

# **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 school science syllabus](#). The assessment includes recall of scientific facts and concepts, and the application of process skills in various contexts.

## **ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES**

The 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 with reasoning.

# **EXAMINATION FORMAT**

## **Format of Paper**

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

Table 1

| <b>Booklet</b> | <b>Item Type</b>                        | <b>Number of questions</b> | <b>Number of marks per question</b> | <b>Marks</b> |
|----------------|---|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| A              | Multiple-choice                         | 20                         | 2                                   | 40           |
| B              | Short response and Structured Questions | 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 students' grasp of basic scientific knowledge. A word list is provided during the examination to allow students 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.