Sec 4 Normal (Academic)
Education and Career Guidance

HOUGANG
SECONDARY SCHOOL

Ms Juan Pei Ling
Education and Career Guidance Counsellor

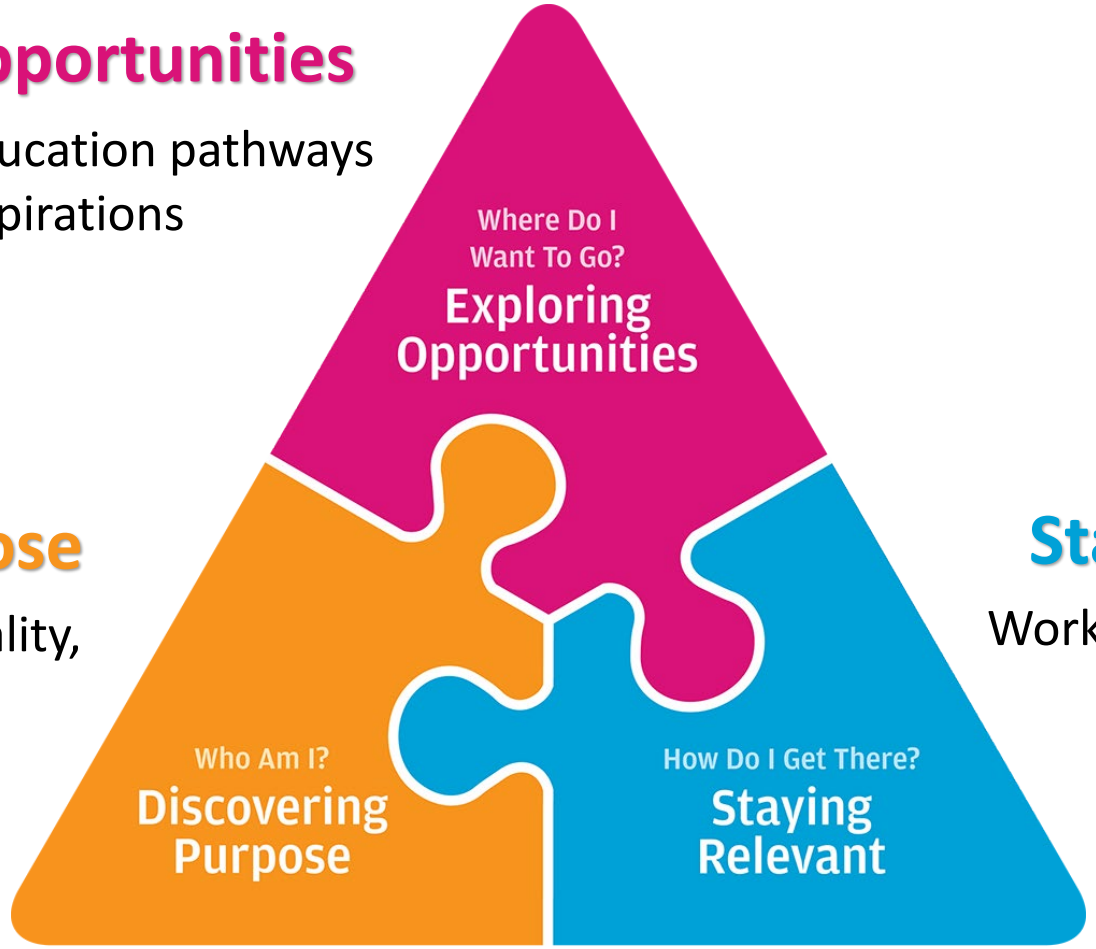
Education and Career Guidance - ECG

Exploring Opportunities

Post-secondary education pathways
Career Aspirations

Discovering Purpose

Values, interests, personality, skills & strengths



Staying Relevant

Working towards education and career goals

ECG

Post Sec Pathways for Normal (Academic)

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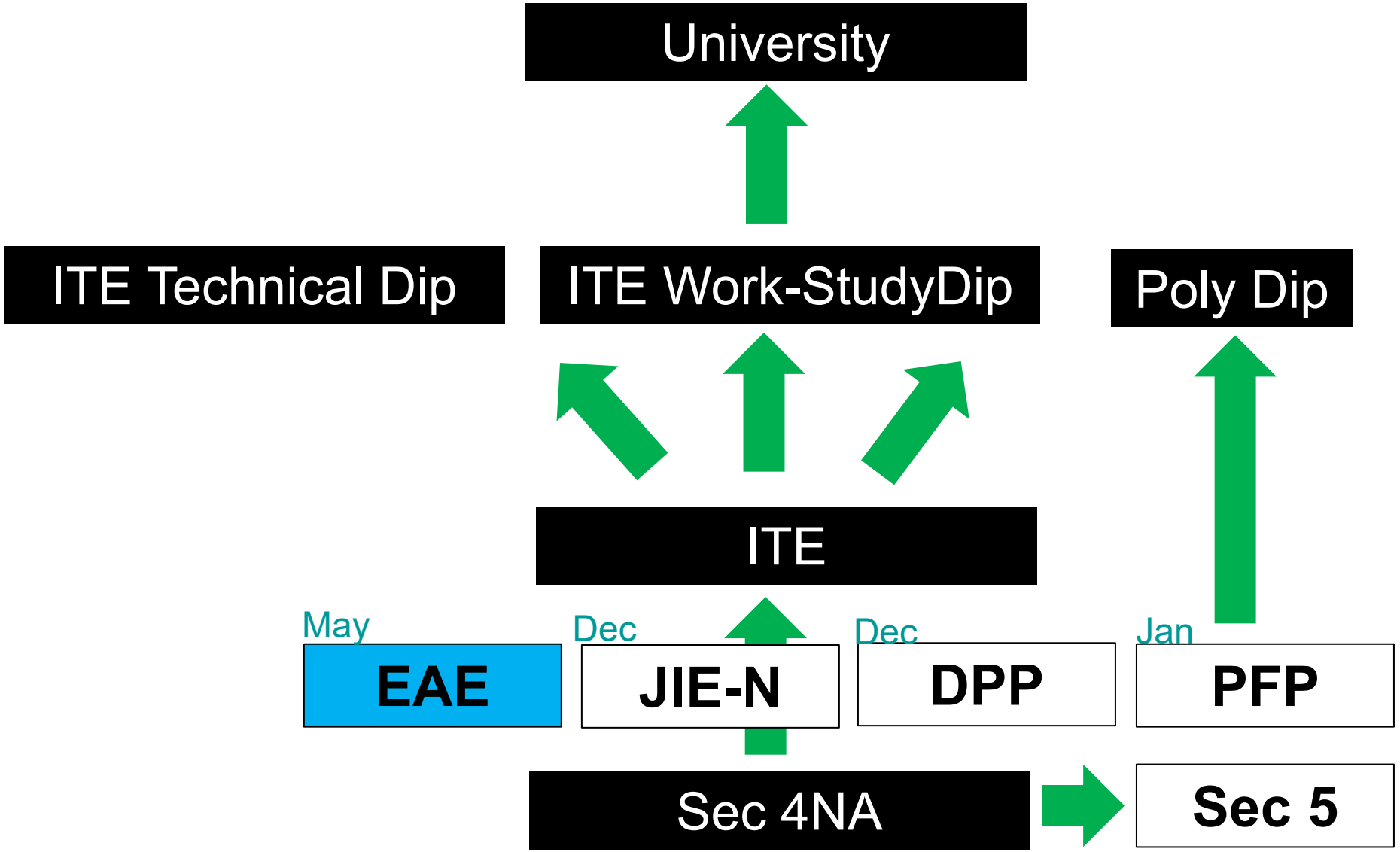
Post-Secondary Pathway for N(A) students



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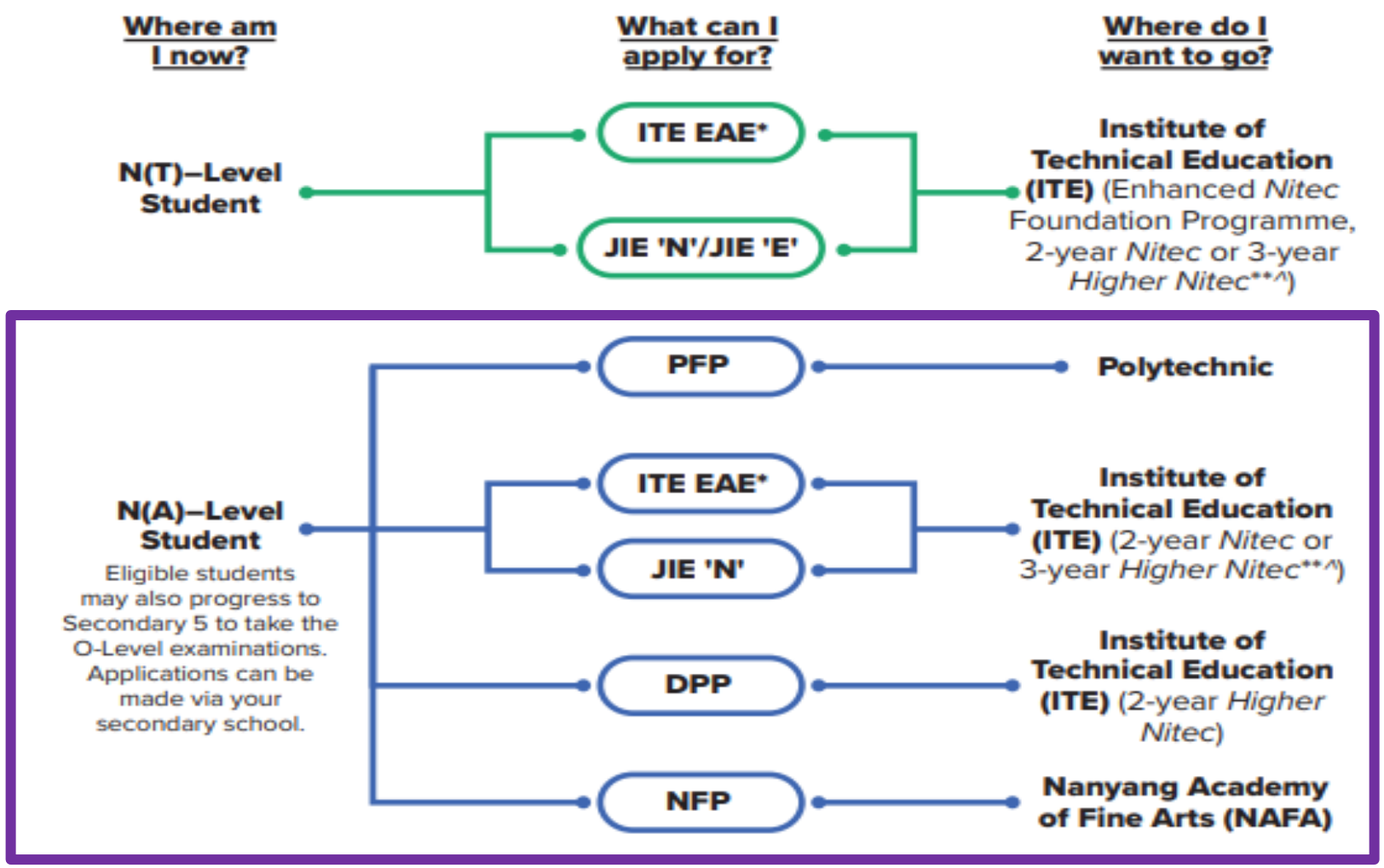
Post Sec Pathways – NA/NT



All pathways lead to University!

PFP	Polytechnic Foundation Programme **ELMAB3 ≤ 12**	**For N(A) Students ONLY** Aggregate Computation: **ELMAB3** [EL + MA + Best 3 other subjects] *N(A) Grade 6 cannot be used for ELMAB3 computation.*
NFP	NAFA Foundation Programme **ELMAB3 ≤ 15**	
Sec 5	Progression to O-Level via Sec 5 **ELMAB3 ≤ 19*** (check with school on its practice)	
DPP JIE'H'	Direct-Entry-Scheme to Polytechnic Programme (2-yr Higher Nitec → Mapped to Poly course) **ELMAB3 ≤ 19**	
JIE 'N'	ITE 3-yr Higher Nitec / 2-yr Nitec **Best 4 subjects** (check subject requirements)	**For Both N(A) & N(T) Students**
Train-eeship	ITE Traineeship Scheme	

Overview of Post-Secondary Education Institutions (PSEIs)

HOUGANG SECONDARY SCHOOL

Polytechnics	• 5 Polytechnics • **Work-ready Diploma** and for admissions to universities • Applied, practice-based learning experience with internships
Institute of Technical Education	• 3 campuses • **Work-ready Higher NITEC Certification** and for admissions for Diploma • Hands-on, practice-based learning with internships

Changes in Education Landscape

Post-Secondary	Institutes of Higher Learning (IHL)
1. Recent changes to **A-level Curriculum** 2. Expansion and changes in **Polytechnic Foundation Programme (PFP)** 3. New ITE curriculum with **shortened route to Higher Nitec** 4. **More progression pathways for ITE graduates**, including offering of Work-Study and Technical Diplomas by ITE	5. Expansion of **Aptitude-Based Admissions at Autonomous Universities** 6. **Interdisciplinary learning** in IHL 7. **University of the Arts Singapore** in addition to the **six autonomous universities**

PFP

- Starting from the 2026 intake, students will be admitted to the PFP in 3 broad clusters instead of a specific diploma programme.

3 BROAD CLUSTERS
Sciences
Humanities, Art, Media and Business
Design, Engineering and Technology NYP and TP offer as two sub-clusters: (i) Design and (ii) Engineering & Technology

DIPLOMA SPECIFIC
Nursing (NP and NYP)
Early Childhood Development & Education course (NP and TP)
Tamil Studies with Early Education course (NP)

Source: https://www.moe.gov.sg/post-secondary/admissions/pfp-2026-intake

PFP (Applies to NA only)

- PFP Eligibility Criteria

  Gross ELMAB3 ≤ 12; English set at grade ≤ 3 for all clusters

- There are additional grade, interview or test requirements to *progress to selected courses within each cluster*

Source: https://www.moe.gov.sg/post-secondary/admissions/pfp-2026-intake

Polytechnic Foundation Programme

For Sec 4NA students

Relevant subjects per PFP Cluster for AY2026

Science Cluster		Design, Engrg, Technology Cluster*		Humanities Cluster	
Subj	**Grade**	**Subj**	**Grade**	**Subj**	**Grade**
Eng Lang	**3**	Eng Lang	**3**	Eng Lang	**3**
Math Syll. A or A Math	**3**	Math Syll. A or A Math	**3**	Math Syll. A or A Math	**3**
Any 1 relevant subj. • Design & Tech. • Food & Nutrition / Nutrition & Food Science • Sci. (Chem./Phy.) • Sci. (Phy./ Bio) • Sci. (Bio / Chem.)	**3**	Any 1 relevant subj. • Design & Tech. • Food & Nutrition / Nutrition & Food Science • Sci. (Chem./Phy.) • Sci. (Phy./ Bio) • Sci. (Bio / Chem.)	**3**	Any 1 relevant subject • Art • Humanities (SS/Geog.) • Humanities (SS/Hist.) • Literature in English • Principles of Accounts	**3**
Any other 2 subi.	**4**	Any other 2 subi.	**4**	Any other 2 subi.	**4**

*Incl. Sub-Clusters *Source:* https://www.moe.gov.sg/post-secondary/admissions/pfp-2026-intake.

Polytechnic Foundation Programme

For Sec 4NA students

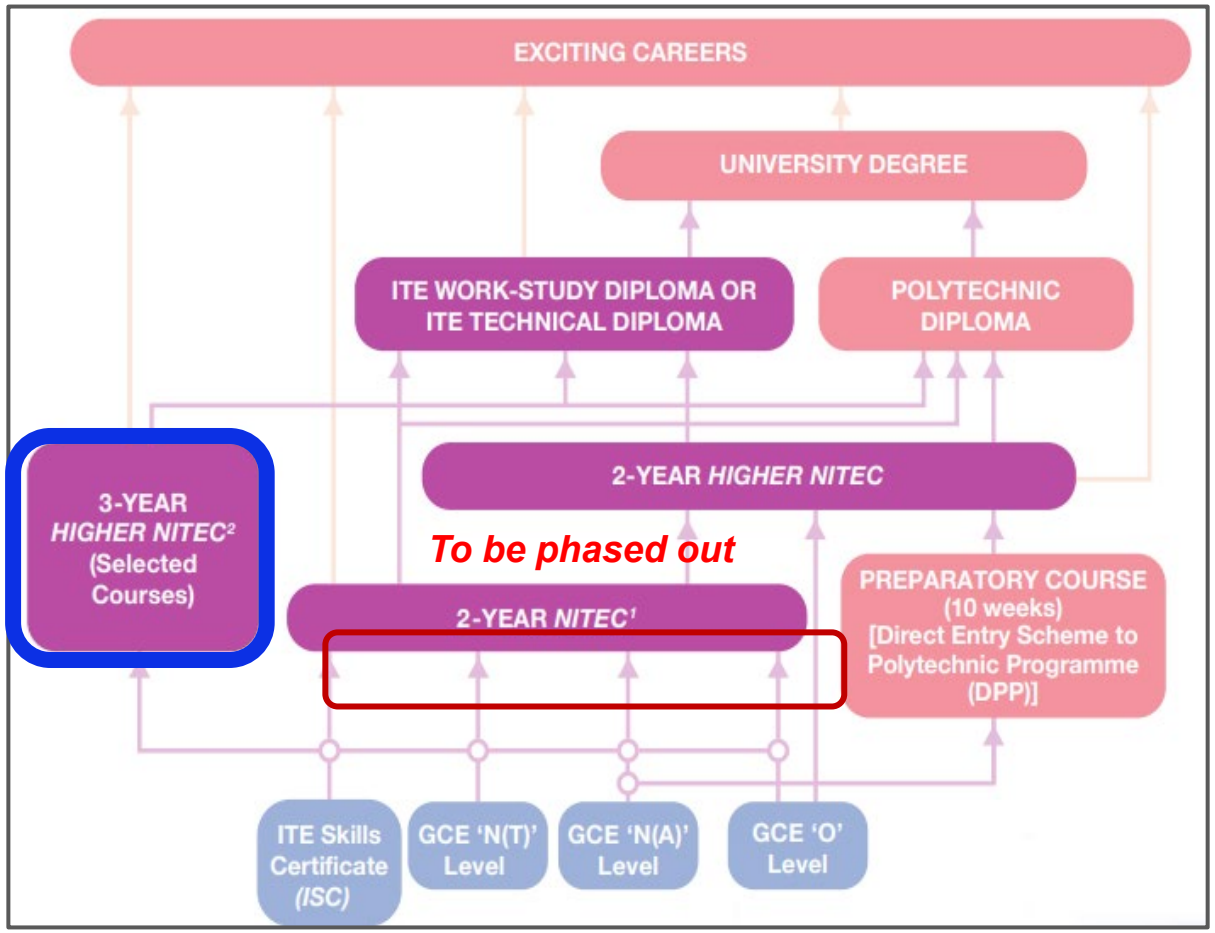
Relevant subjects for PFP for AY2026

Nursing (NP, NYP)		Early Childhood (NP, TP)		Tamil Studies with Early Childhood (NP)	
Subj	**Grade**	**Subj**	**Grade**	**Subj**	**Grade**
Eng Lang	**3**	Eng Lang	**3**	Eng Lang	**3**
Math Syll. A or A Math	**3**	Math Syll. A or A Math	**3**	Math Syll. A or A Math	**3**
Any 1 relevant subj. • Design & Tech. • Food & Nutrition / Nutrition & Food Science • Sci. (Chem./Phy.) • Sci. (Phy./ Bio) • Sci. (Bio / Chem.)	**3**	Any 1 relevant subj. • Art • Humanities (SS/Geog.) • Humanities (SS/Hist.) • Literature in English • Principles of Accounts	**3**	Any 1 relevant subject • Art • Humanities (SS/Geog.) • Humanities (SS/Hist.) • Literature in English • Principles of Accounts	**3**
Any other 2 subi.	**4**	Any other 2 subi.	**4**	Any other 2 subi.	**4**

Source: https://www.moe.gov.sg/post-secondary/admissions/pfp-2026-intake)

ECG

Institute of Technical Education



More pathways to polys for ITE students from 2027

THE STRAITS TIMES
Amelia Teng
Education Correspondent

UPDATED JUL 21, 2023, 11:22 PM SGT

More **Institute of Technical Education (ITE) students will be given the chance to move on to polytechnics** from academic year 2027, as part of efforts to expand pathways and choices for students.

Those pursuing a Higher Nitec qualification at ITE will be **guaranteed admission to a polytechnic course related to their Higher Nitec course,** if they attain a grade point average (GPA) of **3.5 or above.**

3-year Higher Nitec at ITE

For Sec 4NA and NT students

- **3-year Higher NITEC offers a streamlined curriculum and** students gain exposure to modules in their sector in year 1 before specializing later. Includes 2 internships (Yr 2 & 3)

- Gradual transition from 2-year NITEC to 3-year Higher NITEC courses.
  From AY2026, all courses will be 3-year Higher NITEC courses.

- **Aggregate score is computed based on 4 subjects, including pre-requisite subjects and bonus points. Minimum Entry requirements of the courses differ.** Some examples:
  - **3 GCE 'N' Passes** in **English**, **Mathematics** and 1 other subject
  - **3 GCE 'N' Passes** in **Mathematics** *or* **Science*** and 2 other subjects
  - **3 GCE 'N' Passes** in **English** and 2 other subjects
  - **3 GCE 'N' Passes** in **Mathematics** and 2 other subjects
  - Completed N-level

- After graduating from Higher Nitec, ITE graduates can enjoy the **ITE progression Award** when they pursue diploma:
  - Top-up of $5000 to Post-Secondary Education Account upon enrolment into Poly course
  - Top-up of $10,000 to CPF OA upon completion of Poly course

Joint Intake Exercise -JIE N / JIE H

Guiding Students To Make Their 12 Choices

Passion Basket

First 3 - 4 Choices

Consider courses that **most align** with your Values, Interests, Personality & Skills (V.I.P.S) and strengths.

Practical Basket

Next 4 Choices

Choose courses you are **interested in** and stand a **good chance in securing**. (where your net score is **within** the range of the last year's aggregate score).

Prudence Basket

Last 4 Choices

Include alternative courses and institutions where the latest aggregate scores are **higher** than yours. With this, your chances of securing a place will be higher.

Restricted - Only for Internal Circulation

Maximize the number of course choices in each application.

- **JIE 'N' and DPP (JIE 'H') are separate applications,** and each has **12 choices.**
- PFP (application in mid Jan 2025) has **5 choices.**

Grade Conversion & Bonus Points for ITE Aggregate Points for JIE N admissions

O-Level	N(A)	ITE Aggregate Point for JIE'N'
A1 – D7	1, 2, 3	1
E8	4	2
9	5	3
-	6	4
-	-	5

CCA Grade	Bonus Points
Excellent	2
Good	1

Bonus points not taken into account for course eligibility. Used only for course posting.

MOE Coursefinder

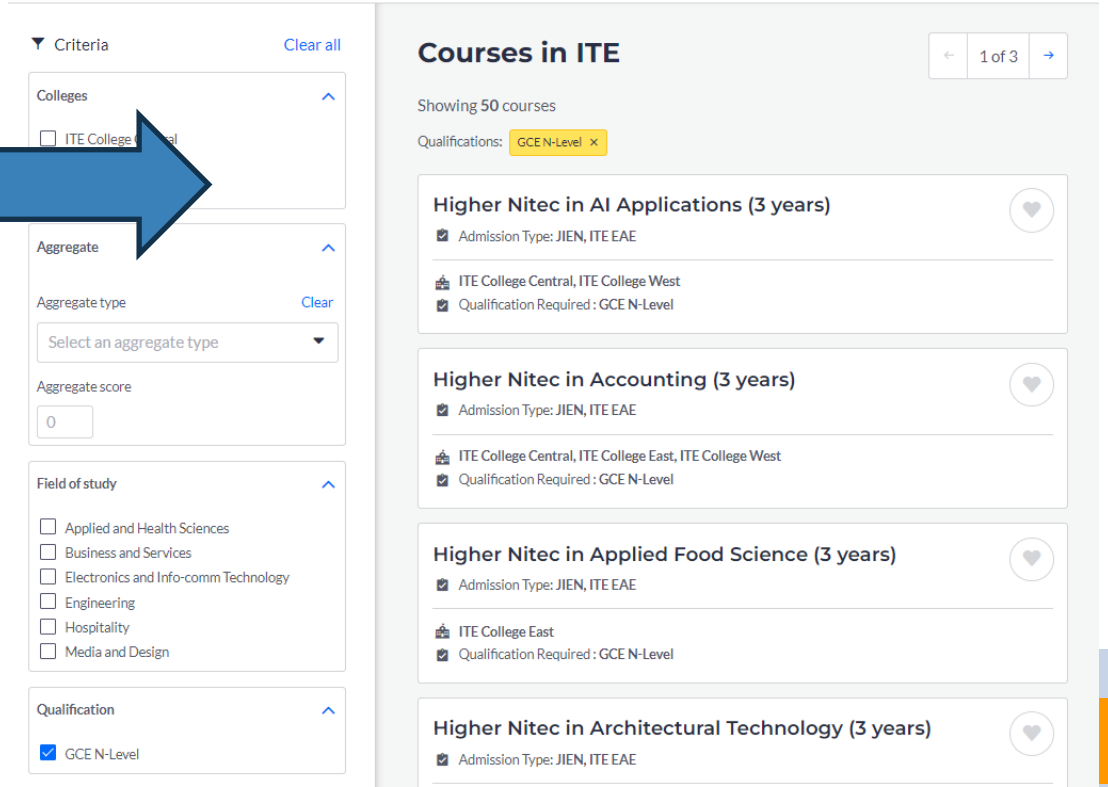
https://www.hougangsec.moe.edu.sg/quick-links/For-Students/

- To explore ITE courses with latest cut off points

MySkillsFuture	ECG Bookcase	CourseFinder
MySkillsFuture For Secondary Students	Education and Career Guidance Bookcase	MOE Course Finder

School Website

Example



Aptitude Based Admissions (ABA) – EAE

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SECONDARY SCHOOL

What is EAE?

- For students who have **strong aptitude and interest** in specific fields of study.
- Students who have applied will be assessed through different modes e.g. Interviews.
- These will take place before their national examinations.
- **The students who were successful in their EAE application will still need to meet the two criteria.**

Criteria : 1. Min. Entry Requirements (MERs)

2. Subject pre-requisites.

Why EAE?

- Secure a place in a competitive ITE course.
- Just make sure N level results meet the minimum entry requirements (MERs) for the course.

What are MERs?

Minimum Entry Requirements (MERs)

Some possible examples:

- **3 GCE 'N' Passes** in **English**, **Mathematics** and 1 other subject
- **3 GCE 'N' Passes** in **Mathematics** *or* **Science*** and 2 other subjects
- **3 GCE 'N' Passes** in **English** and 2 other subjects
- **3 GCE 'N' Passes** in **Mathematics** and 2 other subjects
- Completed N-level

OR
2 GCE 'O' Grades **(Grade 1-8)** in **any two** subjects

GCE 'N' Pass *refers to Grade A-D (NT) or Grade 1-5 (NA).*

*Mobile Robotics, Smart Electrical Technology, IoT Applications, Mechanical Design & Automation, and Mobile Web Applications subjects can be used **in lieu of Science** for admission to these courses.

Refer to the JIE booklet for updated information.

What are MERs?

Courses with MER "Completed N-Level"

Reminder:
Eligibility to apply does NOT guarantee placement.

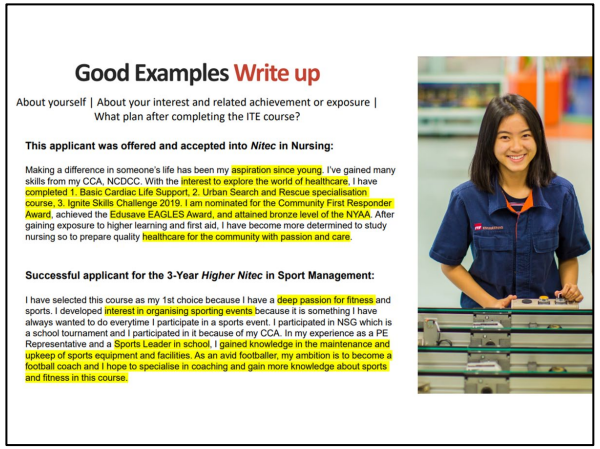
Refer to the JIE booklet for updated information.

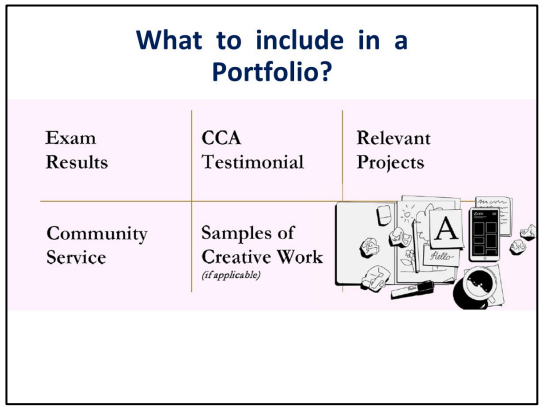
School	Course
Business & Services	**Higher Nitec in Beauty & Wellness Management (3 years)**
	Higher Nitec in Hairdressing and Salon Management (3 years)
	Higher Nitec in Logistics and Supply Chain Management (3 years)
	Higher Nitec in Retail and Online Business (3 years)
Design & Media	**Higher Nitec in Technical Theatre & Production (3 years)**
	Higher Nitec in Film & Video Production (3 years)
	Higher Nitec in Communication Design (3 years)
	Higher Nitec in Interior & Product Design (3 years)
	Higher Nitec in Visual Merchandising (3 years)
Electronics & Info-comm Technology	**Higher Nitec in Security System Integration (3 years)**
Engineering	Nitec in Automotive Technology
	Nitec in Mechanical Technology
	Higher Nitec in Landscape Management & Design (3 years)
	Higher Nitec in Facilities Management & Engineering (3 years)
	Higher Nitec in Vertical Transportation (3 years)
Hospitality	**Higher Nitec in Culinary Arts (3 years)**

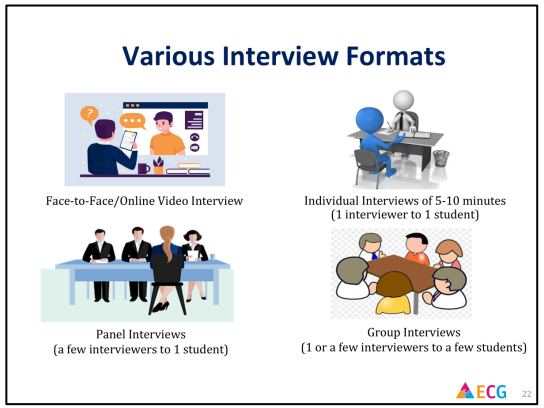
What to prepare?

General application

- Write Up - Personal, Talent and Achievement.
- Aptitude test, Auditions, Trials.
- Interview – Individual / Group, Online or Onsite.
- Portfolio.







SIL & EAE Preparation

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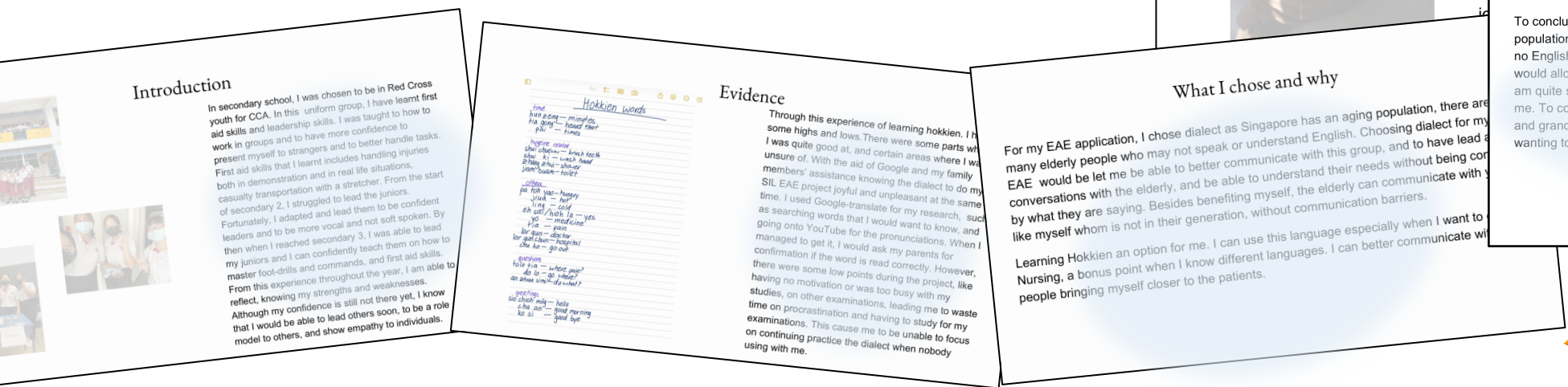
Aligning SIL project to EAE assessment criteria.

Successful ITE EAE Nursing



Introduction

In secondary school, I was chosen to be in Red Cross youth for CCA. In this uniform group, I have learnt first aid skills and leadership skills. I was taught to how to work in groups and to have more confidence to present myself to strangers and to better handle tasks. First aid skills that I learnt includes handling injuries both in demonstration and in real life situations, casualty transportation with a stretcher. From the start of secondary 2, I struggled to lead the juniors. Fortunately, I adapted and lead them to be confident leaders and to be more vocal and not soft spoken. By then when I reached secondary 3, I was able to lead my juniors and I can confidently teach them on how to master foot-drills and commands, and first aid skills. From this experience throughout the year, I am able to reflect, knowing my strengths and weaknesses. Although my confidence is still not there yet, I know that I would be able to lead others soon, to be a role model to others, and show empathy to individuals.

Evidence

Through this experience of learning hokkien, I h
some highs and lows.There were some parts wh
I was quite good at, and certain areas where I wa
unsure of. With the aid of Google and my family
members' assistance knowing the dialect to do my
SIL EAE project joyful and unpleasant at the same
time. I used Google-translate for my research, such
as searching words that I would want to know, and
going onto YouTube for the pronunciations. When I
managed to get it, I would ask my parents for
confirmation if the word is read correctly. However,
there were some low points during the project, like
having no motivation or was too busy with my
studies, on other examinations, leading me to waste
time on procrastination and having to study for my
examinations. This cause me to be unable to focus
on continuing practice the dialect when nobody
using with me.

What I chose and why

For my EAE application, I chose dialect as Singapore has an aging population, there are
many elderly people who may not speak or understand English. Choosing dialect for my
EAE would be let me be able to better communicate with this group, and to have lead a
conversations with the elderly, and be able to understand their needs without being cor
by what they are saying. Besides benefiting myself, the elderly can communicate with y
like myself whom is not in their generation, without communication barriers.

Learning Hokkien an option for me. I can use this language especially when I want to
Nursing, a bonus point when I know different languages. I can better communicate wi
people bringing myself closer to the patients.

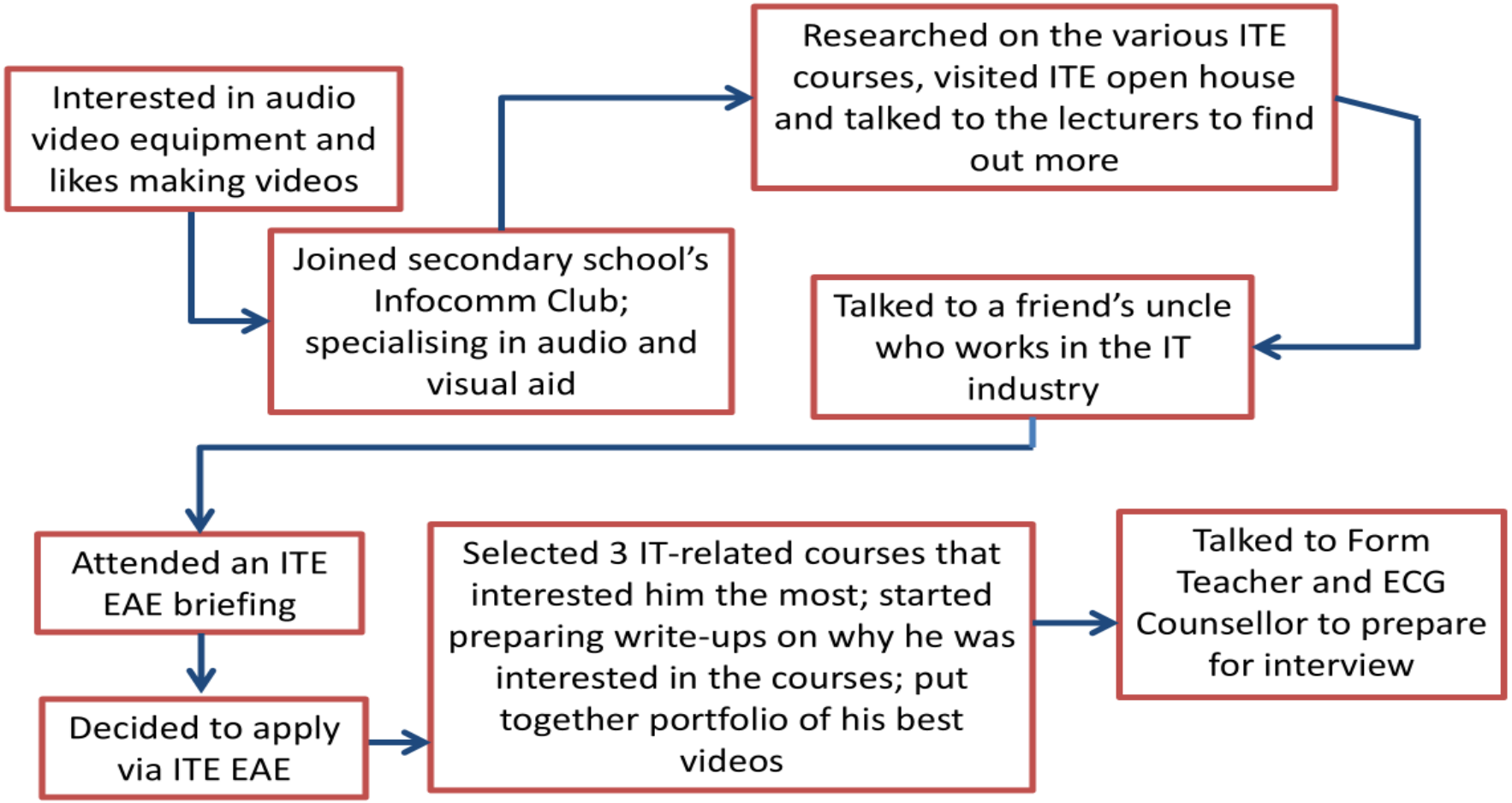
Introduction

Who am I? I am Marshall Chew Qi Yuan, I am a Hougean in Hougang Secondary School; my co-curricular activity (CCA) is Red cross youth. I liked to take care of my grandmother since young. Red cross has inspired me more, wanting to know about the healthcare industry. I always

Conclusion

To conclude, learning hokkien is beneficial for me in the future, as Singapore has an aging population. Some elderly only speaks know their own dialect, and knowing little Mandarin to no English. Learning hokkien makes part of my passion towards nursing career as well. This would allow me be to lead better conversations and communicate with the elderly; besides I am quite sociable, and making talking the elderly with the knowledge of hokkien easier for me. To continue this dedication of learning hokkien, I will practice talking with my parents and grandparents in hokkien more often to polish the skill. In an additional tool for my course wanting to get into Nursing.

Student Benjamin's Story



ITE EAE Process

Student Nicole's Story

EAE: Playing to a strength – Making flight possible

Nicole has always been intrigued by machines used in transport and how they are constructed. Through EAE to ITE's Aerospace Technology course, she found the chance to work on some of the most complex machines of all – the engines that enable flight.

"A boat and a plane may work differently," she said, "but they are both solutions humans found to transport themselves over large distances. I was very curious about how people built machines to do all this work for them!

"I spent a lot of time reading through the course requirements," she shared, "and also reading up on aviation and planes so that I knew what I was getting into. It is not something many girls would do, but the more I read, the more I wanted to learn about this industry."

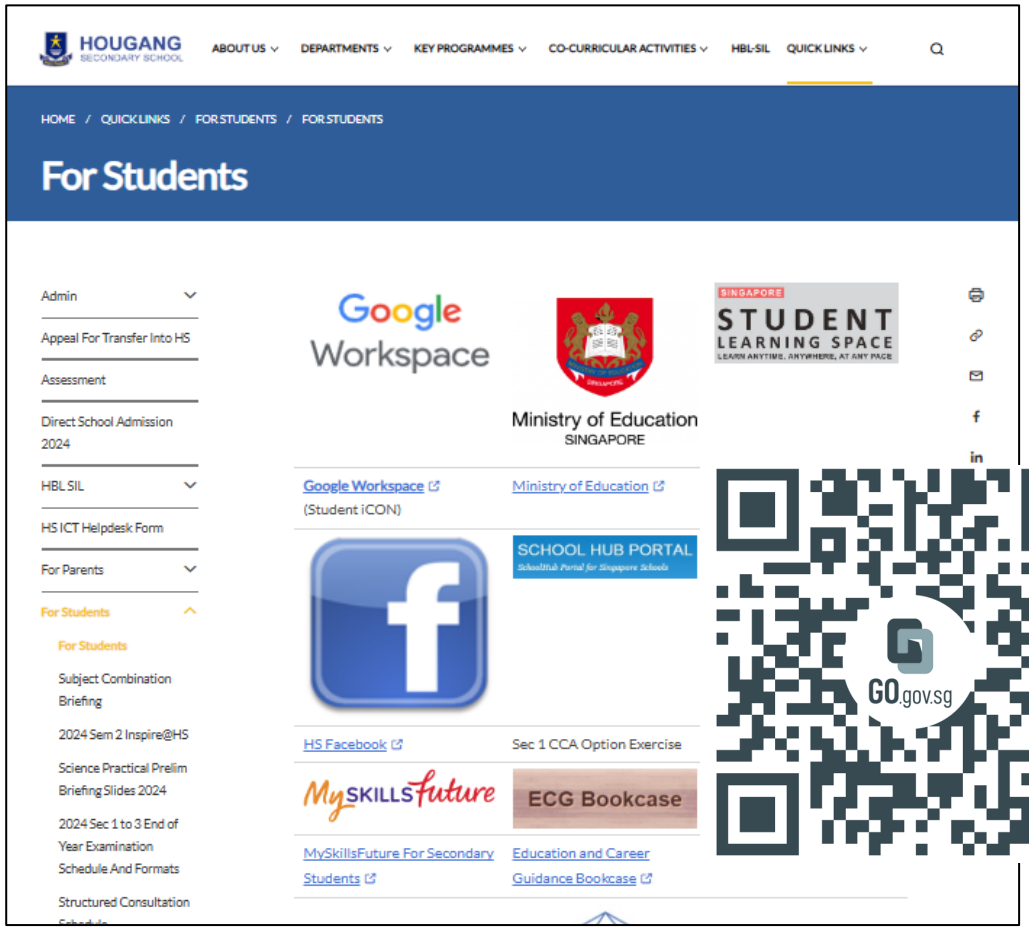
Applied Learning Programme (ALP) Nicole was in Science and Technology. She learned about the basics of engineering and used a computer programme to create 3D-models of products they designed.

N-level coursework for D&T, Nicole designed a device for transport. Based on the concept of a conveyor belt, the tool helps people move a box from one place to another without having to carry it.

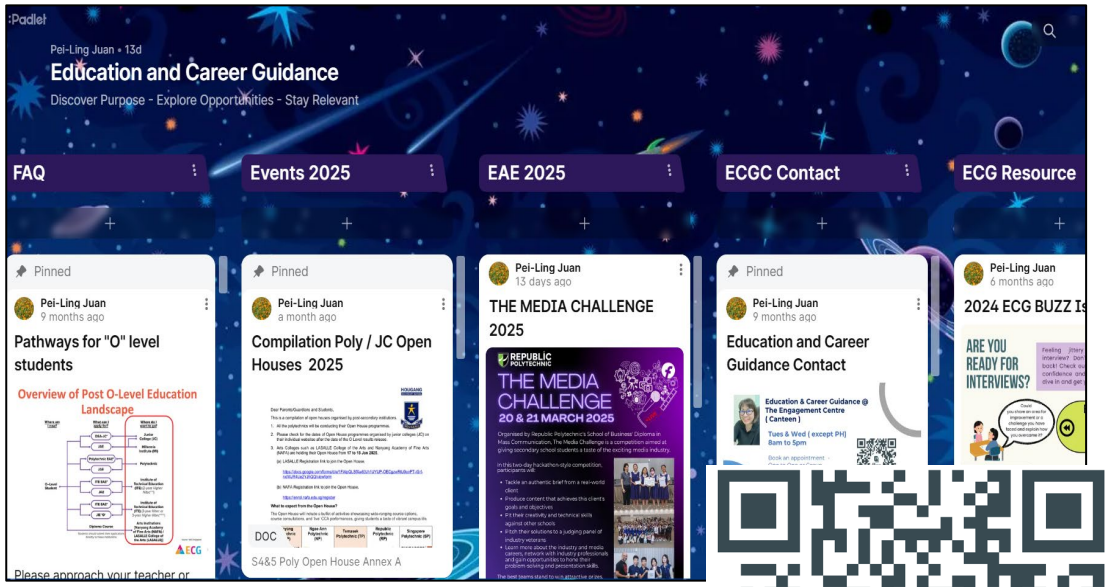
Source :https://www.schoolbag.edu.sg/story/eae-playing-to-a-strength-making-flight-possible/

Resource

HS School Website



HS ECG Padlet



GO.gov.sg

ECG

Resource

ITE EAE APPLICATION PORTAL	ITE 2025 COURSE BOOKLET	NAFA NFP	MOE COURSE FINDER
		https://go.gov.sg/nafa-fp	

Resource

ITE EAE APPLICATION PORTAL	ITE 2025 COURSE BOOKLET	POLY PFP PORTAL	ITE DPP
		https://go.gov.sg/pfp-website	https://go.gov.sg/ite-higher-nitec-dpp

Resource

NAFA NFP	MOE COURSE FINDER	MY SKILLS FUTURE SECONDARY KNOW YOURSELF	DISCOVER NYC EXPLORE INDUSTRIES
https://go.gov.sg/nafa-fp			

Resource

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https://go.gov.sg/pfp-admission-2026-intake

Thank You