



ANDERSON SECONDARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents/Guardians of Secondary 1 students

Happy New Year! We would like to share with you some important information to help you guide your child/ward adapt to a new school environment and curriculum, as we prepare for an exciting year at Anderson Secondary School.

1. School Routines

(i) Reporting Time

All students are to report to school on 3 January 2023, Tuesday, by 7.20am and be seated at the parade square by 7.30am. Students are reminded to enter the school building through the school porch. Student leaders will be present to guide the Secondary 1 students to their classrooms. Parents/guardians will be able to see the class assigned to your child/ward through Parents Gateway.

(ii) School Attire

Day	Instructions
First Day of School	Students are to report in PE attire or school uniform.
Mondays	<p>Students are expected to wear their full school uniform throughout the day and put on their tie before morning assembly at 7.30am.</p> <p>If the class has PE lesson on Monday, students will change into their PE attire before PE, and may remain in this attire after the PE lesson.</p>
Tuesdays - Thursdays	<p>Students are allowed to wear half-uniform on these days.</p> <p>They may report to school in their PE attire if there is PE lesson for the class.</p>

Fridays	<p>Students are permitted to wear half-uniform with their current orientation or class t-shirts.</p> <p>They may report to school in their PE attire if there is PE lesson for the class.</p>
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(iii) Grooming

We would like to seek your help to ensure that your child/ward adheres to the personal grooming standards (pertaining to hairstyle, uniform, footwear, etc.) spelled out in the e-Student Handbook. Secondary 1 students will be given a hard copy of these rules pending the procurement of their Personal Learning Device (where the full e-Student Handbook will be made available).

(iv) Mobile Phone Policy

The mobile phone policy requires students to switch off and store their mobile phones securely in their personal lockers during curriculum hours (including recess). **All students will need to bring their number locks during the first week of school.**

The aim of this policy is to provide:

- an environment that is safe and conducive to learning without inappropriate mobile phone usage or distractions; and
- more opportunities for in-person social interaction.

If you wish to communicate important or urgent matters to your child during school hours, you may contact the school at **6459 8303**.

(v) Meal Breaks

As students' well-being is critical, the school is introducing two meal breaks for students from all levels in 2023, from Mon-Thurs. These two thirty-minute recesses will help students to recharge and stay more focused during lessons/activities in the afternoon and/or CCA sessions after lessons. Secondary 1 students may be dismissed at 1.30pm if they do not have any lessons after the second recess.

Level	First Recess	Second Recess (named 'Lunch' in timetable)
Lower Sec	10.00am – 10.30am	1.30pm – 2.00pm
Upper Sec	9.00am – 9.30am	12.30pm – 1.00pm

(vi) Social Responsibility

We seek your help to remind your child/ward to observe the following measures to mitigate the spread of infections:

Stay away when unwell	Students who are unwell or have been infected with Covid-19 should not report to school. They should seek proper medical attention and stay at home to recuperate.
Wipe down routines	Wipe down work areas and common/shared equipment regularly.
Good personal hygiene	Wash hands with soap and water regularly.

2. Vehicular Entry Restrictions

When driving your child/ward during the morning peak periods and picking him/her up at dismissal times, we seek your cooperation to adhere to the following guidelines:

- You may drive into the school compound to drop off or pick up your child/ward from the car porch.
- At all times, refrain from either parking in the school compound or waiting at the car porch.
- Please wait for your child/ward at the HDB car park opposite the school if he /she is not at the car porch when you arrive.
- Do not exceed 15 km/h when you drive in the school compound.

KEY EVENTS IN TERM 1

1. BUILD Orientation Programme

To facilitate your child/ward's transition to a new academic year, the school has planned for an orientation programme for your child/ward from **3 to 5 January 2023, Tuesday to Thursday**. Please refer to the programme focus for the Secondary 1 level and the dismissal time on the orientation days below.

Level	Focus of Activities / Workshops	Dismissal Time
Sec 1 Theme: Build	Easing Social & Emotional Transition to A New School Environment / Building A Sense of Belonging	Day 1: 1.00pm Day 2: 1.30pm Day 3: 1.30pm

2. Secondary 1 Campfire

The Secondary 1 Campfire serves as a finale to the end of your child/ward's first school week in Anderson Secondary School. It will take place on Friday, 6 Jan 2023 from 5.00pm to 7.30pm. As timetabled lessons will begin on 6 Jan 2023, your child/ward will end lessons by 12.30pm. We advise that your child/ward have a proper lunch and snacks, if needed, before reporting back to school at 5.00pm for the Campfire activities.

3. Secondary 1 Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) Showcase & Selection Briefing

The CCA Department will organise a CCA Showcase and Selection Briefing for students in school on 16 January 2023, from 3.30pm to 5.00pm. The CCA Selection Timeline is detailed below.

Sec 1 CCA Selection Timeline 2023		
Term 1, Week 2	9 Jan (Mon) 3.30pm – 6.00pm	CCA Trials Day 1 (Selected CCAs only)
Term 1, Week 2	11 Jan (Wed) 3.30pm – 6.00pm	CCA Trials Day 2 (Selected CCAs only)
Term 1, Week 3	16 Jan (Mon) 3.30pm – 5.00pm	CCA Briefing & Showcase (All CCAs)
Term 1, Week 4	25 Jan (Wed)	Students Informed of Trial Results
Term 1, Week 4 - 5	27 Jan (Fri) to 1 Feb (Wed)	Online Selection of CCAs
Term 1, Week 6	By 10 Feb (Fri)	Students informed of CCA Allocation
Term 1, Week 7	13 Feb (Mon)	Start of CCA for Sec 1s

4. Temperature-Taking Exercise

To educate students to take personal responsibility for their own health and practice social responsibility, the school will be conducting a temperature-taking exercise once a semester. The exercise for Semester 1 will take place on **11 January 2023**, Wednesday. All students are to bring a working oral thermometer (which will be issued by the school to all Secondary 1 students before 11 January) and a packet of tissue paper to school that day.

5. Individual Photo Taking Session for Secondary 1 Students

Please be informed that there will be a photo-taking session for all Secondary 1 students on 17 and 19 January 2023, from 2.30pm – 5.30pm. More details will be given to students during the orientation period.

6. Annual Health Screening

The Health Promotion Board's School Health Service (SHS) provides free age-appropriate health screening and immunisation for your child/ward. The health screening will be held in school for Secondary 1 to 3 students from 11 January to 20 January 2023. The information sheet will be sent to parents/guardians via Parents Gateway.

7. National School-Based Human Papillomavirus Vaccination for Secondary 1 and 2 Female Students

Under the National School-based Human Papillomavirus (HPV) programme, HPB offers fully subsidised HPV vaccinations to Secondary 1 and 2 female students. HPV vaccination is not compulsory and parental consent is required for the student to receive the HPV vaccination. The vaccination will be held on 16 and 17 January 2023. The information sheet will be sent to parents/guardians via Parents Gateway.

8. Parent Engagement Sessions

The school will be conducting parent engagement sessions for the different levels in Term 1. During the session, we will be providing the latest updates on the education landscape and sharing information with you on how you can support your children during their learning journey. The details for the Secondary 1 Parent Engagement session are below.

Date	Time	Level	Mode of Engagement
13 Jan 2023, Fri	6.00pm – 7.45pm	Sec 1	Zoom

Further details will be sent to all parents later. All parents are strongly encouraged to attend this session.

9. National Digital Literacy Programme

In March 2020, MOE launched the National Digital Literacy Programme (**NDLP**) for our schools and Institutes of Higher Learning to help students strengthen their digital literacy. One of the components of the NDLP is the introduction of the Personalised Digital Learning Programme (**PDLP**) for all secondary school students, whereby every secondary school student will own a school-prescribed Personal Learning Device (**PLD**).

The PLD will be used in tandem with the national e-learning platform – the Singapore Student Learning Space (**SLS**) – as well as other educational technology platforms to personalise and enhance students’ learning. This will also enable students to acquire digital skills and apply these skills as they navigate an increasingly digitalised world.

More information will be provided in T1W2 during the Sec 1 Parent Engagement session.

10. Emerging Digital Technologies (EDT) Programme for Secondary 1 & 2 Students

To develop our students’ computational thinking skills along with enhancing their digital literacy skills, all Secondary 1 and 2 students will undergo the Emerging Digital Technologies (EDT) programme to learn multimedia skills, digital content creation, text-based coding, and computational thinking. The EDT programme will be conducted during curriculum hours from 6 to 9 February 2023 for Secondary 1 students, while Secondary 2 students will start the programme in April 2023. Further details will be given to students at a later date.

11. Special Mid-Term Programme for 6-9 February

To develop our students holistically, the school has planned a series of activities that will take place for Secondary 1 to 3 students during curriculum time in T1W6, **6-9 February**. Besides the EDT programme mentioned in para 10, Secondary 1 students will also participate in an Aesthetics Programme from 6-9 February.

12. Chinese New Year

Please take note of the following dates:

Date	Event	Remarks
20 Jan 2023, Fri	Chinese New Year Celebration (10.30am – 12.30pm)	Dismissal time: 12.30pm
22 Jan 2023, Sun	1 st Day of Chinese New Year	-
23 Jan 2023, Mon	2 nd day of Chinese New Year	Public Holiday
24 Jan 2023, Tue	Chinese New Year Holiday	Public Holiday
25 Jan 2023, Wed	Resumption of Lessons	Normal School Day

13. Mother Tongue Language (MTL) Fortnight

To encourage the students' love for Mother Tongue Languages and create an immersive learning environment outside the classroom, the school will be conducting annual MTL Fortnight programmes and enrichment activities for students from all levels.

Level	Date	Time
Sec 1	7 Mar & 9 Mar 2023	After lessons up to 6.00pm

14. Elective Programme in Malay Language for Secondary Schools (EMAS)

The EMAS Programme aims to nurture the language talents of Malay Language (ML) students so that they can attain a high level of proficiency in the Malay Language and a deeper appreciation of Malay culture and literature. Being one of four schools that offer the EMAS programme in Singapore, the school will continue to organise exciting and meaningful Malay Language activities for ML students from all levels. Please take note of the following information.

Level	Activity	Date	Time
Sec 1	Poetry Workshop	17, 19, 26 & 31 Jan 2023	After lessons up to 6.00pm

15. Home-Based Learning (HBL@ANDSS) – Every EVEN Friday

We will continue to implement Blended Learning based on the learning needs of our students this year through HBL@ANDSS. To promote self-directed learning and develop intrinsically motivated and independent learners, we are scheduling Home-Based Learning (HBL) every even Friday in Semester 1 and on five selected days in Semester 2. There will be 4 hours of curriculum coverage and 1 hour of Student-Initiated Learning (SIL) on each HBL day.

Please refer to the table below for an overview of the dates for HBL@ANDSS.

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
13 Jan	31 Mar	4 July	20 Oct
27 Jan	14 Apr	25 July*	

10 Feb	28 Apr	26 July*	
24 Feb	12 May	27 July*	
10 Mar			

* National oral examination days

For each HBL day, students will engage in learning based on instructions given by their respective subject teachers, as well as participate in activities based on their interests. They are not required to report to school in the morning but may be required to report to school for additional CCA practice in the afternoon, depending on their CCA commitments.

To help students to move towards self-directed learning, the teachers will guide students to complete a Personal Self-Initiated Learning Plan before the start of the SIL. In completing the plan, students will be required to do the following:

1. Identify their learning goals.
2. Identify the self-initiated activities which they would like to participate in. (Students can choose from the list of activities organised by the school or decide on their own activities.)
3. Plan the amount of time needed to complete all the activities.

We encourage students to show their Personal Self-Initiated Learning Plan to their parents/guardians.

16. Annual Cross Country

The school will be organising its annual Cross Country on 3 March 2023, from 7.30am to 11.00am, at Singapore Sports Hub. Further details will be provided at a later date.

We hope that the information given above is useful to you in helping your child/ward adapt to the new academic year. We look forward to working in close partnership with you.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully

Ms Tan Po Chin
Principal