Creative Writing Portfolio
7.	Annex B - Guide to uploading and compressing videos and/or documents for submission via the TA Portal

Talent Academy 2020 - Important Dates to Note

Date	For	What to Do
3 April to 23 May 2020 5:00 pm (SGT)	All Applicants	**Apply Online** • **Register** for an account and **submit** the application online via the TA Portal • **Application closes** on 23 May 2020, 5:00 pm (SGT) • It takes about 45 minutes to 1 hour to complete the entire application for **ONE** (1) artform, provided that the supporting documents and portfolio submission have been prepared in advance • Applicants are advised to submit their applications early, as the TA Portal may experience slower connectivity due to high traffic during the application period • Incomplete applications will be disqualified. Appeals for late submissions will not be considered • You are not required to submit a separate application to SOTA via MOE's DSA-Sec Portal

12 May to 5 June 2020 *new	All **DSA-Sec (Non-MOE)** Applicants only	• **Obtain** a DSA Registration Number online.
		• Singapore Citizens / Singapore Permanent Residents:
		   o Fill out and submit the form via this link: https://form.gov.sg/#!/5e8edfb42e0ab80011c19247
		• International Students:
		   o Fill out and submit the form via this link: https://form.gov.sg/#!/5ea0fc4e5ab4a3001167c64d
		
		13 May - In view of the COVID-19 situation, all International Students who are not residing in Singapore are not eligible to take part in this year's DSA-Sec Exercise, and will not be able to apply for the Talent Academy. Please refer to https://go.gov.sg/nmsdsa-sec-application for more details.

8 June 2020 6:00 pm (SGT)	All Applicants	**Log in** to the TA Portal to: • **check** the status of your Shortlisting Outcome
8 June to 14 June 2020 12:00 noon (SGT)	Shortlisted **DSA-Sec (Non-MOE)** Applicants only	**Log in** to the TA Portal to: • **upload** your latest 2020 results, if any • **Skip** this process if you do not have any latest results to upload
16 June 2020 6:00 pm (SGT)	All Shortlisted Applicants	• **Log in** to the TA Portal and **download** your TA schedule • **Check** your TA schedule to find out your allocated audition days/dates • **Check** the 'announcement' tab for more information about your TA
23 June to 18 July 2020	Shortlisted **DSA-Sec (Non-MOE)** Applicants only	• **Complete** the English and Mathematics entrance tests online • **Make payment** of S$30.00 for the entrance tests fee • **Modes** of payment to be advised

23 June to 18 July 2020	All Shortlisted Applicants	• **Complete** all scheduled TA activities online comprising:
		   o Individual auditions or portfolio presentations
		   o Panel Interviews
		   o Online Questionnaires
		
		More information will be shared with shortlisted applicants about how the activities will be conducted.
		
		11 May 2020: The Talent Academy will start from 23 June. Shortlisted applicants must complete all scheduled TA activities within the stipulated time. Incomplete attendance will result in disqualification.

11 September 2020 6:00 pm (SGT)	All Shortlisted Applicants	**Log in** to the TA Portal and **check** the status of your final TA Outcome (Confirmed Offer, Wait List, or Unsuccessful)
October 2020 (tbc)	Confirmed Offers and Wait List Applicants	**Attend** SOTA's Cohort and Parents' Engagement Programme
October 2020 (tbc)	**DSA-Sec** Confirmed Offers and Wait List Applicants only	**Exercise** your option and **indicate** SOTA during the DSA-Secondary Exercise School Preference Stage
October 2020 (tbc)	**DSA-Sec (Non-MOE)** Confirmed Offers Applicants only	**Exercise** your option and **indicate** SOTA during the DSA Secondary Exercise School Preference Stage at the MOE Customer Service Centre
November 2020 (tbc)	**DSA-Sec** Confirmed Offers and Wait List Applicants only	**Release** of the PSLE and School Posting Results at your Primary School • You must qualify for the Express stream in order to be posted to SOTA
November 2020 (tbc)	**DSA-Sec (Non-MOE)** Confirmed Offers Applicants only	**Collect** your School Posting Result at the MOE Customer Service Centre
December 2020 (tbc)	Applicants who are Successfully Enrolled to SOTA	**Complete** your registration online

Talent Academy 2020
Checklist for Submission of Supporting Documents to be uploaded via the TA Portal

Apply online via the TA Portal between 3 April to 23 May 2020, 5:00 pm (SGT)

	FOR DSA-Sec and DSA-Sec (Non-MOE) Applicants			
No.	**Document Title** **(to be uploaded directly to the TA Portal)**	**Maximum File Size**	**Acceptable File Type**	☑
1	**Applicant's Identification Document** Singaporeans Birth Certificate or Citizenship Certificate Singapore Permanent Residents Passport and Re-Entry Permit Foreigners Studying in Singapore: Passport and Dependant or Student Pass Studying overseas: Passport	1 MB	PDF	
2	1 recent passport-sized colour photograph • Should be taken against plain white background • Do not upload a full-length photograph	2 MB	JPEG, JPG	
3	**Academic Results** **A. DSA-Secondary Applicants** 3 April to 23 May For **all** applicants: Primary 5 mid-year and end-of-year results. The general office is open during the circuit breaker period and the term break. Please email the school to request for a softcopy and specify that you are applying for DSA to SOTA and the application period ends on 23 May, 5:00 pm. 8 June to 14 June No actions required **B. DSA-Secondary (Non-MOE) Applicants** 3 April to 23 May For **all** applicants: Grade 5 mid-year and end-of-year results. All original transcripts not in English should be accompanied with a translated document. 8 June to 14 June For **Shortlisted** applicants only: Log in to the TA Portal and upload your Grade 6 mid-year or any latest 2020 results (if any). All original transcripts not in English should be accompanied with a translated document. You may skip this step if you do not have any latest results to upload.	2 MB	PDF	
4	**DSA-Secondary Applicants Only** (if applicable): • Mother Tongue Language In-Lieu Letter issued by MOE • Mother Tongue Language Exemption Letter issued by MOE	1 MB	PDF	

Note:

• It takes about 45 minutes to 1 hour to complete the entire application for **ONE** (1) artform, provided that the supporting documents and portfolio submission have been prepared in advance
• Applicants are advised to submit their applications early, as the TA Portal may experience slower connectivity due to high traffic during the application period
• Incomplete applications will be disqualified. Appeals for late submissions will not be considered

The TA Portal opens from 3 April to 23 May, 5:00 pm (SGT). There will be no extension of deadline for submission of application. Do ensure you have ample time to complete and submit your application.

TALENT ACADEMY 2020
Preparation Notes for Portfolio Submission in Literary Arts (for all applicants)
DSA-Secondary and DSA-Secondary (Non-MOE) Applicants

Literary Arts is the integrative discipline of literary appreciation and creative writing. Literary Arts students will have the opportunity to appreciate and learn the creative process behind literary and non-literary forms such as the short story, poetry, the play, the novel, non-fiction, and multimodal texts.

To apply to Literary Arts, you will need to demonstrate a strong interest in writing and a willingness to experiment with different writing forms. You are expected to be skilled in writing and expressing yourself in English. You should also have a love for reading and a curiosity to discover more about yourself, others, and the world you live in. The auditions are structured to allow you to express your passion for writing as well as to demonstrate your potential and suitability for the Literary Arts Programme.

Knowledge of, and an appreciation for, different writing forms would be an advantage. You should have explored writing either in your primary school, external agencies or on your own.

What to Submit for Literary Arts Portfolio

Literary Arts applicants are required to submit the following for their Literary Arts portfolio submission via the TA Portal:

1. Creative Writing Portfolio
2. Personal Statement
3. Published Works (optional)

Item	Description

Creative Writing Portfolio	● **5 to 8** original works completed within the last 12 months
	● Work done in primary school for the English Language subject, or creative writing tasks, are acceptable
	● Works produced during writing courses/workshops are acceptable
	● Works that cover a wide range of writing forms∗ and genres∗∗ are preferred
	● No word limits
	● All works must be typed, 1.5 spaced, 12 pt - Arial font
	
	∗examples of writing forms include the short story, poetry, play, or non-fiction
	∗∗genres refer to the sub-categories of the writing forms, e.g., realist, high fantasy, urban fantasy, sci-fi, dystopian, horror, mystery, romance
	
	Instructions:
	• Each submitted work should be clearly labelled with:
	  o Title of work and date completed
	  o Source (e.g., English Language Primary 6, Creative Writing Course conducted by XXX, personal creative writing)
	● **Document type:** .pdf, .doc or .docx
	● Complete **Annex A** (Cover Page)
	● **Save** all works and completed Annex A into **1 folder**
	● **Folder size** should **not** exceed 2mb
	● **Upload** folder to **Google drive**
	● Privacy Setting: 'Anyone with the link'
	● Paste the shared link on the TA Portal in the 'Uploaded to External Site URL' field

Personal Statement	● **In not more than 500 words**, write a personal statement of gratitude towards a person or a group of people who have helped, encouraged or stood by you in a moment of need. ● You need to describe what the moment of need was, how the person or group of people helped, encouraged and stood by you and why you are thankful and grateful for what was done for you. ● Personal Statement must be typed, 1.5 spaced, 12 pt – Arial font. Instructions: ● **Document type:** .pdf, .doc or .docx ● **Upload** document to **Google drive** ● Privacy Setting: 'Anyone with the link' ● Paste the shared link on the TA Portal in the 'Uploaded to External Site URL' field

Item	Description
Reference List of Published Works (Optional)	• You may also submit photocopies of published works. • Publications in school magazines or newsletters are acceptable. Instructions: • Include a reference list of all published works stating: ○ Name/ Title of Publication ○ Published Date ● Format for Reference List: typed, 1.5 spaced, using 12 pt – Arial font ● **Save** all works into 1 **folder** ● **Folder size** should **not** exceed 2mb ● **Upload** folder to **Google drive** ● Privacy Setting: 'Anyone with the link' ● Paste the shared link on the TA Portal in the 'Uploaded to External Site URL' field
Note	Supporting documents, portfolios, and photographs submitted for shortlisting will be retained for the school's records. Certificates, achievement records, testimonials, recommendation letters are not required.

TALENT ACADEMY 2020
Preparation Notes for Audition in Literary Arts (for <u>shortlisted</u> applicants)

DSA-Secondary (Non-MOE) Applicants – Guide to the Entrance Tests

You may refer to the local Primary 6 or PSLE assessment books for the following subjects to familiarise yourself with the topics and exercises.

Due to Covid-19, more information will be provided to shortlisted candidates on how the tests will be conducted.

Test	Information
English Writing	- You will be given 5 minutes to read the instructions carefully, and 45 minutes to complete the test - Choose 1 topic out of the 5 topics given - Write an essay on the topic you have chosen - The essay should be between 200 and 300 words
Mathematics	- You will be given 5 minutes to read the instructions carefully, and 1 hour to complete the test - No calculator or Graphic Display Calculator is allowed - Candidates must complete 13 problem-solving questions that carry a total of 60 marks - The topics that will be covered are as follows: - Whole Numbers, Fractions and Decimals - Measurement - Data Analysis - Geometry - Distance, Speed and Time - Ratio and Percentage - Algebra

TALENT ACADEMY 2020
Preparation Notes for Audition in Literary Arts (for <u>shortlisted</u> applicants)
DSA-Secondary and DSA-Secondary (Non-MOE) Applicants

What Shortlisted Applicants Will Experience During the Talent Academy

If shortlisted, you will be required to participate and complete the following compulsory activities online:

1. Online Questionnaires
2. Panel Interview
3. Entrance tests (for DSA-Secondary (Non-MOE) applicants only)
4. Literary Arts Auditions:
   a. Writing Exercise - Individual
   b. Art form interview

How to prepare for Literary Arts Audition

Preparation for the Audition	● Before attending the audition, you should have sufficient practice with thinking and writing fast but legibly.
At the Literary Arts Audition	<u>Writing Tasks</u> ● You will demonstrate your writing abilities by completing ad-lib writing tasks <u>Interview</u> ● You will be interviewed by teachers to ascertain your passion for writing, and for you to articulate your creative ideas. ● You will be asked questions, e.g., about your knowledge of writing, and your experiences and interests. ● You should also be prepared to talk about and/or receive feedback about your work.

Annex A

COVER PAGE FOR CREATIVE WRITING PORTFOLIO

Complete and attached a copy of this cover page in your portfolio submission

NO	TITLE OF WORK	DATE COMPLETED	SOURCE
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			

Annex B

Guide to uploading and compressing videos and/or documents for submission via the TA Portal

1. How do I upload videos and files to Google drive?
You may refer to the Google Support page for assistance

Direct Link:
https://support.google.com/drive/answer/2424368?co=GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop&hl=en

Google Search Engine
In google search engine, type the following keywords**:** How to upload files or folders to google drive

2. How do I upload videos to YouTube?
You may refer to the YouTube Support page for assistance

Direct Link:
https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/57407?hl=en&ref_topic=7505892

Google Search Engine
In google search engine, type the following keywords: How to upload video to YouTube

3. How do I convert, compress or merge documents to PDF?

There are many free online websites you can use. Below are a few suggestions. Please note that SOTA is not affiliated to any of these sites. The links below will bring you to an external website not hosted by SOTA.

a. Convert word document to pdf document
1. www.freepdfconvert.com
2. https://smallpdf.com/word-to-pdf

b. Compress / Resize pdf documents
1. http://www.ilovepdf.com/compress_pdf

c. Merge individual pdf documents into 1 document
2. http://www.ilovepdf.com/merge_pdf