



Gan Eng Seng Primary School

PSLE AL Scoring System

Subject-Based Banding

P4 Parent Engagement Session 8 Nov 2023



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WHAT IS THE INTENT OF THE PSLE?



A useful checkpoint at the end of primary school

A fair way to determine secondary school posting



Over the years, we have been changing the education system to help our students discover and develop their strengths, interests, abilities and talents while moving away from an over-emphasis on academic results. Our PSLE Scoring system reduces the over-emphasis on academic results by:

1

Reducing fine differentiation of students' examination results at a young age.

2

Recognising a student's level of achievement, regardless of how his/her peers have done.

3

Encouraging families to choose secondary schools holistically based on students' strengths, interests and learning needs.



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WHAT ARE ACHIEVEMENT LEVELs (AL)?

- Students with similar scores in each subject are grouped into scoring bands measured in 8 ALs.
- AL bands and mark ranges are set based on the learning objectives of the curriculum, and mirror the way we learn.

When we learn something new, after some initial practice, we often find ourselves improving significantly.

As we get better, the improvements become small steps, and finally, as we reach a high level, we inch just a little further, even after much learning and practice.


The ALs were designed to reflect this reality of learning. They help educators, students, and parents know how ready students are to access the curriculum at the next level.

AL	RAW MARK RANGE
1	≥ 90
2	85 – 89
3	80 – 84
4	75 – 79
5	65 – 74
6	45 – 64
7	20 – 44
8	< 20



HOW DOES THE PSLE AL SCORING SYSTEM WORK?

- The overall PSLE Score is made up of 4 subject Achievement Levels (ALs).
- The PSLE Score can range from 4 to 32, with 4 being the best.



Elena PSLE Score 14	
PSLE Subject	AL Score
English	2
Math	2
Foundation Science	AL A = 6
Mother Tongue Language	4



HOW DOES THE S1 POSTING WORK?

- Your child has **six choices** in selecting their secondary schools.
- Your child will be posted to a secondary school based on **academic merit, i.e., PSLE Score**, and their **choice order of schools**.
- If two or more students with the same PSLE Score vie for the last remaining place(s) in a school, the following tie-breakers are used in the following order:
 1. **CITIZENSHIP**
 2. **CHOICE ORDER OF SCHOOLS**
 3. **COMPUTERISED BALLOTING**
- The tie-breaker based on school choice order recognises the different considerations that families have in making school choices.





HOW DOES THE S1 POSTING WORK? FULL SUBJECT-BASED BANDING (FSBB) IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS FROM 2024

- Express, N(A) and N(T) streams which will be completely removed for 2024 Sec 1 cohort onwards
- Intent of FSBB : To ensure students learn at a suitable pace and are given the opportunity to interact with others regardless of their backgrounds, strengths, interests and learner profiles and form strong friendships.
- With FSBB, students learn each subject at the level that best caters to their overall strengths, interests and learning needs.
- Mixed form classes and common curriculum subjects (e.g. PE, Art, Music, CCE) in lower secondary
- Subjects (e.g. EL, Math, Science, MTL) to be offered at G1, G2 or G3 (G stands for General), based on their abilities
- At lower secondary levels, students are placed in form classes with a mix of students offering different subject levels.





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SUBJECT-BASED BANDING (P5 & P6) OFFERING DIFFERENT SUBJECT COMBINATIONS



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SUBJECT-BASED BANDING (P5 & P6)

PSLE subjects can be taken at Standard Level or Foundation Level based on the student's academic strengths and needs.

- **Standard Level:** Allow students to focus on and stretch their potential in the subjects they are relatively stronger in.
- **Foundation Level:** Allow students to build the fundamentals in the subjects they have difficulty coping with.
- The PSLE AL scoring system **will not change** the considerations for deciding on a student's subject combination at P4/ P5.



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How Does Subject-Based Banding (P5 & P6) Work?

- **P4 – Student sits for P4 end-of-year examinations & school recommends a subject combination based on the student's results; parents fill up an option form indicating the preferred combination**
- **P5 – Student takes subject combination chosen by parents; school assesses student's ability to cope with the current subject combination at the end of the year & makes adjustments to subject combination, if necessary**
- **P6 – Student takes subject combination decided by the school**





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SUBJECT-BASED BANDING (P5 & P6)

How Does The School Decide On The Subject Combination To Recommend?

- Based on Student's Academic Performance
 - Based on Teachers' Feedback
-
- Student's performance in each subject
 - Student's aptitude and motivation
 - Student's ability to cope with a particular subject combination
 - Whether the subject combination facilitates the student's articulation to secondary school and beyond.



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SUBJECT-BASED BANDING (P5 & P6)

What Is The Advantage Of Offering Subjects At Foundation Level?

- Allows students to proceed at a pace they can manage for the subjects that they need support in.
- Motivates students to learn better as they are doing subjects that they are better able to cope
- Enables students to focus on building strong fundamentals in these subjects
- Better prepares students for progression to secondary school
- Offering subjects at Foundation level is not a disadvantage to the students.



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FOUNDATION LEVEL SUBJECT GRADES

- For the purpose of S1 posting, Foundation level AL A to AL C will be mapped to AL 6 to AL 8 of Standard level subjects respectively, to derive a student's overall PSLE Score.
- Similar to the current PSLE scoring system, this mapping is based on the learning and assessment load of the subjects, and informs students of their readiness to access the curriculum at the secondary level.

Foundation Level AL Reflected on Result Slip	Foundation Raw Mark Range	Equivalent Standard Subject AL	Standard Raw Mark Range
A	75 – 100	6	45-64
B	30 – 74	7	20-44
C	< 30	8	<20



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SUBJECT-BASED BANDING (P5 & P6)

Higher Mother Tongue Languages (HMTL) at P5 & P6

Students are offered HMTL at P5 & P6 if they:

- * show strong proficiency and interest in MTL as observed by teachers
- * have done well for all other subjects



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HCL POSTING ADVANTAGE TO SAP SCHOOLS

Students who obtained a Distinction/Merit/Pass for HCL at the PSLE and an overall PSLE Score of 14 or better will receive a posting advantage when applying to SAP schools.

Students will be considered for admission to SAP schools in the following order:

1st



7

NO HCL

Students with better PSLE Scores will be posted first, even if they did not take HCL

2nd



8

DISTINCTION

3rd



8

MERIT

4th



8

PASS

Amongst students with the same PSLE Score, those with better HCL grades will be posted first

5th



8

NO HCL

6th



9

DISTINCTION

- Students' HCL results are denoted as 'D' (Distinction), 'M' (Merit) or 'P' (Pass).
- Students who obtain (i) a Distinction / Merit / Pass in HCL and (ii) a PSLE Score of 14 or better are eligible for posting advantage to SAP schools.
- Students are ranked taking into account their performance in HCL.
- This posting advantage applies before the tie-breakers for S1 Posting.





SUBJECT-BASED BANDING (P5 & P6)

What Subject Combinations Can A Student Be Offered?

Subject Combination*
4S HMT Standard English Language Standard Mathematics Standard Science Standard Mother Tongue Language Higher MT Language

Based on students' aptitude & attitude

Able to cope with all 4 subjects
& strong in Mother Tongue Language

Subject Combination*
4S Standard English Language Standard Mathematics Standard Science Standard Mother Tongue Language

Able to cope with all 4 subjects





SUBJECT-BASED BANDING (P5 & P6)

What Subject Combinations Can A Student Be Offered?

Subject Combination*
3S 1F(MA) Standard English Language Standard Mother Tongue Language Standard Science Foundation Mathematics

Based on students' aptitude & attitude

Able to cope with 3 subjects
but need more support for 1 subject
(Mathematics)

Subject Combination*
4F Foundation English Language Foundation Mathematics Foundation Science Foundation Mother Tongue Language

Able to cope with 3 subjects
but need more support for 1 subject
(Mother Tongue Language)





SUBJECT-BASED BANDING (P5 & P6)

What Subject Combinations Can A Student Be Offered?

Subject Combination*
2S 2F(MA,SC) Standard English Language Standard Mother Tongue Language Foundation Mathematics Foundation Science

Based on students' aptitude & attitude

Able to cope with 2 subjects
but need support for 2 subjects
(Mathematics & Science)

Subject Combination*
4F Foundation English Language Foundation Mathematics Foundation Science Foundation Mother Tongue Language

Need support in all 4 subjects





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SUBJECT-BASED BANDING (P5 & P6)

What We Need Parents/Guardians To Do.....

You would have received a PG notification from the school informing you of the P5 Subject Combination for your child.

- Please submit the form for the Subject Combination offered by the school via PG by **9 Nov 2023**.
- Contact Form Teacher if you wish to discuss the Subject Combination being offered to your child/ward



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We aim to give our GESPIans...

- ▶ A good start in life.
- ▶ A good start is not about academic preparation.
- ▶ Rather, it is about imbuing the right values and a love for learning in our children.
- ▶ We hope that our GESPIans will be excited about the lifetime of learning ahead.
- ▶ It is crucial that we work together to achieve this for our children.



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