CHUNG CHENG HIGH SCHOOL (YISHUN)

SECONDARY TWO EXPRESS ACADEMIC INFORMATION BOOKLET 2021

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ASSESSMENT MODES AND WEIGHTINGS

EL, MTL, Science, Math, Hist, Geog, Lit, Art

Subjects	Term 1	Ter	Term 2		Ter	m 4
	Weighted Assessment1 (WA1)	Weighted Assessment2 (WA2)	Summative Assessment1 (SA1)	Weighted Assessment3 (WA3)	Weighted Assessment4 (WA4)	Summative Assessment2 (SA2)
EL, MTL, Sci, Math, Hist, Geog Lit, Art	10%	10%	20%	10%	10%	40%

Modular Subjects (FCE, D&T)

Subjects	Term 1	Term 2		Term 3	Ter	m 4
	Weighted Assessment1 (WA1)	Weighted Assessment2 (WA2)	Summative Assessment1 (SA1)	Weighted Assessment3 (WA3)	Weighted Assessment4 (WA4)	Summative Assessment2 (SA2)
FCE (Semester 1)	15	15	70	-	-	-
D&T (Semester 2)	-	-	-	15	15	70

^{*} Music and PE are non-examinable subjects

PROMOTION CRITERIA

Level/Stream	Minimum Attainment for Promotion to Sec 3
Sec 2Exp to 3Exp	Pass in English AND Pass in overall percentage of all subjects combined

Students who do not meet the promotion criteria will be laterally transferred to a less demanding stream.

THE STREAMING EXERCISE

A. Rationale and Factors considered

- Provision of subjects based on students' interests, aptitude and profile
- Provision of a wide range of subjects to open up more post-secondary education options
- Consideration of the course entry requirements in JCs and Polytechnics
- Availability of manpower.

B. Important Considerations in Choosing the Subject Combinations

- Interest in the subject students tend to excel in the subjects they are interested in.
- Competency in the subject it's a good indication that students can cope with the subject at a higher level.
- Understanding the demands of the subject:
 - Art requires observational drawing skills
 - Triple Science combination is academically rigorous and requires students to be strong in Mathematics and Science.

C. Criteria for Streaming

Students are streamed based on:

- Merit in terms of subject performance and overall results
- Minimum competency level for the subject
- Student's preference and choice.

2022 SECONDARY THREE SUBJECT COMBINATIONS <u>3Express</u>

	S/N	Subjects				
	1	English Language				
	2	Mother Tongue Language / Higher Mother Tongue Language				
	3	Mathematics				
	4	Additional Mathematics				
Core	_	<u>Humanities</u>				
Subjects	5	SS/Geography Elective OR SS/History Elective				
	6 & 7	Choice of Pure Physics and Pure Chemistry OR Pure Chemistry and Pure Biology				
Optional 8 th Subject	8	Students MAY choose ONE of the following subjects: Pure Biology OR Pure Physics Computing POA English Literature Art				

Qualifying Criteria

Subject	Criteria (based on Sec 2 Overall results in 2021)
Triple Science Biology, Chemistry, Physics	Score at least 70% Overall in Science AND 70% Overall in Maths
English Literature	Score at least 60% in English Literature
Computing	Pass in Mathematics Selection will be based on performance in Mathematics and subjected to course vacancy (40 maximum).
Higher MTL	Score at least 75% in MTL overall (for Sec 2 students not taking HMTL).
Art	Score at least 60% in Art
POA	Pass in Mathematics Selection will be based on the performance in Maths and subjected to course vacancy.

TIMELINE FOR STREAMING EXERCISE

Activities	Dates
Streaming Talk for Students	17 Aug
Sec 2 Mock Streaming Exercise (Familiarisation Exercise)	Start: 23 Aug End: 27 Aug
Sec 2 Streaming Exercise	Start: 29 Oct End: 1 Nov
Release of Sec 2 Streaming Exercise Results	10 Nov
Appeal of Sec 2 Streaming Exercise	Start: 10 Nov End: 11 Nov
Release of Sec 2 Streaming Appeal Results	18 Nov

SUBJECT INFORMATION (EXPRESS)

English Language (Code:1128)

By the end of Secondary education, students will be able to communicate effectively in English as a result of their development in the following areas:

- Listen, read and view critically and with accuracy, understanding and appreciation of a wide range of literary and informational/functional texts from print and non-print sources.
- **Speak, write and represent** in internationally acceptable English (Standard English) that is grammatical, fluent, mutually intelligible and appropriate for different purposes, audiences, contexts and cultures.
- Understand and use internationally acceptable English (Standard English)
 grammar and vocabulary accurately and appropriately as well as understand how
 speakers/writers put words together and use language to communicate meaning and
 achieve impact.

Paper	Duration	Marks	Weighting	Content
Paper 1: Writing	1 h 50 min	70	35%	EditingSituational WritingContinuous Writing
Paper 2: Comprehension	1 h 50 min	50	35%	Visual TextNarrative TextNon-narrative Text
Paper 3: Listening	45 min	30	10%	Listening Comprehension
Paper 4: Oral Communication	20 min (approx)	30	20%	Reading AloudSpoken Interaction

Mother Tongue Language: Chinese (Code:1160) / Malay (Code:1148)

The main objectives in the teaching and learning of Mother Tongue Languages are:

- Students are able to listen and understand narrative, descriptive and functional texts.
- Students are able to express their views and feelings towards a more complex topic and engage in effective communications.
- Students are able to read and understand narrative, descriptive, argumentative and functional texts, as well as engage in literary appreciation.
- Students are able to write narrative, descriptive, argumentative and functional writings, as well as creative writings.

Paper	Duration	Marks	Weighting	Content
Paper 1	2 h	60	30%	Functional WritingComposition
Paper 2	1 h 30 min	70	35%	Language UsageComprehension 1Comprehension 2
Paper 3	15 min 30 min	50 20	25% 10%	Oral ExaminationListening Comprehension

<u>Higher Mother Tongue Language: Higher Chinese (Code:1116)/</u> Higher Malay (Code:1117)

The main objectives in the teaching and learning of Higher Mother Tongue Languages are:

- Students are able to listen and understand narrative, descriptive and functional texts.
- Students are able to engage in effective communication over a more complex topic and deliver a simple speech based on the topic discussed.
- Students are able to read and understand narrative, descriptive, argumentative and functional texts, as well as engage in more in-depth literary appreciation.
- Students are able to write narrative, descriptive, argumentative and functional writings, as well as creative writings.

GCE O-Level Exam Format

Paper	Duration	Marks	Weighting	Content
Paper 1	2 h	80	40%	Functional WritingComposition
Paper 2	1 h 45 min	80	40%	Language UsageComprehension 1Comprehension 2
Paper 3	15 min	40	20%	Oral Examination

Mathematics (Code: 4048)

The Mathematics syllabus aims to enable all students to:

- acquire mathematical concepts and skills for continuous learning in mathematics and to support learning in other subjects;
- develop thinking, reasoning, communication, application and metacognitive skills through a mathematical approach to problem solving;
- connect ideas within mathematics and between mathematics and other subjects through applications of mathematics;
- build confidence and foster interest in mathematics.

The concepts and skills covered in the syllabus are organised along 3 content strands: Number and Algebra, Geometry and Measurement, Statistics and Probability.

GCE O-Level Exam Format

Paper	Duration	Marks	Weighting	No. of Questions
Paper 1	2 h	80	50%	Answer all questions, short structured questions, about 22 to 25 questions.
Paper 2	2.5	100	50%	Answer all questions, 10 structured questions.

Additional Mathematics (Code:4049)

The O-level Additional Mathematics syllabus aims to enable students who have an aptitude and interest in mathematics to:

- acquire mathematical concepts and skills for higher studies in mathematics and to support learning in the other subjects, with emphasis in the sciences, but not limited to the sciences;
- develop thinking, reasoning, communication, application and metacognitive skills through a mathematical approach to problem solving;
- connect ideas within mathematics and between mathematics and the sciences through applications of mathematics; and
- appreciate the abstract nature and power of mathematics.

Paper	Duration	Marks	Weighting	No. of Questions
Paper 1	2h 15 min	90	50%	Answer all questions, 11 or 12 questions of varying marks and lengths, up to 10 marks per question.
Paper 2	2h 15 min	90	50%	Answer all questions, 11 or 12 questions of varying marks and lengths, up to 12 marks per question.

Physics (Code:6091)

The O-Level physics syllabus provides students with a coherent understanding of energy, matter, and their interrelationships. It focuses on investigating natural phenomena and then applying patterns, models (including mathematical ones), principles, theories and laws to explain the physical behaviour of the universe. The theories and concepts presented in this syllabus belong to a branch of physics commonly referred to as classical physics. Modern physics, developed to explain the quantum properties at the atomic and sub-atomic level, is built on knowledge of these classical theories and concepts.

The syllabus are organised based on:

- Measurement
- Newtonian Mechanics
- Thermal Physics
- Waves
- Electricity and Magnetism

Paper	Duration	Marks	Weighting
Paper 1: MCQ	1 h	40	30%
Paper 2: Structured Questions	1 h 45 min	80	50%
Paper 3: Practical	1 h 50 min	40	20%

Chemistry (Code:6092)

This syllabus is designed to place less emphasis on factual materials and greater emphasis on the understanding and application of scientific concepts and principles. This approach has been adapted in recognition of the need for students to develop skills that will be of long term value in an increasingly technological world rather than focusing on large quantities of factual materials, which may have only short term relevance.

The syllabus are organised based on:

- Experimental Chemistry
- Atomic Structure and Stoichiometry
- Chemistry of Reactions
- Periodicity
- Atmosphere
- Organic Chemistry

Paper	Duration	Marks	Weighting
Paper 1: MCQ	1 h	40	30%
Paper 2: Structured Questions	1 h 45 min	80	50%
Paper 3: Practical	1 h 50 min	40	20%

Biology (Code:6093)

The O-Level Biology syllabus is designed to have less emphasis on factual materials, but a much greater emphasis on the understanding and application of scientific concepts and principles. This approach has been adopted in recognition of the need for students to develop skills that will be of long term value in an increasingly complex and globalised world, rather than focusing on large quantities of factual material, which may have only short-term relevance.

The syllabus are organised based on:

- Principles of Biology
- Maintenance and Regulation of Life Processes
- Continuity of Life
- Man and His Environment

Paper	Duration	Marks	Weighting
Paper 1: MCQ	1 h	40	30%
Paper 2: Structured Questions	1 h 45 min	80	50%
Paper 3: Practical	1 h 50 min	40	20%

Computing (Code:7155)

The syllabus consists of four modules:

- 1. Data and Information
- 2. Systems and Communications
- 3. Abstraction and Algorithms
- 4. Programming (using Python).

The examination will assess:

- (a) Knowledge and understanding of basic computing technology and systems, concepts, algorithms, techniques and tools.
- (b) Application of knowledge and understanding to analyse and solve computing problem.
- (c) Development, testing and refinement of solutions using appropriate software application(s) and/or programming language(s).

Students can handle and process data in computer systems, as well as the need to be ethical when dealing with data. They will demonstrate problem-solving techniques through analysing and writing programming solutions for a range of computing problems in business, education, mathematics and science. Students will be able to demonstrate computational thinking through the design and development of programming solutions.

Paper	Mode	Duration	Weighting	Marks	Format	Modules Assessed
Paper 1	Written	2 h	70 %	80	 Short Answer Questions Matching Questions Cloze Passage Structured Questions 	All 4 modules

Paper 2	Lab- based	2 h 30 min	30%	50	4 compulsory structured questions • Spreadsheet Functions and Features • Refinement of Program • Debugging of Program • Development of program	Unit 1.1 Data Management From Module 1 Module 4: Programming
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Humanities (Social Studies + Geography) (Code:2272/01 and 2272/02)

Social Studies (2272/01)

The Social Studies syllabus seeks to develop the competencies of students to be informed, concerned and participative citizens. As informed citizens, they would evaluate information, consider different viewpoints and exercise discernment in reaching well-reasoned conclusions and make responsible decisions. As concerned citizens, they would appreciate the importance of engaging in issues of societal concern. They would develop into participative citizens who are resilient in addressing concerns of the community or society in spite of challenges faced.

Syllabus Content

The syllabus content is organised around 3 issues which correspond to societal issues that have been shaping Singapore society and the world.

Issue 1: Exploring Citizenship and Governance

Guiding Questions:

- 1. What does it mean for me to be a citizen of my country?
- 2. How do we decide on what is good for society?
- 3. How can we work for the good of society?

Issue 2: Living in a Diverse Society

Guiding Questions:

- 1. What is diversity?
- 2. Why is there greater diversity in Singapore now?
- 3. What are the experiences and effects of living in a diverse society?
- 4. How can we respond in a diverse society?

Issue 3: Being Part of a Globalised World

Guiding Questions:

- 1. What does it mean to live in a globalised world?
- 2. How do we respond to tensions arising from some economic impacts of globalisation?
- 3. How do we respond to tensions arising from some cultural impacts of globalisation?
- 4. How do we respond to tensions arising from some security impacts of globalisation?

GCE 'O' Level Exam Format

The examination consists of one paper. The duration of the paper is 1 hour 45 minutes.

Section	Duration	Marks	Weighting
Section A: Source-based Case Study	4 h 45 min	35	35%
Section B: Structured Essay Question	1 h 45 min	15	15%

Geography (2272/02)

The syllabus is designed to develop geographical insights and global awareness into future challenges through the study of current issues and their management using examples at the local, regional and global scales.

Students will explore geographical issues, seek understanding through the collection and analysis of geographical information, develop skills in communicating and applying geographical knowledge and make informed judgements and sound decisions through the analysis, synthesis and evaluation of geographical information.

Syllabus Content

There are four topics in themes 1 and 2 of the O-Level Geography syllabus. Each topic is organised around either two or three key questions and these key questions serve as the organisational framework of the topic.

Theme 1: Physical Geography

Topic 1. Living with Tectonic Hazards: Risk or Opportunity?

Topic 2. Variable Weather & Changing Climate: A Continuing Challenge?

Theme 2: Human Geography

Topic 3: Global Tourism: Is Tourism the Way to Go?

Topic 4: Food Resources: Is Technology the Panacea for Food Shortage?

Theme 3: Geographical Skills and Investigations which are developed when students learn the topics:

Geographical Skills and Investigations (Topic 2 and Topic 3)

Topographical Map Reading Skills (All topics)

Geographical Data and Techniques (All topics)

GCE 'O' Level Exam Format

The examination consists of one paper.

Section	Duration	Marks	Weighting
Section A: Choose one of two structured questions on Geographical Investigations, based on: • Global Tourism • Variable Weather and Climate		13	13%
Section B: Choose one of two structured questions based on: • Global Tourism • Variable Weather and Climate	1 h 40 min	12	12%
Section C: Choose one of two structured questions based on: Living with Tectonic Hazards Food Resources		25	25%

<u>Humanities (Social Studies + History)</u> (Code:2273/01 and 2273/02)

Social Studies (Code:2273/01)

Same as 2272/01.

History (2273/02)

The syllabus is designed to equip students with the necessary historical knowledge, understanding, dispositions and skills to understand the present and contribute actively and responsibly as local and global citizens.

It aims to engage students actively in historical inquiry to acquire knowledge and understanding of selected periods, societies and aspects of history. Students will understand how the past has been interpreted, represented and accorded significance for different reasons and purposes. They will explore a range of sources critically in their

historical context, organise and communicate their historical knowledge to reach substantiated judgements about the past.

Syllabus Content

The O – Level History Elective syllabus examines the key forces and developments which have shaped international history in the 20th century. It focuses on challenges to European hegemony and world peace.

There are 2 themes / units in this syllabus:

Unit 1: The World in Crisis

- Impact of World War One
- Rise of authoritarian regimes and its impact in the interwar years (Communist USSR and Nazi Germany)
- World War Two in Europe and the Asia Pacific

Unit 2: Bi-Polarity and the Cold War

- Cold War and the bi-polar world order
- Manifestation of the Cold War outside Europe (Korean War and Cuban Missile Crisis)
- End of Cold War

GCE O-Level Exam Format

The examination consists of one paper. The duration of the paper is 1 hour 40 minutes.

Section	Duration	Marks	Weighting
Section A: Source-based Case Study	4 1- 40	30	30%
Section B: Structured Essay Question	1 h 40 min		20%

English Literature (Code:2065)

The aims of the syllabus are to:

Ethical	 raise awareness of timeless issues concerning society; promote the appreciation of multiple perspectives; and build empathy and global awareness.
Aesthetic	 inculcate the habit of close reading; promote heightened appreciation of nuances of language; and sensitise students to artistic decisions made by writers.

Intellectual	 cultivate metacognitive habits of mind as students pay attention to the impact of language on one's thoughts and feelings; develop greater acceptance for ambiguity and open-endedness; and equip students with the skills to convince others of their interpretations, based on sound reasoning with evidence.
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Syllabus Content

During the course of their study, students will be examining the following:

Set Texts

o Prose: Fahrenheit 451

o Drama: The Glass Menagerie

Unseen Poetry

• Literary Elements and Devices

GCE O-Level Exam Format

Paper 1-Prose and Unseen Poetry

Duration	Section	Content	Marks	Weighting
1 h 40 min	А	Prose	25	25%
	В	Unseen Poetry	25	25%

Paper 2-Drama

Duration	Section	Content	Marks	Weighting
1 h 30 min	А	 Candidates read one text from any five set texts From each text, one passage- based question (compulsory) and two essay questions will be set (choose one) 	50	50%

Art (Code:6123)

The Art syllabus is designed to provide students with the opportunity to give form and meaning to their ideas, thoughts and feelings through visual and tactile forms. The breadth and depth of study cater to a range of abilities and interests. The process of art making involving the use of a variety of media and technologies, as well as its role in the development of critical and creative thinking, continue to be maintained. Visual literacy skills such as perceiving and responding to visual images, and analysis of visual information in its many forms are further enhanced and developed in this syllabus. This document presents the aims, the framework, the learning outcomes, the content and the examination requirements of the Art syllabus.

GCE O-Level Exam Format

Candidates taking the GCE N(A)-Level Art Syllabus Examinations will be required to offer Paper 1: Coursework and Paper 2: Drawing and Painting.

Paper	Description	Examination Duration	Weighting	Requirement
Paper 1	Coursework	Not Applicable	60%	Compulsory
Paper 2	Drawing and Painting	3 hours	40%	Compulsory

^{*}Paper 3 Study of Visual Arts is not offered by the school.

Principles of Accounts (Code:7087)

The syllabus aims to develop in the students, the ability to prepare, communicate and use accounting information.

	Duration	Marks	Weighting	No. of Questions
Paper 1	1 h	40	40%	Answer all the questions, 4 structured questions.
Paper 2	2 h	60	60%	Answer all the questions, 4 or 5 structured questions.

GCE 'O' LEVEL GRADING SYSTEM

GCE 'O' Level		
Grades	Marks	
A1	≥75	
A2	70-74	
В3	65-69	
B4	60-64	
C5	55-59	
C6	50-54	
D7	45-49	
E8	40-44	
F9	≤39	

THE BONUS POINT SYSTEM FOR ADMISSION TO POST-SEC INSTITUTES

SN	Types of Bonus Points	No. of Bonus Points Available	Maximum B Allov	onus Points vable
1	For students seeking admission to JC/MI/Polytechnic/ITE, with the following CCA attainments/grades: a. Excellent, A1 – A2 b. Good, B3 – C6	2 points 1 point		
2	For students seeking admission to JC/MI courses: a. HMTL Grade: A1 – C6 AND b. EL Grade: A1 – C6	2 points		Limited to a
3	For students who choose NYJC course(s) as their: a. 1 choice, OR b. 1 and 2 choices.	2 points	Limited to a maximum of 4 Bonus	maximum of <u>6 Bonus</u>
4	For students seeking admission to JC/MI courses: a. ML/CL Special Programme Grade: A1 – C6 OR b. Bahasa Indonesia (as 3 rd Lang) Grade: A1 – C6	2 points	Points only for these 4 sections.	<u>Points</u> only.
5	For students who had applied for the CLEP, MLEP or TLEP and have been selected for the programme.	2 points		

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

Express

Junior Colleges Admission: L1R5 ≤ 20 points (excludes Bonus Points)

Ī	L1	First Language	English OR Higher Mother Tongue
	R5	Relevant Subjects 1 to 3	1. Humanities 2. Mathematics 3. Science
	110	Relevant Subjects 4 to 5	Any other 2 best GCE 'O' Level subjects

Millennia Institute Admission: L1R4 ≤ 20 points (excludes Bonus Points)

L1	First Language	English OR Higher Mother Tongue
R4	Relevant Subjects 1 to 2	1. Humanities OR Mathematics OR Science 2. Humanities OR Mathematics OR Science
	Relevant Subjects 3 to 4	Any other 2 best GCE 'O' Level subjects

Polytechnic Admission: ELR2B2 ≤ 26 points (excludes Bonus Points)

EL	English Language	
R2	2 Relevant Subjects	2 subjects relevant to the course type:
B2	2 Best GCE 'O' Level Subjects	

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Is it recommended for a student with average grades (still meeting the minimum requirement for Triple Science) to take up the Triple Science option?

Students who offer Triple Science must have a strong interest and aptitude for Science. The Triple Science option is academically rigorous and requires students to be strong in Mathematics and Science. Students taking Triple Science option only takes one Humanities subject, and they will have limited choices of the Humanities subjects, when they go to Junior College.

2. If there is an overwhelming registration for Triple Science option, would the students be competing for a single Triple Science class?

There is no maximum cap on the number of students offering Triple Science. As long as the students meet the Triple Science qualifying criteria, the students will be offered the Triple Science combination.

3. Is it necessary for my child to offer Biology in secondary school, if he/she wishes to pursue a medical degree in future?

The prerequisite for admission to the School of Medicine is a good H2 Pass in Chemistry and H2 Pass in either Biology or Physics. Hence, Biology is not a prerequisite for admission.

4. Can my child pursue Physics-related courses in Universities if he/she does not take O-Level Physics?

No. Universities require the learning of foundation of Physics at 'O' Level in order to pursue Physics-related courses, eg engineering courses.

5. My child takes Higher Mother Tongue (HMTL). In Secondary 4, can my child drop to Mother Tongue (MTL) if he/she finds it difficult to cope with HMTL?

Dropping of HMTL is managed on a case-to-case basis. The MOE policy stipulates that students are allowed to register for either O-Level MTL or HMTL in Sec 4. For students who wish to resit for O-Level MTL exams again when they are in Sec 4, they would have to drop HMTL and switch to MTL.

6. What are some considerations in the dropping of HMTL in Sec 4?

These are some factors to consider:

- Is my child coping well and interested in HMTL, and able to persevere with HMTL in Sec 4 and obtain a satisfactory grade in HMTL, despite not doing well in MTL?
- Is my child coping well in other subjects and requires more time and effort in these subjects?
- 7. If my child achieves good grades in other subjects but fails Chinese, will he/she be allowed to enter JC?

For students who attain E8 and below for Chinese, they will not be allowed to enter JC. For students who obtain a D7 for CL, they will be placed on a conditional entry, and pass H1 CL in Year 1.

8. If my child cannot cope with 8 subjects, is she allowed to drop the 8th subject before O-level registration?

Students are not allowed to drop any subjects in Sec 3. In the event that your child could not cope with 8 subjects, he/she could first approach the teachers for advice. The school will review the application to drop subjects on a case-to-case basis.

9. What are the requirements for taking Coursework subject such as Art?

The Coursework examination for each subject requires students to work on a long term project which begins in January of the examination year. It requires students to have good time management skills and consistent effort throughout the year. Art is also a subject which requires observational drawing skills.

10. My child wish to know more about Computing. Where can I get more information?

If you wish to know more about Computing, you can visit this website for more information.

https://sites.google.com/moe.edu.sg/cchy-computing/home