

Welcome, Parents & Guardians!

As this is a virtual briefing, please

- help to ensure that your mic has been muted
- refrain from taking pictures or recording without consent of all parties involved
- use the Q&A function if you have questions.

Thank you.

**Subject-based Banding in Primary Schools
Provide Flexibility for Learning (MOE, 2022)**

**Please scan the QR Code to read a Forum
Letter by Director General of Education,
Ms Liew Wei Li, while waiting.**



www.tinyurl.com/SBBMOE



PRIMARY 4

Subject-based Banding (SBB) Briefing

2023



AGENDA



- 01 INTRODUCTION**
- 02 SUBJECT-BASED BANDING INTENT**
- 03 SUBJECTS OFFERED AT PRIMARY 5**
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- 05 EXAMPLES OF SUBJECT COMBINATIONS**
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- 07 HIGHER MOTHER TONGUE**
- 08 MOTHER TONGUE EXEMPTION**
- 09 PSLE SCORING SYSTEM**
- 10 CLASS ALLOCATION**

GUIDING PHILOSOPHY

- Premised on ability-driven education
- Provides students with strong foundation in literacy and numeracy
- Balance of aptitude, ability and motivation



INTENT OF SBB

- Cater to different strengths and levels of readiness in different subjects
- Help enable students to study their strong subjects to the highest level possible



WHAT IT MEANS FOR STUDENTS

- Every child will be encouraged to do the subjects at the level that best meet his/ her ability
- Subjects will be offered at Standard Level OR at Foundation Level
- Foundation subjects are pitched at a lower level than Standard subjects

SUBJECTS AT P5

Subjects at P5	
English	Offered at <u>Standard</u> or <u>Foundation</u> levels
Mathematics	
Science	
*Mother Tongue	Offered at <u>Higher</u> , <u>Standard</u> or <u>Foundation</u> levels



SUBJECT COMBINATIONS EXAMPLES

Subject Combinations - Exercising Options	
Examples of Options	Combination
1	4S1H: 4 Standard + 1 Higher MT
2	4S: 4 Standard
3	3S1F: 3 Standard + 1 Foundation (MT)
4	4F: 4 Foundation

FOUNDATION LEVEL SUBJECTS

- Builds fundamentals in conceptual understanding for the subjects to better prepare students for Secondary education
- In the interest of well-being of our students
- Gives them time to work on other subjects they are stronger in

STANDARD AND FOUNDATION ENGLISH LANGUAGE

STANDARD ENGLISH LANGUAGE

The key learning goal of the EL Syllabus 2020 at the primary level is for students to build a strong foundation in English and apply their knowledge, skills and strategies in order to use the language to good effect and to demonstrate learning and mastery.

EL Syllabus 2020 for EL (Pri),p.13

FOUNDATION ENGLISH LANGUAGE

The key learning goal for students offering FEL or N(T) EL is to strengthen their foundation in English at the upper primary and lower secondary levels and use the language at an increasingly sophisticated level at the upper secondary levels.

EL Syllabus 2020 for FEL (Pri) & NT (Sec),p.13

STANDARD AND FOUNDATION MATHEMATICS

STANDARD MATHEMATICS

- ❑ Continues from P4 syllabus

FOUNDATION MATHEMATICS

- ❑ P5 Fdn revisits P3 & P4 topics to bridge students' learning gap
- ❑ P6 Fdn covers **selected** P5 & P6 Std topics
- ❑ Topics not covered in Fdn:
 - Ratio
 - Algebra
 - Circles
 - Speed
 - Solid Figures and Nets

STANDARD AND FOUNDATION SCIENCE

- ❑ Lowered difficulty
- ❑ Reduced syllabus
- ❑ Students can spend more time and resources into building a strong foundation to help prepare them learn Science at a higher level in future

Syllabus Requirement		
Themes	* Lower Block (Primary 3 and 4)	**Upper Block (Primary 5 and 6)
Diversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diversity of living and non-living things (General characteristics and classification) Diversity of materials 	
Cycles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cycles in plants and animals (Life cycles) Cycles in matter and water (Matter) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cycles in plants and animals (Reproduction) Cycles in matter and water (Water)
Systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant system (Plant parts and functions) Human system (Digestive system) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant system (Respiratory and circulatory systems) Human system (Respiratory and circulatory systems) <u>Cell system</u> Electrical system
Interactions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interaction of forces (Magnets) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interaction of forces (Frictional force, gravitational force, <u>force in springs</u>) Interaction within the environment
Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy forms and uses (Light and heat) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy forms and uses (Photosynthesis) <u>Energy conversion</u>

Topics which are underlined are not required for students taking Foundation Science.

STANDARD AND FOUNDATION MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGE

FOUNDATION MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGE

- ❑ Focuses on listening and speaking whereas Standard MT focuses on reading and writing
- ❑ Largest score component for Fdn MT is Oral Conversation Skills



HIGHER MOTHER TONGUE

- Students who achieve a good pass for all subjects and at least 80 marks for MT will be recommended to take HMT (*Student Handbook Pg 19*)
- At the end of Primary 5, school will decide if students should still be taking HMT **depending on their overall performance**
- 1 additional hour after school, every week
- Beneficial for application to SAP Schools
- Secondary Schools do offer HMT too

MOTHER TONGUE EXEMPTION

- Under the new scoring system, students exempted from MTL, due to extenuating circumstances, will be assigned an MTL score so they have a PSLE score comprising four subjects, for the purposes of S1 Posting. Their assigned MTL score will:
- Take reference from peers with similar scores for English, Mathematics, and Science.
- Maintain parity of treatment with students who take Foundation MTL (who will score between AL 6 to 8)
- Hence, students will receive an assigned MTL score between AL 6 to 8 in PSLE.

PSLE SCORING SYSTEM (2021)

AL	RAW MARK RANGE
1	≥ 90
2	85 – 89
3	80 – 84
4	75 – 79
5	65 – 74
6	45 – 64
7	20 – 44
8	< 20

FOUNDATION LEVEL SUBJECT GRADES

- For the purpose of S1 posting, Foundation level AL A to AL C will be mapped to AL 6 to AL 8 of Standard level subjects respectively, to derive a student's overall PSLE Score.
- Similar to the current PSLE scoring system, this mapping is based on the learning and assessment load of the subjects, and informs students of their readiness to access the curriculum at the secondary level.

Foundation Level AL Reflected on Result Slip	Foundation Raw Mark Range	Equivalent Standard Subject AL	Standard Raw Mark Range
A	75 – 100	6	45-64
B	30 – 74	7	20-44
C	< 30	8	< 20

SBB WORKFLOW

Students sit for EOY Exams [mid-Oct]



Based on their overall performance, subject combinations will be recommended by Form Teachers



Parents/ Legal Guardian to fill up an option form and return it to school [early-November]

How does Subject-based Banding work?

Student takes a subject combination determined by the school



Students who do not meet expectations

All other students

End of P5



switch some subjects to foundation level

continue with the same subject combination



Decision made by school is Final



Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE)

CLASS ALLOCATION

Mixed-ability classes

Enables students to

- Enhance social skills
- Increase motivation
- Personalise learning
- Prepare for real-world context



