



Dear Parents/Students,

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR THE SENTINEL PROGRAMME

OVERVIEW OF THE SENTINEL PROGRAMME

1. **Introduction.** The Sentinel Programme is a talent development programme that aims to develop our nation's cybersecurity talent pool by equipping youths with cybersecurity and digital skills. Organised by the Digital and Intelligence Service (DIS), in collaboration with the Defence Technology Community, the programme is fully sponsored by MINDEF/SAF.
2. **Programme Content.** The programme progressively equips students with cybersecurity and digital skills through workshops, classes and competitions. From 2026, students will also learn Artificial Intelligence (AI) concepts and applications in cybersecurity. Students will also have opportunities to learn about the cybersecurity profession in the defence sector through visits, mentorships and internships.
3. **Programme Structure.** Sentinel comprises a 4-year secondary programme and a 2-year post-secondary programme. Lower secondary students will attend holiday workshops, while upper secondary and post-secondary students will attend holiday workshops and fortnightly Saturday classes. The schedule of activities is provided at **Annex A**. Secondary school students who complete the secondary programme can continue with the post-secondary programme when they are in Pre-University education institutions, subject to meeting the qualifying criteria.
4. For more programme details, please visit the Sentinel website at go.gov.sg/sentinel.

2026 SECONDARY 1 & PRE-UNIVERSITY 1 INTAKES

5. **Eligibility & Suitability.** The programme is open for application to **2026 Secondary 1 and Pre-University 1 students (or equivalent)**, who are **Singaporeans or Singapore Permanent Residents**. Knowledge of programming is not required but will be useful.
6. **Application Process.** Interested students are invited to apply at go.gov.sg/sentinel using their school-assigned student email address (e.g., email addresses ending with @student.edu.sg). Students who do not have a valid school-assigned email address are to email us at sentinel@defence.gov.sg for further application instructions. All eligible applicants will be required to attempt an online selection test. The selection test is aptitude-based at the Secondary 1 level. At the Pre-University level, it will also assess basic programming skills. The test will also include a segment that requires applicants to submit a short video recording to introduce themselves. No preparation is required for the test.

7. Key Dates. The key dates for the Secondary 1 and Pre-University 1 intakes are listed below.

Intake	Eligible Students	Application Deadline	Selection Test Period	Programme Commencement
2026 Pre-University 1	2026 JC Year 1 / Integrated Programme Year 5	1 Mar 2026 (Sun)	2 Jan – 4 Mar 2026	17 Mar 2026 (Tue)
2026 Secondary 1	2026 Secondary 1	15 Mar 2026 (Sun)	2 – 29 Mar 2026	2 Jun 2026 (Tue)

2027 SECONDARY 3 INTAKE

8. Eligibility & Suitability. To cater to students who develop an interest in the digital/cybersecurity domain in the early secondary school years, the programme has introduced an additional intake for students to join the programme at Secondary 3. The next Secondary 3 intake (for 2027) is open for applications to 2026 Secondary 2 students. Only Singaporeans and Singapore Permanent Residents are eligible. Applicants with foundational knowledge in web development and computer networking are preferred.

9. Application Process. Interested students are invited to apply at go.gov.sg/sentinel. All applicants will be required to take a 2-hour online selection test. The test will assess basic knowledge on web development and computer networking, as well as aptitude in logical thinking and problem-solving. It will also include a submission of a short video recording for applicants to introduce themselves. Those who are selected will be required to complete a bridging workshop in December 2026, before joining the Secondary 3 cohort from January 2027.

10. Key Dates. The key dates for the 2027 Secondary 3 intake are listed below.

Intake	Eligible Students	Application Deadline	Bridging Workshop	Programme Commencement
2027 Secondary 3	2026 Secondary 2	18 Oct 2026 (Sun)	1-3 Dec 2026	23 Jan 2027 (Sat)

11. For any enquiries, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at sentinel@defence.gov.sg.

<Sent via Email>

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The Digital and Intelligence Service

2026 SENTINEL PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

LOWER SECONDARY			
YEAR 1			
Date	Activity	Time	Venue
2-4 Jun 2026	Workshop 1	9am-5pm	Singapore Polytechnic
10 Jun 2026	June Holiday Experiential Learning Activity	9am-1pm / 1pm-5pm	Sands Expo & Convention Centre (Marina Bay Sands)
Jun-Sep 2026	Asynchronous Online Learning	N.A.	N.A.
23-24 Nov 2026	Workshop 2	9am-5pm	School of Science and Technology
YEAR 2			
Date	Activity	Time	Venue
16-17 Mar 2026	Workshop 1	9am-5pm	Singapore Polytechnic
Apr-May 2026	Asynchronous Online Learning	N.A.	N.A.
10 Jun 2026	June Holiday Experiential Learning Activity	9am-1pm / 1pm-5pm	Sands Expo & Convention Centre (Marina Bay Sands)
22-23 Jun 2026	Workshop 2	9am-5pm	Nanyang Polytechnic
Jul-Oct 2026	Asynchronous Online Learning	N.A.	N.A.
25-26 Nov 2026	Workshop 3	9am-5pm	School of Science and Technology
27 Nov 2026	Sentinel Challenge Competition	To be confirmed	School of Science and Technology

UPPER SECONDARY			
YEAR 3			
Date	Activity	Time	Venue
24 Jan 2026			
07 Feb 2026			
21 Feb 2026	Saturday Classes	9am-12pm	Nanyang Polytechnic
14 Mar 2026			
11 Apr 2026			
25 Apr 2026		9am-12pm	
30 May 2026	Saturday Classes	8.30am-12.30pm	Singapore Polytechnic
05 Jun 2026		9am-5pm	
06 Jun 2026	Workshop 1	9am-1pm	Singapore Polytechnic
10 Jun 2026	June Holiday Experiential Learning Activity	9am-1pm / 1pm-5pm	Sands Expo & Convention Centre (Marina Bay Sands)
04 Jul 2026		9am-12pm	
22 Aug 2026	Saturday Classes		Singapore Polytechnic
05 Sep 2026		8.30am-12.30pm	
19-20 Nov 2026	Workshop 2	9am-5pm	Nanyang Girls' High School

OFFICIAL (OPEN)

POST-SECONDARY			
YEAR 5			
Date	Activity	Time	Venue
17-19 Mar 2026	Workshop 1	9am-5pm	Raffles Institution
28 Mar 2026 25 Apr 2026 16 May 2026 23 May 2026	Saturday Classes	9am-1pm	Raffles Institution
11 Jun 2026	Guided CTF Workshop	1pm-5pm	Sands Expo & Convention Centre (Marina Bay Sands)
18 Jul 2026 01 Aug 2026 15 Aug 2026	Saturday Classes	9am-1pm	Raffles Institution
1-3 Dec 2026	Workshop 2	9am-5pm	Hwa Chong Institution
YEAR 6			
Date	Activity	Time	Venue
3 Jan 2026 17 Jan 2026 31 Jan 2026 14 Feb 2026 7 Mar 2026	Saturday Classes	9am-1pm	Raffles Institution
18-19 Mar 2026	Workshop 1	9am-5pm	Raffles Institution
5 Apr 2026 12 Apr 2026 19 Apr 2026 16 May 2026 23 May 2026	Saturday Classes	9am-1pm	Raffles Institution
11 Jun 2026	Sentinel Challenge Competition	1pm-5pm	Sands Expo & Convention Centre (Marina Bay Sands)

Notes:

1. The above schedule is subject to change. Further details will be provided to enrolled participants.
2. The Year 4 schedule is not yet available as this cohort will commence in 2027.
3. Participants must be able to travel to the venues independently.