

Briefing on Offering Subjects at More Demanding Level / Less Demanding Level

2026 Sec 1 Cohort

OFFICIAL (CLOSED) / NON-SENSITIVE



Our Vision: Learners who Learn For Life, Leaders who Light the Way

Our Values: • Respect • Responsibility • Integrity • Service • Excellence

Rashid Watson (Class of 2022)



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What is Full Subject-Based Banding (SBB)?

- Every student is unique and possesses different strengths. Taking subjects at a higher academic level can help students **nurture their strengths** and give them **more opportunities** throughout their educational journey, so that they are **more engaged in learning**.
- With FSBB, your child can do so from the start of Secondary 1, to **build a stronger foundation** in subjects that they are good at.

SCHOOLBAG
THE EDUCATION NEWS SITE

TUESDAY, 5TH DEC 

Providing Greater Flexibility with Subject-Based Banding

17 MAR 2017



Miss Donna Koh of CHIJ St Theresa's Convent shares about the importance of working in partnership with parents to provide opportunities for students to cope academically and emotionally.



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What are the possible benefits of taking subjects at a more demanding level?

- Some students (and parents) have shared that taking subjects at a more demanding level allows the students to **challenge themselves**, and to have **more options for Sec 3 subject combinations and post-secondary courses**.
- A strong foundation in literacy, numeracy and reasoning, would ensure students are **better prepared for various post-secondary progression pathways** (e.g. to ITE and Polytechnic).



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Opting to offer subjects at a more demanding level

- Eligible students would have receive a **consent form via PG**.
 - Students offered 2 or more subjects will receive one consent form for each subject offered.
- Each student should take **no more than 3 subjects** at a more demanding level so as to ensure that he/she can cope with the overall academic demands.
- Please reply via the PG consent form **by 26 Dec 2025 (Friday)** to indicate the acceptance to offer the subject your child wishes to take (or not to take) at a more demanding level.



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Expectations for students taking subjects at a more demanding level

- Students taking subjects at a higher level have to continue with the subjects until the end of Sec 2 as students do need time to adjust to the higher academic demands.
- Our school will monitor students' progress in these subjects as well as overall progress in all subjects.
- Our school is mindful of students' socio-emotional and academic needs and will endeavour to provide the necessary support to students to help them cope.

TODAY MENU ▾ 

A struggle at first, but taking higher-level subjects helped boost confidence

By FARIS MOKHTAR



Jurong Secondary student Ismahani Azmi, 15, struggled with taking higher-level subjects when she first entered secondary school, but has seen her confidence blossom from the experience, with some help from her teachers, including Mdm Siti Hawa Zaini, her Malay language teacher (seated). PHOTO: FARIS MOKHTAR



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Other opportunities to take subjects at a more demanding level

- During mid year and at the end of Secondary 1, students who do well in their academic subjects may be considered to take these subjects at a more demanding level if they are found suitable to do so.
- Eligible students will receive an offer to take subjects at a more demanding level during mid year and at the end of Secondary 1.
- Our school will provide support through bridging programmes for these students.



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Post Lower Secondary options

- Your child may continue with subject/s at a more demanding level in Upper Secondary if he/she meets our school's criteria at the end of Secondary 2.
- These criteria will be shared with all students in Secondary 2.



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Q&A

Vice-Principal - Mr Tyebally Aziz

HOD (Humanities) - Mr Steven Teo



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Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the criteria for G2 students to take G3 subjects?

- AL 5 at PSLE.

2. What is the criteria for G1 students to take G2 subjects?

- AL 6 at PSLE or A for foundation subjects.

3. What is the school's criteria for future MDL?

- This is dependent on the student's subject performance and holistic consideration of overall academic performance.

4. What happens if we've already purchased the books?

- Parents can return the books in their original state to the bookshop for an exchange.

5. Will the slides be shared after the briefing?

- Yes, the slides will be uploaded onto the school website at the end of the briefing.

Frequently Asked Questions

6. How do parents accept the MDL offers?

- Parents can just click “Yes” on PG.

7. How many MDL subjects can a child take on?

- At the start of Secondary 1, no more than 3 subjects will be offered at a more demanding level.

8. When else will my child be offered MDL?

- At the end of Secondary 1 and the end of Secondary 2.

9. If my child cannot cope with the MDL subject, can he/she drop the subject?

- Students will need to complete the subject until the end of Secondary 2. At the end of Secondary 2, if the student is deemed not to be able to cope with the academic demands, he/she will be offered to take the subject at a less demanding level.



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