

e-Briefing on Direct School Admission (DSA) matters



3G Direction

- **G**low from Within
- **G**row through Learning
- **G**o Forth & Strive Towards Our Goals



P5 BRIEFING ON DIRECT SCHOOL ADMISSION



26 May 2022

Direct School Admission (DSA) - Secondary

- DSA-Sec aims to:
 - Promote holistic education
 - Provides P6 students an opportunity to seek admission to a secondary school based on a diverse range of talents and achievements that may not be demonstrated at PSLE, e.g sports, aesthetics, student leadership, STEM & other talents

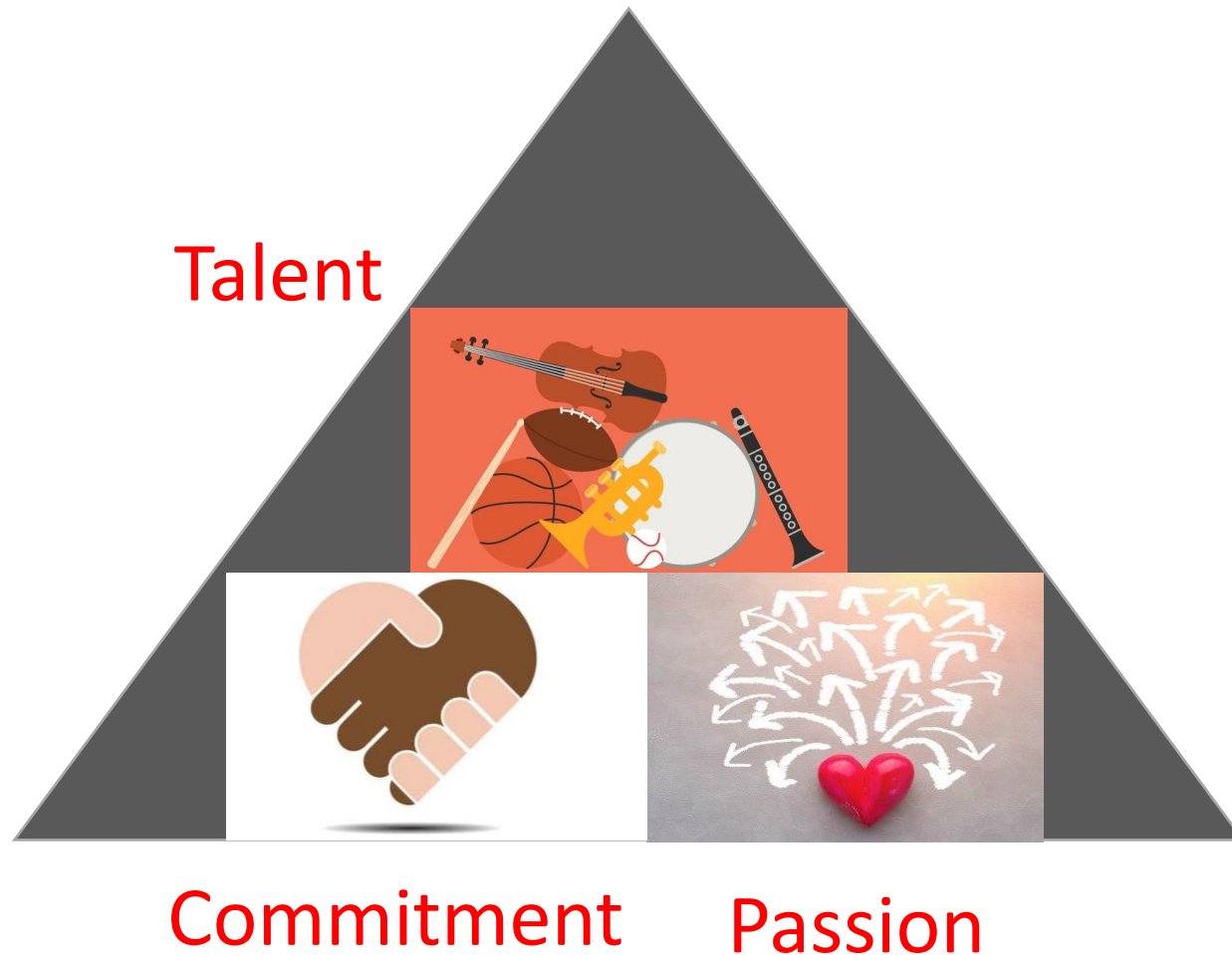
Direct School Admission (DSA) - Secondary

- Each participating school:
 - Offers distinctive programmes
 - Sets its own selection process and criteria to admit students with talents that can be further developed by these programmes
 - Offers places before release of PSLE results

SHOULD MY CHILD APPLY FOR DSA?



Should my child apply for DSA?



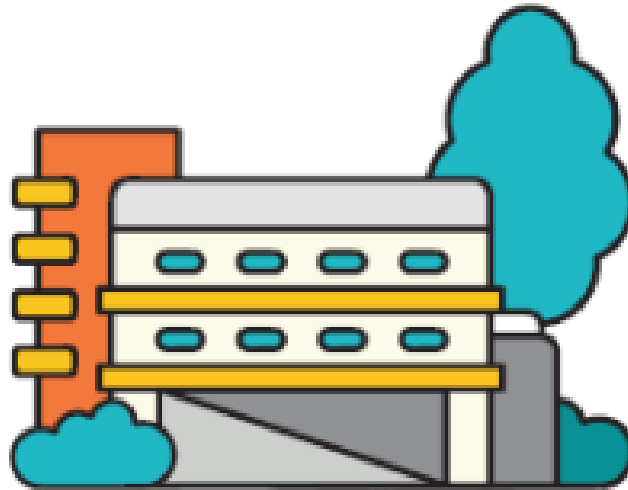
Yes, if she has **talent** in an area which the school offers the DSA in

And she is **passionate** about and **committed** to developing her strengths in that area in that school

Should my child apply for DSA?

- If your child is successfully allocated to a school through DSA-Sec, she will not be able to participate in the Secondary 1 Posting
- She will also not be able to seek a transfer to another school after the release of the PSLE results

WHICH SCHOOL SHOULD MY CHILD APPLY TO?



WHICH SCHOOL SHOULD MY CHILD APPLY TO?

Finding a good fit will help your child enjoy learning at an appropriate pace, and enable her to benefit from the school's overall programmes



When selecting a DSA-Sec school, consider the following:

- Schools with talent areas that match your child's strengths and interests
- Pace of learning
- Range of programmes offered by the school



Which school should my child apply to?

Matching

- Look for a school whose **programmes match your child's interests and talents**. Schools are looking out for students whose interests and talents they can develop further
- Get the latest information about what each school offers by:
 - Visiting the MOE's DSA website : [Direct School Admission \(DSA-Sec\) | Ministry of Education \(moe.gov.sg\)](https://www.moe.gov.sg/dsa)
 - Visit school websites
 - Attend schools' e-Open Houses

Which school should my child apply to?

Academic Curriculum & Pace of learning

- Find out more about the school's academic standards

Overall range of programmes offered

- Other programmes available for holistic development of the students

Other important questions to ask

- **How many schools should my child apply to?**
 - Instead of applying to many DSA schools, what matters more is choosing 1 or 2 schools that are just right for her. Remember every application takes time and effort.
 - 9 out of 10 students participating in the DSA **apply to fewer than 3 schools.**

HOW DO SEC SCHOOLS CHOOSE APPLICANTS?

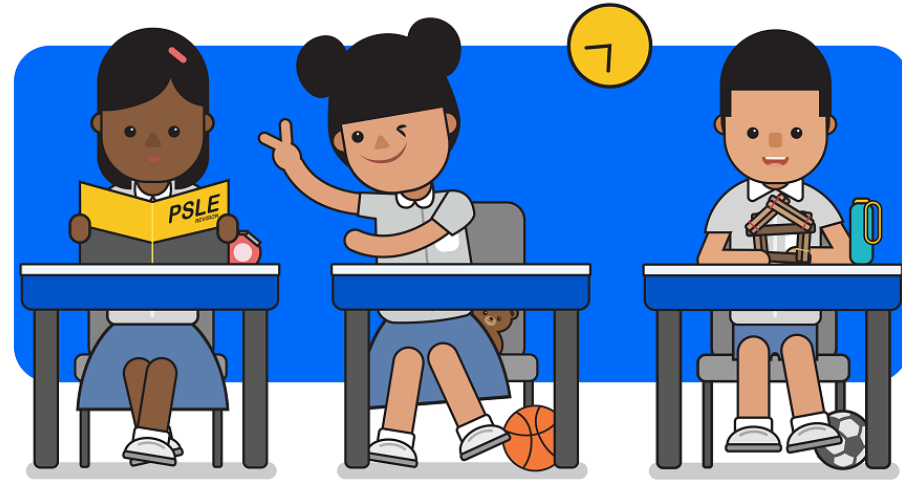


How do Sec Schools choose applicants?

- Applicants' talents & / strengths
- Personal qualities
- Academic results – P5 & P6

THROUGH:

- Interviews
- Trials
- Tests
- Selection camps



Stages of the DSA-Sec Exercise

Selection Stage

July- early Sep

Exercise School Preference Stage

Mid Oct

Results Release Stage

Late-Nov

HOW DO I APPLY - DSA Portal

- One-stop DSA application portal (except for SOTA & Singapore Sports School)
- Period of acceptance for DSA applications will be about 4 weeks starting in mid May to early June
- Parents can log in using Singpass

DSA Portal

- Can indicate up to 3 choices. Max 2 choices in the same school in different talent areas
- Can add in 10 non-school based activities & achievements in 'Optional' Field
- No need to submit testimonials & hard copy documents

Students' participation in school activities and leadership roles (P4 upwards) such as CCAs, Talentime, Value Ambassador, etc will be extracted from the school records. (Please check that these are accurate when the records are released in Jan 2023)

SELECTION OUTCOME

What are the possible DSA outcomes?

- **CO - Confirmed Offer** → The child has a place reserved in the school as long as she qualifies for a course the school offers [i.e. Express, Normal (Academic) or Normal (Technical)].
- **WL - Waiting List** → This means the student will only be considered if other students with **Confirmed Offer** choose not to go to that school during the School Preference stage. Allocation will be based on students' rank on the school's waitlist.
- **Unsuccessful** → If the student is unsuccessful in all her applications, but still wish to enter the schools she applied for in the DSA, she can consider them again during the S1 Posting Exercise based on the PSLE results.

How are DSA places allocated?

Example: Confirmed Offer vs Being Waitlisted

John



John selected Marvel Secondary as his 1st choice. Marvel Secondary School placed John on the Waiting List.

Meng



Meng is given *Confirmed Offer* by Marvel Secondary.

Who will be considered for a place in Marvel Secondary?

Meng will be considered for a DSA place in Marvel Secondary, before John, as he has a *Confirmed Offer*.

If my child has a DSA Confirmed Offer, does it mean that her PSLE results will not matter?

- The PSLE Score will still be used to determine the secondary school course she is eligible for [i.e. Express, Normal (Academic), Normal (Technical)]
- Even if the student has a confirmed offer, she **must qualify for a course offered by the school** to be successfully admitted through the DSA.

Example:



Jane has a DSA confirmed offer given by Marvel Secondary School, which offers the Express Course only.

However, Jane's PSLE results qualify her for the Normal (Academic) course. Hence, Jane will **not** be able to go to Marvel Secondary School. She will take part in the S1 Posting Exercise instead.

AL Score Range

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

PSLE Scoring System 2021

COURSE	PLACEMENT CRITERIA / NEW SCORING SYSTEM
Express	4 – 20
Express / Normal (Academic) Option	21 – 22
Normal (Academic)	23 - 24
Normal (Academic) / Normal (Technical) Option	25
Normal (Technical)	26 – 30 <i>With AL7 or better in both EL & MA</i>

School Information for DSA

<https://moe.gov.sg/schoolfinder>

<https://go.gov.sg/exploreschools>

SchoolFinder Tool



MySkillsFuture Portal



Home > [Is DSA for your child?](#)

Is DSA for your child?

21 MAY 2021



Related



Parent's Take on
DSA: "Let your child
take the lead"



Parent's take on
DSA: "Do what's
good for their self-
confidence"



Choosing the DSA
route



Is DSA for your
child?



Your grades do not
define you



SCHOOL BAG: The Educational News Site

- <https://www.schoolbag.edu.sg/story/is-dsa-for-your-child>
- <https://www.schoolbag.edu.sg/story/choosing-the-dsa-route>
- <https://www.schoolbag.edu.sg/story/parent-s-take-on-dsa-do-what-s-good-for-their-self-confidence>
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School Bag: DSA

IN SUMMARY :

- P6 students **have a choice** whether or not to participate in the DSA-Sec. If they choose not to participate in the DSA-Sec, they will participate in the Secondary One Posting Exercise after the release of the PSLE results.
- Students who opt for a school under DSA-Sec **must achieve PSLE results** that would enable them **to be eligible for admission to the course** being offered by their opted DSA-Sec schools.

IN SUMMARY :

- Students admitted to a school through DSA-Sec **will not be allowed** to participate in the annual Secondary One Posting Exercise. They will also **not be allowed to appeal** to other secondary schools
- Students who are admitted to the secondary schools because of their CCA achievements will be obliged to continue in that CCA

For more information, check this out :

<https://www.moe.gov.sg/secondary/dsa>

<https://www.moe.gov.sg/microsites/psle-fsbb>

**EVERY PLANT HAS THEIR OWN
REQUIREMENTS IN ORDER
TO GROW...**



AND SO DO PEOPLE.

Home-School Partnership



- **T**ime for the girls to rest & relax
- **A**ffirm efforts
- **P**ositive Emotion
- **S**et realistic targets

Awe might be our most undervalued emotion. Here's how to help children find it.

By Deborah Farmer Kris

November 30, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. EST



Psychologist Dacher Keltner, the founding director of the Greater Good Science Center at the University of California at Berkeley, has spent years studying the beneficial effects of awe on our physical, mental and emotional well-being.

Awe makes us

- curious rather than judgmental
- collaborative
- humble, sharing and altruistic
- quiet the ego so that we're not thinking about ourselves as much
- calm the brain's default mode network and has been shown to reduce inflammation



A FLOWER DOES NOT THINK
OF COMPETING WITH THE
FLOWER NEXT TO IT.
IT JUST BLOOMS.



Thank You

If you have any question, please email us at
rgps@moe.edu.sg

Thank You.



Resources/Sources of Information

1. Q: How many schools can we compare using the MySkillsFuture portal?

A: 3

2. Q: Will there be a session to share with students about what to expect when they enter secondary schools through DSA?

A: Our school has Education and Career Guidance lessons to equip students with the necessary knowledge, skills and values for a successful transition from primary to secondary school. We will also invite our newly graduated students to share about their secondary school experiences with our P6 cohort in October/November to give our students a glimpse of secondary school life. Students may also find out more about the different secondary schools from the schools' websites and/or visit the virtual/physical open houses.



Application Matters & Results

3. Q: During DSA application, does the order of school choices matter?

A: No. Selection of applicants is based on the DSA secondary school's criteria.

4. Q: If I am in the DSA waiting list, can I still go for S1 posting?

A: You will be informed of the result of your wait list before the release of PSLE results.

5. Q: Is there a cap on the number of applications to secondary schools?

A: Each applicant can choose up to 3 schools and 3 talent areas in their DSA-Sec application. For students with multiple talents, there is flexibility for them to use up to 2 choices to apply for 2 different talent areas from the same school.

6. Q: What are some of the activities recognised from P4 onwards?

A: Secondary schools have different selection criteria and processes. MOE will share your child's primary school information such as Primary 5 and Primary 6 academic results and other information from P4 to Primary 6, i.e. Co-curricular Activities (CCA), Values in Action (VIA) involvement and School-based achievements/awards to the DSA school(s) that you applied to. You may also provide information on non-school based activities and achievements, which are related to your child's chosen talent areas.

