

# PSLE FOUNDATION SCIENCE

For examination from 2026.

## PURPOSE OF THE EXAMINATION

The PSLE Foundation Science Paper assesses candidates' attainment in Science as stated in the [2023 primary science syllabus](#).

## ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

The assessment objectives describe the skills and abilities which candidates are expected to demonstrate at the end of the course.

### I. Knowledge with Understanding

Candidates should be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of scientific facts, concepts and principles.

### II. Application of Knowledge and Scientific Inquiry

Candidates should be able to (in words, or by using diagrams, tables and graphs):

- a. apply scientific facts, concepts and principles
- b. apply scientific inquiry which includes
  - making predictions and formulating hypotheses
  - interpreting and analysing information
  - evaluating observations, information and methods
  - communicating explanations and reasoning.

## EXAMINATION FORMAT

### Format of Paper

The examination consists of one written paper comprising two booklets, Booklet A and Booklet B.

Table 1

Booklet	Item Type	Number of questions	Number of marks per question	Marks
A	Multiple-choice	20	2	40
B	Short response and Structured	9–11	2–4	30

- (a) Booklet A consists of 20 multiple-choice questions with *three* options. Each multiple-choice question carries 2 marks.
- (b) Booklet B consists of 9–11 short response and structured questions. Short response items, e.g. 'Fill in the blanks', 'Matching', etc will carry about 10 marks and may be part of a structured question.

Candidates are required to answer all the questions in the two booklets.

### Duration of Paper

The duration of the paper is 1 hour 15 minutes.

### Provision of Word List

The Foundation Science Paper focuses on assessing candidates' grasp of basic scientific knowledge. A word list is provided during the examination to allow candidates to display their knowledge and understanding without being unduly disadvantaged by their weakness in the English language. It should be appreciated that the list is not exhaustive.