



# Parent Engagement Session on **Direct School Admission** for Secondary Schools (DSA)

## Agenda

- Welcome Address by Principal
- DSA-Sec information
- DSA Engagement@Lakeside
- Supporting Your Child in the DSA Journey
- Q&A



## **DSA-SEC Resources**

### **MOE Resources**

1. MOE DSA Portal: <https://www.moe.gov.sg/secondary/dsa>
2. User Guide for DSA-Sec Application (from MOE)

### **Customized Resources**

1. WEstories 2022 (compiled by West Zone schools)  
<https://online.fliphtml5.com/obrr/qkde/#p=12>
2. DSA areas offered by Secondary Schools near Lakeside Primary School (PDF document)



# DSA Scenarios



## **CCA Aesthetics**

### **Band**

- Child has a dream to attend a Sec school with a strong Band CCA.
- Child has been in the school band since P3.
- Can consider applying through DSA with Band.

## **CCA Club**

### **Visual Arts**

- Child has a passion for drawing and wants to build his/her art skills in Sec sch.
- Child shows talent in drawing and has a varied skill set in drawing techniques.
- Can consider applying through DSA with Visual Arts.





## Academics

### Mathematics & Science

- Child is strong in Mathematics and Science.
- Child has shown academic prowess in these two areas for the past two to three years.
- Child spends his free time reading Science books; and learning coding online.
- Can consider applying through DSA with the academic route.



## Character & Leadership

### Character & Leadership

- Child displays leadership qualities and speaks confidently.
- Child often initiated a “Keep the Canteen Clean” project to influence others to be litter-free.
- Can consider applying through DSA with Character & Leadership.

### Character & Leadership

- Child is a Peer Support Leader in P5 & P6.
- Child displays strong empathy and works with the teachers to support his/her classmates.
- In P6, child mentors 2 junior P3 peer support leaders.
- Can consider applying through DSA with Character & Leadership.



## External Activities

### Gymnastics

- Child attends Gymnastic classes every weekend.
- Child has been selected to compete in external competitions.
- Can consider applying through DSA for the sport.

### Badminton

- Child loves playing badminton and wants to be like Loh Kean Yew.
- Child plays for recreation with family and friends.
- Application through DSA would depend on his/her level of skills.



**DSA Engagement@Lakeside**





Period	Phase	Activity
Term 1	Talent Identification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary 5 and 6 Form, Subject and CCA teachers identified students with talent areas and captured the information into a template. They engaged the students and shared with them information about DSA.</li> </ul>
Term 2	Student Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P5 and P6 students were shown video presentations of Lakeside 2022 Alumni sharing their DSA experiences.</li> <li>DSA team (with the teachers) to share information with shortlisted students on what to expect and how they can prepare for their auditions, trials and interviews.</li> <li>CCA teachers, form, co-form and subject teachers had conversations with students to guide them in:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Their areas of strength/talent                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CCA</li> <li>Academic</li> <li>Leadership &amp; Character</li> </ul> </li> <li>How to prepare and apply for DSA-SEC</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Term 3	Preparation for Audition, Trials & Interviews	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DSA team (with the teachers) to share information with shortlisted students on what to expect and how they can prepare for their auditions, trials and interviews.</li> </ul>



**Hearing from Our 2022 Alumni...**



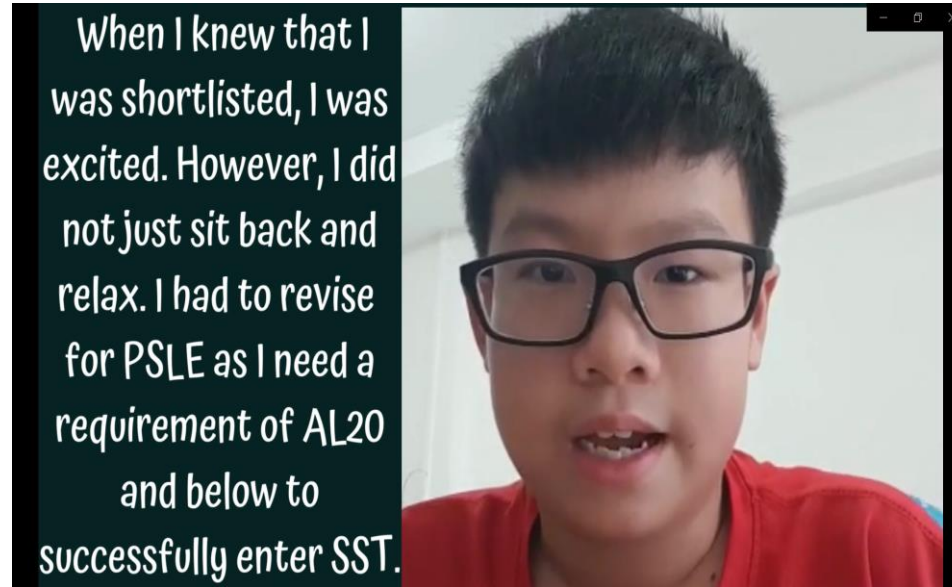
**How did you prepare for DSA? Did you encounter any challenges?**

I worked with my parents and came up with a DSA profile for the application. Since I was applying through the leadership domain, we worked day and night just to make sure that nothing was wrong, and everything was going well for the profile. In fact, we took about one month just for the profile!



Ho Minh Uyen Sophia 6G  
DSA: Leadership





Ang Zhi Yang Ethan 6G  
DSA: Science&Technology





My advice for those considering DSA is to give it your all. Once you have made the decision to apply, put in the hard work and dedication needed, and always approach it with confidence. When you have the opportunity to showcase your talents, seize it. You'll gain more experience and knowledge, which can help you become a better individual.



Sundara Raman Oviya 6F  
DSA: Choir

Be calm, don't get too nervous. Common questions that they asked are "why did you choose our school" and "what can you contribute to our school" - try to prepare answers for questions like these.



Anggun Quraisyah Binte Zulkeflee 6B  
DSA: Malay Dance



## DSA Applications 2020 to 2022

Year	Number of Applications	Cohort	Number of Successful Applicants	Percentage of Successful Applicants	Mode
2020	40	236	11	4.66%	e-DSA
2021	45	236	12	5.08%	e-DSA
2022	69	235	28	11.9%	Face-To-Face

## Successful DSA Applications (2020 to 2022)

School	Talent Area
Crescent Girls' Sch	Choir
Clementi Town Sec Sch	Malay Dance
Commonwealth Sec Sch	Malay & Indian Dance
Fuhua Sec Sch	Guzheng, Leadership & Forensic Science
Hua Yi Sec Sch	Chinese Dance
Jurong Sec Sch	Volleyball and Science
Jurongville Sec Sch	Soccer
Jurong West Sec Sch	Art and Volleyball
NUS High Sch of Math & Science	Math & Science
Queenstown Sec Sch	Malay Dance
Queensway Sec Sch	Volleyball
Raffles Institution	Science
River Valley High Sch	Wushu and Leadership
School Of The Arts	Visual Arts
School of Science & Technology	Coding, Robotics & STEAM
St Andrews' Sec Sch	Band
Yuan Ching Sec Sch	Band



# Supporting Your Child in the DSA Journey







## Journey with Your Child

1. Look for a school with **programmes that match your child's strength(s) and interest(s)**.
2. Learn more about the secondary school's programmes by exploring its websites and attending its Open House.
3. Find out about the academic rigour of the school and talk to your child/ward to ensure he/she can cope besides just focusing on the DSA talent area he/she can gained admission for.
4. Shortlist the schools your child/ward is keen on.
5. Be supportive and encouraging.
6. Complete the application in the DSA portal together.



## **What to Expect If Your Child is Shortlisted?**

1. Your child will need to attend a trial or audition and an interview. The secondary school will inform you of the day and time.
2. Depending on individual school requirements, your child may be required to record a performance task in video mode and send it to the secondary school.
3. Bring along any portfolio that your child has, especially if you have submitted information on non-school based competitions and activities in the application portal (e.g. artwork or certificates)



## What to Expect If Your Child is Shortlisted?

4. Go through some basic interview questions with your child.
  - Share about his/her interest in the DSA area. What has he/she done to hone his/her skills?
  - Why does he/she want to go to XX Sec school?
  - What are his/her strengths and weaknesses?
  - How did he/she overcome setbacks faced?

Tip: Share stories from their personal experience(s) in their CCA or outside school activities to help the interviewer get to know child better.



## **Managing Expectations (For Your Child & You)**

- Be prepared for a positive and negative outcome from the DSA.
- Focus on putting in the best effort, rather than the actual outcome.





## **Q&A Session**



**Thank you!**

