



Hougang Secondary School

Subject Combination Overview

31 Jan 2026

**GRATITUDE
RESPECT
EMPATHY
ADAPTABILITY
TRUSTWORTHINESS**

Revised JC Admission Criteria

1. From the 2028 Joint Admissions Exercise, the JC admission criteria will be adjusted from **L1R5 ≤ 20** to **L1R4 ≤ 16** to count one fewer subject.

2. In counting one fewer subject, the raw aggregate score will be lower.
To ensure that bonus points do not give students a disproportionately large advantage for posting, the cap on bonus points will be lowered from **a maximum of 4 to 3 points**.

You are encouraged to choose a subject combination that matches your strengths, interests and aspirations.

- There is no need to take more than 7 subjects to be adequately prepared for the JC.
- You are encouraged to use your freed time for learning beyond the examinations.
- You should also explore your interests and engage in activities to maintain well-being.



When deciding how many and what subjects you want to take, you can consider the following:

- In which subjects do you find yourself grasping concepts quickly without needing extensive additional support?
- Which subject areas do you find yourself demonstrating the most resilience in when working on challenging academic tasks?

Strengths

Interests

Curriculum Load

1. How many subjects should I take?
2. What subjects should I take?

Well-being

Aspirations

- How do you typically manage your current study workload and time?
- How much time do you need for rest, family, other commitments and social activities to maintain good mental health?

- Which subjects are you interested in?
- Outside of academics, what personal interests do you like to pursue?

- Which post-secondary pathway are you aspiring to?
- Which course in a particular pathway do you hope to pursue?

How many / What subjects should I be taking?

1. With **6-7 G3 subjects**, you can access a **good range of JC courses**.
2. If you can manage your learning well and have a strong interest in a particular area (e.g., 3rd language, Art), you can choose to offer more than 7 G3 subjects.
3. Carefully consider your subjects based on your interests, strengths, well-being and aspirations.

✓	✗
Take time to talk to your teachers, ECG Counsellors and parents to work through your strengths, interests and aspirations	Choose based on what you think will “look good” on your exam certificate or what your friends are taking
Think about what you genuinely enjoy and what would give you time and space to develop yourself holistically	Choose solely based on what you think you will score best at



Did you know?
Each additional subject you take amounts to approximately 3 hours of curriculum time a week!

How many / What subjects should I be taking?

4. If I want to take H2 Science and H2 Math at JC/MI, do I need to take Pure Science and Additional Mathematics (A Math)?
 - If you are coping well with your studies and have strong aspirations to pursue H2 Science and H2 Math in JC, you are encouraged to take G3 'Pure' Science and G3 A Math at upper secondary respectively. These subjects cover content that will be built upon in H2 Science and H2 Math at JC.
 - If you do not take 'Pure' Science or A Math, you can still take H2 Science or H2 Math in JC but would need to bridge the necessary content and catch up on the topics you have not covered in Combined Sci and/or E Math. However, having to bridge **multiple** subjects will be challenging and is not encouraged.
 - The final subject offerings would depend on the respective JC/MI's available subject combinations.

Current Sec 3 Subject Combination offered to G3-dominant students (Posting Group 3)

*Subject to demand, staff availability and timetabling constraints



Current Sec 3 G3 Subject Combination offered (7 subjects) Pure Science

	SUBJECTS	
1	English Language	
2	Mother Tongue Language (Chinese/Malay/Tamil/Others)	
3	Elementary Mathematics	
4	Humanities	Social Studies with Geography OR Social Studies with History OR Social Studies with Malay Literature
5	Pure Chemistry	
6	Additional Mathematics	
7	Pure Physics OR Pure Biology	



Current Sec 3 G3 Subject Combination offered (7 subjects) Combined Science

	SUBJECTS	
1	English Language	
2	Mother Tongue Language (Chinese/Malay/Tamil/Others)	
3	Elementary Mathematics	
4	Humanities	Social Studies with Geography OR Social Studies with History OR Social Studies with Malay Literature
5	Combined Science	Chemistry with Physics OR Chemistry with Biology
6	Additional Mathematics	
7	Choose 1 elective: Geography@ OR Computing OR Principles of Accounts	

@ Student will not be allowed to take Humanities (Social Studies with Geography) in this combination.



Current Sec 3 G3 Subject Combination offered (6 subjects) Combined Science

SUBJECTS		
1	English Language	
2	Mother Tongue Language (Chinese/Malay/Tamil/Others)	
3	Elementary Mathematics	
4	Humanities	Social Studies with Geography OR Social Studies with History OR Social Studies with Malay Literature
5	Combined Science	Chemistry with Physics OR Chemistry with Biology
6	<u>Choose 1 elective:</u>	<u>~Design and Technology OR ~Nutrition and Food Science OR ~Art</u>

~coursework subject



Current Sec 3 G3 Subject Combination offered (6/7 subjects) Combined Science

	SUBJECTS	
1	English Language	
2	Mother Tongue Language (Chinese/Malay/Tamil/Others)	
3	Elementary Mathematics	
4	Humanities	Social Studies with Geography OR Social Studies with History OR Social Studies with Malay Literature
5	Combined Science	Chemistry with Physics OR Chemistry with Biology
6	Choose 1 elective: Principles of Account OR English Literature	
7#	Additional Mathematics	

#Optional 7th subject



Criteria for Sec 3 G3 Subjects

Subjects	Criteria
Pure Sciences	B3 or better in Mathematics and Science
Computing	B4 or better in Mathematics Selection test
Additional Mathematics (for Combined Sciences)	B4 or better in Mathematics
English Literature	B3 or better in either English or English Literature
Pure Geography	B4 or better in Geography

Current Sec 3 Subject Combination offered to G2-dominant students (Posting Group 2)

*Subject to demand, staff availability and timetabling constraints



Current Sec 3 G2 Subject Combination (6 subjects)

	Subjects	
1	English Language	
2	Mother Tongue Language	
3	Mathematics	
4	Humanities	Social Studies with Geography OR Social Studies with History
5	Science (Chemistry and Physics)	
6	<u>Choose 1 elective:</u>	Principles of Accounts OR English Literature OR Computing OR ~Design & Technology OR ~Nutrition and Food Science OR ~Art

~coursework subject

Current Sec 3 Subject Combination offered to G1-dominant students (Posting Group 1)

*Subject to demand, staff availability and timetabling constraints



Current Sec 3 G1 Subject Combination (6 subjects)

	Subjects
1	English Language
2	Mother Tongue Language
3	Mathematics
4	Science
5	Humanities (non-examinable)
6	<u>Choose 1 elective:</u> Computing *Design & Technology *Nutrition and Food Science

*coursework subject

When selecting subject combination...

Select a subject combination **according to your child's ability and interest** so that your child can excel and move on to a JC/Polytechnic/ITE Course of choice



What is considered in the allocation of subject combinations?

The allocation of subject combinations will be based on **merit, choice and vacancy**.



Timeline

Date	Details	Remarks
19 May (Tue)	Subject Combination Briefing (students)	Students will complete Subjects Preference Survey on 19 May
20 May (Tue)	Subject Combination Briefing (parents)	Term 2 Week 9, 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm
24 Sep – 5 Oct (Thu – Mon)	End-of-Year Exam	Term 4 Weeks 2 to 4
8 Oct (Thu)	Subject Combination Submission Briefing (students)	Term 4 Week 4
19 – 26 Oct (Mon – Mon)	Submission of Subject Combination (online portal)	PTM on 23 Oct (last day of school)
10 Nov (Tue)	Release of Subject Combination outcome (online portal)	Term 4 Week 9
10 – 12 Nov (Tue – Thu)	Appeal period (email)	Deadline: 3 pm with consent from parents. Student is required to inform his/her Character Coaches.
By 20 Nov (Fri)	Release of Appeal outcome (email)	



thank
you!

