SCGS DIRECT SCHOOL ADMISSION EXERCISE 2023

(For Admission into Secondary 1 in the year 2024)

CONTENTS

- A. Introduction
- B. DSA Options in SCGS
- C. Talent Areas
- D. Eligibility
- E. Application Procedure
- F. Important Reminders
- G. Criteria for our Talent Areas
- H. Schedule for Auditions, Trial and Written Tests

A. INTRODUCTION

The Direct School Admission (DSA) Exercise allows students to seek admission into schools based on achievements and talents. We invite you to apply for admission to SCGS via DSA based on the talent areas offered by the school.

Competition is strong and students entering through DSA are expected to be proactive and sustain their interest to develop their talents through the opportunities offered. There is no priority through affiliation and all students seeking admission will be selected based on their achievements and talents in comparison to all applicants in the same category.

Parents and students are encouraged to choose schools wisely based on the student's aptitudes and strengths, bearing in mind the schools' general academic and non-academic requirements, and the programmes available to develop the area of talent.

Join us at our online DSA Engagement Q & A session on Saturday 13 May at 9am or 11.15am. Register here!

B. DSA OPTIONS IN SCGS

Singapore Chinese Girls' School is a dual-track school offering both the 4-year GCE O-Level Programme and the 6-year Integrated Programme in partnership with Eunoia Junior College.

Students who are successfully admitted to the school via DSA are expected to honour their commitment to the school and programme (4 years for the O-Level track or 6 years for the Integrated Programme) and participate in the activities related to the talent they are selected for from years 1-4.

We seek to promote a culture of excellence in the holistic development of our students. We offer admission through DSA into the following programmes:

GCE O-Level Programme
(Years 1 – 4 in SCGS)

Leadership

Co-Curricular Activities

Integrated Programme
(Years 1 – 4 in SCGS,
Years 5 -6 in Eunoia Junior College)

Academic Talents

C. OUR TALENT AREAS

We offer admission into SCGS through the following talents:

| Categories | Areas of Talent |
|---------------------|---|
| Academic | Chinese Language English Language Malay Language Mathematics Science Tamil Language |
| Clubs and Societies | Robotics |
| Sports | Artistic Gymnastics Artistic Swimming Badminton Basketball Netball Squash Swimming Tennis Trampoline |
| Performing Arts | Chinese Drama Choir Concert Band (not Chinese Orchestra) English Drama Handbell Ensemble Modern Dance String Ensemble |
| Student Development | <u>Leadership</u> |

All applicants are responsible for checking the criteria in the different schools before the submission of their applications. Criteria will differ. Omission of items required may be detrimental to your application.

Check the criteria for talent areas from page 6.

D. ELIGIBILITY

WHO CAN APPLY?

a. Applicants studying in MOE mainstream primary schools

Parents may log in directly to DSA-Sec Portal. Only one parent's Singpass is required. Parents/ guardians who are unable to apply online can approach their child's **primary** school for assistance.

b. Applicants NOT studying in MOE mainstream primary schools

A Registration Number (RGxxxxxxx) is required. This is applicable for homeschoolers, returning Singaporeans, religious school students, international students and other students not studying in Mainstream primary schools.

Parents may apply for a Registration Number (RGxxxxxxxx) to access the DSA-Sec Portal at the MOE website.

Vist the MOE Website FAQ Page Frequently asked questions (FAQ) | MOE

Competition is strong and we have received many queries on students' chances of being selected. Meeting all the criteria does not guarantee the student will be shortlisted/given an offer.

E. THE APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The DSA Exercise is centralised. All applications must be submitted through MOE's online DSA-Sec Portal. Wait for the official press release in early May.

Applicants are responsible for checking the criteria in the different schools before the submission of their applications. Criteria will differ.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

a. **Cost** – No Fees are charged

b. Choices

- An applicant can indicate up to three choices.
- Each choice consists of a secondary school and a talent area offered by that secondary school.

Maximum choices for each DSA-Sec school

- Of the three choices, an applicant may use a maximum of two choices to apply to the same school, for two different talent areas of that school.

Dual-Track schools

If a talent area is offered for both the O-Level and Integrated Programme (IP) in a dualtrack school, applicants must indicate a preference for (i) the O-Level Programme, (ii) the Integrated Programme, or (iii) no preference (open to both).

F. IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

 Once you are successfully allocated to **Singapore Chinese Girls' School**, you will <u>not</u> be allowed to participate in the annual Secondary One Posting Exercise to opt for secondary schools after the release of the PSLE results. You will be expected to honour the commitment to SCGS for the <u>entire duration</u> of the programme you have been admitted into.

You will also <u>not</u> be allowed to transfer to another school after the release of the PSLE results. If you are admitted based on a CCA, no change of CCA is allowed for 4 years unless there are extenuating medical reasons.

If you are not able to fulfill the DSA commitment without valid reasons, you may be required to transfer out to another school.

2. Successful applicants admitted into the Joint Integrated Programme at SCGS, must commit to <u>6 years with us</u>, <u>4 years in SCGS and 2 years at Eunoia Junior College</u>.

Students admitted to the School's Integrated Programme via DSA **are expected to honour their commitment** to the school and programme and participate in the activities related to the talent they are selected for from years 1-4.

3. **Scholarships & Financial Assistance**. No one deserving of a place in the school should be discouraged because of financial considerations. Financial assistance schemes and awards are in place to support talented students. All students interested in an SCGS education and who can see their talents advanced at SCGS should apply. Do not let fees deter you from applying to us for DSA or accepting an offer of admission.

Find out more about SCGS! View our DSA Microsite! [https://go.gov.sg/2023dsamicrosite]

G. CRITERIA FOR OUR TALENT AREAS

CRITERIA (LEADERSHIP)

Please submit the following information as part of your online application:

- Leadership appointments (P5-P6)
- Items in School Cockpit do not need to be repeated
- Testimonials are NOT required

Shortlisted applicants will be invited for:

Interview

Shortlisted candidates typically are all rounded role models in school and possess excellent leadership skills exhibited as a student leader in Primary School and have held key leadership positions in school such as in the Prefectorial Board Executive Committee (or equivalent, President or Vice President of Council) or Captains/Chairperson of a CCA in the school.

Key Opportunities for Students

- Student leadership opportunities abound in SCGS, with positions such as Class Representatives, Peer Leaders, Youth Science Ambassadors and Young Docents. We seek to develop students to be leaders in any area they are committed to and to lead by example in bringing any group they are members of to a higher level of attainment.
- More outstanding students may be elected into positions such as the Prefectorial Board, or at the executive levels in their CCAs. All such potential nominees are subject to stringent criteria and an electoral process.

| CRITERIA (CLUBS & SOCIETIES) | | |
|------------------------------|--|--|
| Robotics | Please submit the following as part of your online application: Relevant competitions participated in and awards attained if any Shortlisted applicants will be invited for: Hands-on exercise and interview | |
| | Shortlisted candidates typically have: 1) Participated in national robotics competitions such as First Lego League, National Junior Robotics Competition or National Robopreneur Carnival. 2) Understanding and experience in Lego Mindstorm EV3/Spike Prime 3) Construction and programming skills | |

| CRITERIA (SPORTS) | | |
|------------------------|--|--|
| Artistic Gymnastics | Please submit the following information as part of your online | |
| Artistic Swimming | application: Sports performance results in past 3 years (2021 - 2023) | |
| Badminton | Shortlisted candidates will be invited for: • Trial and interview | |
| Basketball | Shortlisted candidates are typically: | |
| Netball | Players of Top 4 Team in National School Games <u>or</u> Players of Top 2 Team at Zonal National School Games <u>or</u> | |
| Squash | 3) Top 8 in Individual Placing or Quarter Finalist in National Age-Group | |
| Swimming | Championships or a major championships organised by the Singapore Primary Schools Sports Council or the National Sports Association. | |
| Tennis | | |
| Trampoline | | |

PERFORMING ARTS (Critical Criteria) CRITICAL NOTES TO BE READ before you apply for the Performing Arts.

Performing Arts is a key strength in SCGS.

All applicants are required to submit video recordings of your talent area. This may be done using a mobile device. Professional recordings are not required.

Incomplete applications may reduce the chances of selection and shortlisting for auditions.

1. VIDEO RECORDINGS (COMPULSORY) *

All **video recordings** should demonstrate the applicant's performance abilities. Videos should be recorded in a single take, without editing, and should **not** be professionally produced. For applicants using existing videos of past performances, please indicate the date of the performance.

Please note the following when uploading the videos:

- Upload the video to any video uploading websites (e.g. Google Drive or YouTube).
 - If using YouTube, please include the date of recording in the description.
- Ensure **privacy setting** is set to 'Public' or 'Anyone with the Link'.
 - If using any other video uploading platform, please ensure the date of recording is listed and clearly visible in the description.
 - If using Google Drive, Title the video: [Applicant's Name_DSA_CCA-Name_DDMMYYYY]. DDMMYYYY refers to the date of recording.
- Share the video link in the online application form for DSA at Step 4 <u>under NON-SCHOOL BASED AWARDS/ACTIVITIES.</u>
- Ensure the sharing setting is set to 'Anyone with the Link'.

2. LINKS TO VIDEO RECORDINGS IN THE APPLICATION FORM (COMPULSORY) ^

• The **link** to the video recordings and the date of recording, including external based certifications should be clearly stated in your submission at Step 4 <u>under NON-SCHOOL BASED AWARDS/ ACTIVITIES</u> (Year / Period / Award & Activity Description).

3. ACHIEVEMENTS OR AWARDS (OPTIONAL)

Achievements and awards obtained are not pre-requisites for selection Submission of achievements or awards, if any, may include:

- National competitions (e.g. Singapore Youth Festival, National Piano & Violin competition) or international competitions
- Solo masterclasses and/or workshops
- Solo concerts or performances

Covid-19 may have impacted participation in these events. This will not impact your application.

CRITERIA (PERFORMING ARTS) Please refer to the explanatory notes on page 8 prior to submission

Chinese Drama * # ^

Please read the explanatory notes on <u>page 8</u> and submit the following as part of your online application:

- A video recording* of a 1-2min solo performance and the script, of either:
 - o a piece meant for only 1 performer (i.e. a monologue) OR
 - a piece meant for 2 or more performers but with only 1 character chosen for the performance OR
 - a piece meant for 2 or more performers but with the same student performing different characters.

Applicants may perform something scripted, devised, or improvised, and can be something learnt in school (in class or CCA) or from previous drama experiences. Students preparing their own performance can search for scripts of fairy tale or folk tale adaptations online or create these themselves.

- Achievements or awards related to theatre performance[#]. Please indicate the role(s) played in the theatre production (e.g. acting, back-stage).
- Drama certifications, if any (please note that these are not prerequisites)

Shortlisted applicants will be invited for:

• In-person audition and interview

Besides showing technical and artistic potential in drama, shortlisted candidates in previous years typically:

- have at least three (3) years of theatre training or involvement in theatre activity (e.g. school Drama CCA, theatre school or theatre productions) and a strong command of the Chinese language.

Note: non-submission of solo video may reduce the chances of selection and shortlisting for auditions.

Choir * # ^

Please read the explanatory notes on <u>page 8</u> and submit the following as part of your online application:

- A video recording* of a 2 4min **solo performance** on the voice.
- Applicants may perform pieces previously learnt (e.g. songs learnt in music lessons, voice parts from a concert piece, music from previous examinations)

- Achievements or awards related to music performance[#] on the voice as a solo performer or as a member of an ensemble
- Music certifications, if any (please note that these are not prerequisites)

Shortlisted applicants will be invited for:

• In-person audition and interview

Besides showing technical and artistic potential in voice, shortlisted candidates in previous years typically:

- have at least three (3) years of musical training or involvement in musical activity (e.g. choir) on the voice.

Note: non-submission of solo video may reduce the chances of selection and shortlisting for auditions.

Concert Band [Not Chinese Orchestra]

* # ^

Please read the explanatory notes on <u>page 8</u> and submit the following as part of your online application:

- A video recording* a of 2 4min **solo performance** on your band instrument.
- Applicants may perform pieces learnt in school (e.g. from Essential Elements, extracts from school band repertoire, instrumental parts from a school concert piece, music from previous examinations)
- Achievements or awards related to music performance[#] on western woodwind, brass, or percussion instruments including drum set (though not limited to western percussion)
- Music certifications, if any (please note that these are not prerequisites)

Shortlisted applicants will be invited for:

• In-person Audition and interview

Besides showing technical and artistic potential in the instrument, shortlisted candidates in previous years typically:

- have at least two (2) years of musical training or involvement in musical activity (e.g. school band, ensemble) on any western woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument including drum set (though not limited to western percussion).

Note: non-submission of solo video may reduce the chances of selection and shortlisting for auditions.

English Drama * # ^

Please read the explanatory notes on <u>page 8</u> and submit the following as part of your online application:

- A video recording* of a 1-2min solo performance and the script, of either:
 - o a piece meant for only 1 performer (i.e. a monologue) OR
 - a piece meant for 2 or more performers but with only 1 character chosen for the performance OR
 - a piece meant for 2 or more performers but with the same student performing different characters.

Applicants may perform something scripted, devised, or improvised, and can be something learnt in school (in class or CCA) or from previous drama experiences. Students preparing their own performance can search for scripts of fairy tale or folk tale adaptations online or create these themselves.

- Achievements or awards related to theatre performance[#]. Please indicate the role(s) played in the theatre production (e.g. acting, back-stage).
- Drama certifications, if any (please note that these are not prerequisites)

Shortlisted applicants will be invited for:

• In-person audition and interview

Besides showing technical and artistic potential in drama, shortlisted candidates in previous years typically:

- have at least three (3) years of theatre training or involvement in theatre activity (e.g. school Drama CCA, theatre school or theatre productions) and a strong command of the English language.

Note: non-submission of solo video may reduce the chances of selection and shortlisting for auditions.

Handbell Ensemble

Please read the explanatory notes on page 8 and submit the following as part of your online application:

- A video recording* of a 2 4 min solo performance comprising, either:
 - on handbells if available, OR
 - on another available instrument (e.g. solo voice, piano, violin, quitar etc.)

Applicants may perform pieces learnt in school, extracts from school handbell repertoire, instrumental parts from a school concert piece, music from previous examinations

- Achievements or awards related to handbell performance*
- Music certifications, if any (please note that these are not prerequisites)

Shortlisted applicants will be invited for:

• In-person audition and interview

Besides showing technical and artistic potential in handbells, shortlisted candidates in previous years typically:

have at least two (2) years of musical involvement in a music activity (e.g. voice, piano, violin, guitar, choir, handbell ensemble etc.)

Note: non-submission of solo video may reduce the chances of selection and shortlisting for auditions.

Modern

Please read the explanatory notes on page 8 and submit the following as part of your online application:

- A video recording* of a 1-min **ballet solo** that can be done safely within a 3mx3m space. (This does not have to be in a studio setting.). Recordings in group settings will not be considered unless the applicant is performing a solo of about 1-min in an ensemble setting.
- Applicants may perform dance(s) learnt in school (e.g. CCA, previous dance examinations) or self-choreographed pieces and should be in suitable dance or PE attire.
- Achievements or awards related to dance performance[#] as a solo or as a member of an ensemble.
- Dance certifications (E.g. RAD, CSTD), if any (please note that these are not prerequisites)

Dance * # ^

Shortlisted applicants will be invited for:

• In-person audition and interview

Besides showing technical and artistic potential in dance, shortlisted candidates in previous years typically:

- have at least five (5) years of dance training or involvement in dance activity (e.g. dance CCA, ballet).

Note: Students with training in contemporary dance (e.g. jazz), chinese dance and/or gymnastics may apply, however the assessment is based on ballet competency.

Note: non-submission of solo video may reduce the chances of selection and shortlisting for auditions.

String Ensemble * # ^

Please read the explanatory notes on <u>page 8</u> and submit the following as part of your online application:

- A video recording* of a 2 4 min **solo performance** on your string instrument (either violin, viola, cello or double bass only)
- Applicants may perform pieces previously learnt (e.g. pieces learnt in music lessons, parts from a concert piece, music from previous examinations)
- Achievements or awards related to music performance[#] on your string instrument (violin, viola, cello or double bass) as a solo performer or as a member of an ensemble.
- Music certifications, if any (please note that these are not prerequisites)

Shortlisted applicants will be invited for:

• In-person audition and interview

Besides showing technical and artistic potential in the instrument, shortlisted candidates in previous years typically:

- have at least five (5) years of dance training or involvement in dance activity (e.g. dance CCA, ballet).

Note: non-submission of solo video may reduce the chances of selection and shortlisting for auditions.

| ACADEMIC TALENTS (Integrated Programme ONLY) | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| Chinese Language | | | |
| English Language | Please submit the following as part of your online application: Relevant competitions/activities participated in and awards attained if any | | |
| Malay Language | Shortlisted applicants will be invited for: • Written test • Interview (if further shortlisted) Shortlisted candidates typically possess talent in the specific academic area as evidenced by significant achievements in relevant activities/competitions at national/international levels or any such equivalent demonstration of talent. | | |
| Mathematics | | | |
| Tamil Language | | | |
| Science | | | |

- Students will work towards representing the school at local programmes and competitions. Examples are as follows:
 - English Language: Plain English Speaking Awards, Orator's Trophy, the Creative Arts and Writing Mentorship Programmes, Future Problem Solving Programme.
 - Chinese Language: Chinese Docents Programme with Sun Yat Sen Nanyang Memorial Hall and Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre, Bicultural Studies Programme and Language Skills Competitions
 - Malay Language: National Malay Language Competitions and Creative Writing
 - o Tamil Language: National Elective Tamil Language Programme and Creative writing
 - Mathematics: Competitions such as the Singapore Mathematical Olympiad (SMO)
 - Science: Science mentorship programmes, Youth Science Ambassadors Programme, competitions and Olympiads

In addition to the above, we constantly look for suitable platforms for students to participate in to develop and showcase their talents. Actual activities may vary according to opportunities and circumstances.

H. Schedule for Auditions, Trials, Written Tests and Interviews

Shortlisted applicants will be informed of the confirmed dates and times through email or telephone.

| Date(s)/Time | Process | Remarks |
|---|---|--|
| 7 July - 14 July (on Wed & Fri only) | Written Test for all Integrated Programme (IP) applicants applying through English Language, Mathematics, Mother Tongue Languages and Science | You should apply for only ONE academic talent. Choose your talent based on your passion for the subject. |
| Performing | Artistic Gymnastics Trials | 18 July - 28 July |
| Arts, Sports and Societies | Badminton Trials | 29 June - 7 July |
| | Basketball Trials | 29 June - 14 July |
| | Chinese Drama Auditions | 6 July - 4 Aug |
| | Choir Auditions | 6 July - 4 Aug |
| | Concert Band Auditions | 6 July - 4 Aug |
| | Dance Auditions | 6 July - 4 Aug |
| | English Drama Auditions | 13 July - 20 July only Tues & Thurs |
| | Handbell Ensemble Auditions | 6 July - 4 Aug |
| | Netball Trials | 6 July - 14 July |
| | Robotics Auditions | 6 July - 13 July |
| | String Ensemble Auditions | 6 July - 4 Aug |
| | Squash Trials | 29 June - 7 July |
| | String Ensemble Auditions | 6 July - 4 Aug |
| | Tennis Trials | 3 July - 14 July |
| | Trampoline | 18 July - 28 July |
| Leadership | Interviews | 6 July - 4 Aug |
| Mon 17 July – Fri 25 August | Interviews on site. | For applicants shortlisted after tests, auditions and trials. |

Please understand that we do not release the reasons for non-selection of applicants and/or the results of the auditions, trials, written tests and interviews.

Students are shortlisted and selected based on overall merit. There is no affiliation preference in the DSA Exercise.