

FUHUA PRIMARY SCHOOL
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR
MOTHER TONGUE SUPPORT PROGRAMME (MTSP)
& HIGHER MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGES (HMTL)

MOTHER TONGUE SUPPORT PROGRAMME (MTSP)

Q1 How was my child selected for MTSP?

Enrolment into the programme is based on your child's proficiency level in his/her Mother Tongue Language (MTL). Schools will use subject-specific qualitative descriptors to report P1 and P2 students' learning progress for all subjects. This is assessed by your child's MTL teacher(s) through observations and various assessments throughout P1 and P2.

Q2 Can I choose to opt out of MTSP?

MTSP will provide more customised and individualised support for your child in learning MTL. We strongly recommend that your child participate in MTSP.

Q3 How does MTSP help my child in his/her learning?

The MTSP provides additional support to your child. He/she will be learning various language skills that will help him/her cope better with lessons in the future. It is a customised programme where your child gets more individualised attention while more opportunities will be provided to use MTL to experience success in varying degrees.

Q4 How long will my child be under MTSP?

MTSP is offered at Primary 3 and 4 only. We strongly encourage students to remain in the programme for two years to ensure that they have acquired the skills to experience success in the future. If your child has demonstrated progress and exceptional improvement in his/her MTL learning, the MTL Teacher will communicate with you to discuss on options including exiting the programme at appropriate timing, i.e., end of Primary 3.

Q5 How is my child assessed? Is there any change in the major exams?

There are assessment tools incorporated in the instructional materials for teachers to gather information on student's learning progress. The feedback given will also allow students to assess their own learning, as well as build their self-confidence as they experience small successes. There will be no changes in the major exams for

MTSP students. You may discuss with your child's MTL teacher on establishing a realistic target for your child and progressively working towards realising the target, which will enable him/her to move towards achieving his/her learning goals in the long term.

Q6 Is there a follow-up programme when my child is promoted to Primary 5?

No. MTSP is offered at Primary 3 and 4 only. The objective of MTSP is to help students in need to level up their MTL proficiency sufficiently, through more customised interventions, so as to cope with the common MTL curriculum at Primary 3 and 4. At the end of Primary 4, students will undergo subject-based banding. Students will be offered the curriculum pitched at their ability to allow them to learn at their own pace at Primary 5.

Q7 If my child is in MTSP, do they need to buy the textbook and activity book?

No, they do not need to buy it. The textbooks and activity books will be provided by the school.

HIGHER MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGE (HMTL)

Q8 What are the benefits of taking HMTL?

Taking Higher Mother Tongue Language enhances your child's language proficiency and cultural appreciation whilst demonstrating academic excellence. Students achieving Distinction or Merit grades can continue HMTL in secondary school, building advanced language skills throughout their education.

Students who obtained Distinction/Merit/Pass in HCL and a PSLE Score of 14 or better (i.e. PSLE Score \leqslant 14) at PSLE will be eligible for posting advantage to SAP schools. If multiple students with the same PSLE Score apply for places in the same SAP school, those with better HCL grades will be allocated a place ahead of other students.

Q9 How does the P5 selection process work?

Selection is based on students' MTL performance in P3 and P4, including academic results, teacher recommendations, and demonstrated interest and aptitude in the language. The school will notify eligible students and parents about the selection process.

Q10 When does selection for P5 HMTL happen - beginning or end of P5? I'm concerned about sufficient preparation time.

Selection for P5 HMTL typically occurs at the end of P4 school year. Students selected will have the full P5 and P6 years to prepare for the PSLE HMTL examination. The school provides adequate preparation time and support.

Q11 Can a student still offer HMTL at upper primary levels even if he/she did not offer it at P3 and P4 level?

A student could still offer HMTL at P5 and P6 level when he/she builds stronger proficiency and interest. The offering of HMTL from P3-P5 is a parental option whereas the offering of HMTL at P6 is a school-based decision.

Q12 The HMT exam for P5 and P6 seems demanding. Is one hour of extra HMTL weekly sufficient, or are parents expected to provide additional external support?

The one-hour weekly HMTL lesson provides structured foundation and guidance from qualified teachers. Parents may choose to provide additional support but this is not mandatory.

Q13 How will students cope with HMT having only one hour per week compared to regular MT which has more lessons?

The one-hour HMTL lesson is in addition to regular MTL lessons, not a replacement. Students continue with their regular MTL curriculum and receive the additional HMTL enrichment. The HMTL lesson focuses on advanced skills and concepts building upon the foundation from regular MTL lessons.

Q14 Is bus transportation provided by the school for HMTL lessons?

No, parents will need to arrange their own transportation for HMTL lessons. Please factor in travel arrangements when considering the programme.

Q15 If my child is in HMTL, how many textbooks and activity books would they need to buy for MTL lessons?

They will only buy 1 set of textbook and activity book for Higher Mother Tongue.

Q16 With CCA commitments starting in P4, afternoon practices, and the new Science subject, how should parents consider the time commitment?

Parents should carefully consider their child's overall academic load and time management abilities. We recommend discussing with your child about their interest and capacity to handle the additional commitment.

Q17 If a student decides to discontinue with HMTL during P3 or P4, will he/she be allowed to drop out?

To truly benefit from the HMTL curriculum at P3, students should offer HMTL for at least two years to ascertain his/her ability to cope with it. Schools should update parents regularly concerning their children's progress in HMTL. If the student really finds difficulty coping, he/she can drop HMTL anytime.