

30 Jan P5 Parents Briefing Q & A

Questions	
No.	P5 Overseas Trip Programme
1	<p>When is the overseas trip? Why is the first overseas immersion trip conducted just a week before the WA? Shouldn't the school have consider if the students became unwell in the overseas trip, then how to perform during WA</p> <p>Clarification: Towards the end of P4 in 2025, parents and students were invited to submit applications for the overseas immersion trip that is planned for P5 in 2026. Selection was then undertaken from the evaluation of the applications, including recommendations by teachers. The parents of selected students for the April to Taipei-Taiwan have been informed of the details, information on the second trip in November to Guangzhou will be made available closer to the trip.</p> <p>We understand your concern about the proximity of the overseas trip to WA1. The April WA1 timing allows adequate curriculum coverage after Term 1-2 programmes like coding and P5 camp, with assessments spread across several weeks to reduce pressure.</p> <p>Should students fall unwell during the trip, we have contingency measures including medical support abroad. Upon return, students with valid reasons for absence (such as illness) will receive the assessment paper for feedback on their learning, though it will not be weighted in their overall grade and not impact the overall grade of the student.</p> <p>We continuously review our calendar to balance enriching experiences with academic requirements, and appreciate your feedback on this matter.</p>
2	<p>Higher Mother Tongue</p> <p>How the higher mother tongue marks will help in choosing the secondary school?</p> <p>Clarification: During secondary one school posting, students with better HCL grades will be given priority when multiple students with the same PSLE score apply to SAP schools. Please note that this applies only for application to SAP schools only.</p> <p>Students taking Higher Malay and Higher Tamil have an advantage when applying for elective programmes related to Mother Tongue in selected secondary schools, which allow them to further develop their Mother Tongue proficiency and cultural understanding.</p> <p>From 2026, students who do well in their MTL at PSLE will be able to offer HMTL at Secondary 1, regardless of their overall PSLE Score. Secondary 1 students who obtain AL1/AL2 in MTL or Distinction/Merit in HMTL at the PSLE will be able to take HMTL as a subject in secondary school. This will better recognise and develop students' unique strengths and interests, and allow more students to learn their MTL to as high a level as possible.</p> <p>For details, please refer to the following links. https://www.moe.gov.sg/secondary/s1-posting/how-to-choose/how-posting-works https://www.moe.gov.sg/psle-fsbb/posting-to-secondary-school/faqs</p>

3	<p>What are the benefits of taking higher mother tongue? Thank you :)</p> <p>Clarification:</p> <p>Taking Higher Mother Tongue deepens language proficiency, fosters stronger cultural appreciation, and builds cognitive skills like critical thinking. It enables the students to build on their mastery of the subject as they already had a strong foundation.</p>
Subject-Based Banding & Curriculum Matters	
4	<p>Is the subject based learning carried over to Secondary School?</p> <p>Clarification:</p> <p>Full Subject Based Banding (SBB) has been implemented in secondary schools since 2024. With Full SBB in secondary schools, students will have greater flexibility to study more subjects at different levels that suit their interests, aptitude and learning needs. There will no longer be separate Express, N(A), and N(T) streams, and students will be in mixed form classes where they can interact with peers of different strengths and interests.</p> <p>Please visit MOE's microsite to learn more about Full SBB. https://www.moe.gov.sg/psle-fsbb/index</p>
5	<p>How intense will the P5 curriculum be leading up to p6?</p> <p>Clarification:</p> <p>While the P5 curriculum is more demanding than P4, the expectations are introduced gradually. Students are given time, guidance, and support to adjust as they develop greater independence in learning, so they are well prepared for P6 and PSLE.</p>
6	<p>I believe the classes in P5 now are all inclusive of kids of all academic levels?</p> <p>Clarification:</p> <p>Yes. The Primary 5 form classes are mixed and inclusive, with students of different academic levels learning together. This supports peer interaction, relationship-building and a balanced classroom environment.</p> <p>To better support individual learning needs, the school may provide subject-based support or banded groupings where appropriate. These arrangements are meant to help students learn at a pace that suits them, while keeping form classes inclusive.</p>
7	<p>The P5 math qns are so difficult for us to guide our kids. What supports can we get from the school?</p> <p>Clarification:</p> <p>Thank you for sharing your concern. We understand that some of the P5 Math questions can be challenging. To support parents, the school provides access to online platforms such as SLS and Koobits, which offer interactive practice and immediate feedback. In school, our focus is on the problem-solving process rather than just the final answer. Students are taught to break problems into manageable parts, understand and relate the given information, and then plan strategies to solve them effectively.</p>

8	<p>How can we parents help with our P5 kids' studies?</p> <p>Clarification:</p> <p>Thank you for your interest in supporting your child's learning. Parents can help by creating a Positive Study Environment through setting aside regular, distraction-free study time. Parents can also check in regularly to understand their children's feelings about schoolwork, friends and daily needs, and reassure their children or encourage them. Parents can celebrate effort and progress, not just results, and to build confidence and resilience in their child; recognise their attempts and efforts and encourage them to strive towards their goals. Do communicate with the teachers by reaching out if you notice persistent difficulties. Teachers can suggest targeted strategies or resources for support.</p>
9	<p>How do we know the children's belongs to which group in their learning?</p> <p>Clarification:</p> <p>You may check with your child's Form Teacher or Subject Teacher regarding your child's banded learning groups.</p>
10	<p>What is the stance on using AI tools for learning, like notebooklm?</p> <p>Clarification:</p> <p>The school recognises that AI tools are increasingly part of the learning landscape and, when used appropriately, can support learning by helping students organise information and clarify understanding.</p> <p>At the same time, students are guided to use such tools responsibly and age-appropriately, and to understand that AI should support — not replace — their own thinking, effort and learning processes. Teachers provide guidance on appropriate use, and students are reminded to verify information and continue developing strong foundational skills.</p> <p>Parents are encouraged to support by guiding and monitoring their child's use of AI tools at home.</p>
11	<p>Can I ask if the children will be regrouped again in P6 based on their P5 end year results?</p> <p>Clarification:</p> <p>There will not be any change in form classes for our students. Maintaining stable form classes supports students' well-being, continuity and relationship-building with peers and teachers, which is especially important in the graduating year.</p> <p>There may be adjustments at the subject level, such as banded groupings or the offering of Foundation subjects, to better support students' learning needs. These adjustments are made with careful consideration at the end of P5.</p> <p>Parents will be informed should there be any updates.</p>
12	<p>Why is there no WA for P5 in term 1?</p> <p>Clarification:</p> <p>There is no Weighted Assessment (WA) for P5 in Term 1 because some curriculum time has been used for the holistic development of students through enriching activities such as Code for Fun, P5 camp and Catalytics. Removing the WA in Term 1 allows teachers to focus on deepening understanding rather than rushing to cover the syllabus. This longer time enables students to explore topics in greater depth, develop stronger problem-solving skills, and engage more meaningfully with the subject matter.</p>

13	<p>The banding is confusing. I want to know what happens if students scores badly? Will she be limited to those not so good secondary schools?</p> <p>Clarification:</p> <p>The subject-based banding and support provided in school are meant to better match learning pace and needs, so that students can build confidence and strengthen foundations. Being offered a Foundation subject does not limit a child's future pathways, and students can still progress well in secondary school with the right support.</p> <p>There are multiple pathways to success in secondary education, and schools support students to find a pathway that best suits their strengths and learning needs. Our focus remains on supporting every child's growth and well-being, rather than ranking or labelling students.</p>
14	<p>Can I understand why was there a need for students go to another class for a particular subject eg. Math and Science at P5 level. Thank you.</p> <p>Clarification:</p> <p>At Primary 5, for certain subjects such as Mathematics and Science, students may move to another class because they are banded by subject for academic support. This means students are grouped based on their learning needs in that particular subject, so that teaching can be more targeted to cater to students learning needs. As a result, students may attend lessons in a different classroom for that subject, while remaining in their form class for other subjects.</p>
Others	
15	<p>For science Olympiad, how do kids get selected to take part in competitions :)? Thanks</p> <p>Clarification:</p> <p>Selection for Science Olympiad is based on students' interest and aptitude in Science Classroom engagement, inquiry skills, and assessment performance. Teachers' professional judgement on students' readiness for advanced scientific thinking.</p>
16	<p>Is there any parents community so that we can interact with parents of classmates?</p> <p>Clarification:</p> <p>Parents who wish to connect with other parents and contribute to the school community are warmly encouraged to join the Parents Support Group (PSG). The PSG provides opportunities for parent interaction, mutual support and partnership with the school through various school-based activities and initiatives.</p> <p>Please visit the link if you are keen to join our PSG, https://www.springdalepri.moe.edu.sg/parents-infoweb/springdale-parent-support-group/</p>

17	<p>Singapore local calls are free. May I then know why students have to use the paid phone to call the parents using their own pocket money, when they are in school? My child was informed by the GO that they cannot use the phone in the GO. Need to use the paid phone. And this happened not once, fyi.</p> <p>When my child went to the general office to call to inform that he/she is leaving school after CCA so we can know what time he/she will be home as they are not suppose to wear smart watch, the office staff told him/her not to use the general office phone again.</p> <p>Clarification:</p> <p>Thank you for sharing your concern. We understand that parents would like to be informed about their child's dismissal time, especially after CCA.</p> <p>In school, the General Office phone is primarily reserved for administrative matters and urgent situations. As such, students are generally not encouraged to use the GO phone for routine personal calls, including informing parents of dismissal time after CCA.</p> <p>To manage this consistently and fairly for all students, students who need to make non-urgent calls are advised to use the paid public phone, which is available for student use.</p> <p>We acknowledge your feedback and appreciate you bringing this to our attention. We will also take this opportunity to remind our staff to communicate this policy clearly and in a caring manner to students, so they understand the reason behind it.</p>
18	<p>Will there be a consideration to install lockers for children as their bags are really heavy?</p> <p>Clarification:</p> <p>We recognise that heavy school bags can be a concern for students and parents. While there are currently no plans to install lockers, the school continually reviews matters related to student well-being and will keep this under consideration.</p>
19	<p>The presentation slides will be shared in PG app?</p> <p>May I know if ALL the questions posted here will receive an answer? If yes, all answers will be replied here or where can I view the answers?</p> <p>Clarification:</p> <p>Yes. The Parents' Briefing slides as well as the questions raised by parents and the school's responses will be collated and shared through Parents Gateway (PG) app.</p> <p>Parents will be notified via PG once the materials are made available for viewing.</p>
20	<p>When do Sec Schools conduct open house?</p> <p>Clarification:</p> <p>Secondary schools mostly have their open house in November, before or after the release of PSLE results.</p> <p>Please refer to MOE website for Secondary School Open House schedule, https://www.schoolbag.edu.sg/story/open-house-for-secondary-schools/</p>