

(A) Administration**1. Will the presentation slides shown during Placement Briefing be provided to parents?**

The information will be provided on the school website.

2. How many choices can a student select in the subject combination option form?

In the option form, each student can submit up to four choices. The subject combination choices should be made carefully in order of preference, and consideration of student's eligibility and strengths.

3. Is the allocation of subjects based on subject merit of End of Year Exam only, or Overall Sec 2 results?

Subject allocation by merit is based on that subject's Overall results.

4. How will students know which subject combination they are eligible for?

After End-of-Year examinations, students will be shown their Overall percentage scores for all subjects. This will allow students to check if they have met the criteria for subjects such as A Math and Pure Sciences, thereby knowing which subject combination they are eligible for.

5. Do students remain in their current Sec 2 class regardless of which combination they choose?

Students will have a change in form class as they progress into Upper Sec, depending on the subject combination they are allocated.

6. How many classes are there for combination A/B/C respectively?

In past 2 years, there were two classes of students allocated Combination A, one class for Combination B and one for Combination C.

7. Is going to JC a better option than Polytechnics?

Different pathways are designed to meet the diverse needs of all students. Students should explore the various options offered by each pathway and make an informed choice based on individual ability and passions.

8. What is Millenia Institute?

Millennia Institute offers a 3-year A level programme.

(B) Nature of Subjects**1. If my child does not take Mother Tongue Language, does he/she have to take another subject to replace it?**

Students who are exempted from Mother Tongue will have one fewer subject in total compared to their peers.

2. If a child is exempted from Mother Tongue Language, will it affect his/her choice of subject combination?

It will not affect his/her choice of subject combination.

3. If students do not take Higher Mother Tongue in Sec 2, will they be offered in Sec 3 or 4 if eligible?

For HMT, they will need to take the O levels at the end of Sec 3, so we only offer to students at end of Sec 1 or Sec 2.

4. What does 'elective subject' mean?

Elective subjects mean under the option of the subject combination, the student will only select one of the subjects offered.

For example, in the elective subject of A Math/Art, students can select only one but not both subjects in the combination.

5. What is minimum class size needed for an elective subject?

Minimum of 15 students.

6. What if a child is ineligible for A Math and there is not enough number of applicants for the other elective subjects to meet requirement of minimum class size?

The school will ensure all students have at least 7 subjects offered, including students who do not meet criteria for popular subjects.

7. What is Sci (PC) or Sci (CB)?

This is the shortened form of the names of the elective subjects Science (Physics, Chemistry) and Science (Chemistry, Biology). Although this is an elective subject, students must select either one but not both.

8. What is the difference between Pure Science and Science (Physics, Chemistry) or Science (Chemistry, Biology)?

For Pure Science subjects such as Physics, Chemistry or Biology, each is graded as a standalone subject. For Science (Physics, Chemistry) or Science (Chemistry, Biology), the scores for the two components, e.g., Chemistry & Biology in Science (Chemistry, Biology), are combined for an overall grade.

9. Does the school offer triple Sciences?

No. The school does not offer triple Sciences. This is upon consideration of students' well-being and that in the subject courses offered in JC, there is no requirement for A level students to take triple Science.

10. Can students who take Science (Phy, Chem) or Science (Chem, Bio) still go to JC when they are not taking Pure Science subjects?

Students taking Science (Phy, Chem) or Science (Chem, Bio) can still go to a JC. Each JC has different requirements for taking Science at H1 or H2 levels. Please refer to specific JC websites to see the requirements.

11. What does SSGY and SSHY stand for?

These are the shortened forms of the elective subjects Humanities (Social Studies, Geography) and Humanities (Social Studies, History). As this is an elective subject, students will select either one but not both.

12. If my child chooses SSHY, does it mean the subject consists of half the content from Social Studies and the other half of the content from History?

Yes, SSHY is a combined subject, results from each half to make up combined score for SSHY or Humanities (Social Studies, History).

13. For the Humanities subject, must the student take the combination with Social Studies or can a student just take Pure Humanities subjects?

In Humanities, Social Studies is a compulsory half module. Students will choose either Elective Geography or Elective History as the other half module. Pure Humanities is offered only as a second Humanities subject and is optional. It cannot replace Social Studies and Elective Geography/History as the main Humanities subject.

14. Can students who do not take Pure Geography at O Levels be able to cope with H2 Geography in the JC?

There are no pre-requisites to take Geography at A Levels, though students who have taken Geography at O Levels may be more familiar with a few topics?

15. What is the difference between Elementary Math (EM) and Additional Math (AM)?

EM is more focused on the basic fundamentals of Mathematics. Generally, workings involved in EM are shorter and simpler. AM is more abstract and requires a good knowledge and foundation in Algebra. Workings in AM require more in-depth understanding of algebraic rules, are longer and need more careful planning on the sequence of steps to proceed further.

16. What is POA?

POA stands for Principles of Accounts.

17. What do students study in POA or Art?

Details of subjects for Express course can be viewed from the MOE website: [Subjects for Express course | MOE](#)

18. For POA students, do they get exemptions if they take up accounting modules in the Polytechnic?

Taking POA at the O-Levels does not mean your child will be exempt from accounting modules in Polytechnics.

19. Is Art at O-Levels difficult?

It is recommended that students who choose to take Art at O-Levels should have passion for the subject and be willing to spend time and effort on the coursework.

20. Is Music offered in West Spring Secondary School?

No. We do not offer Music at Upper Secondary Level. However, students with strong musical inclination can opt to do at O level in another school, on top of the subjects they are allocated in West Spring Sec.

(C) Eligibility and Combination Selection**1. What should be the main considerations when choosing subject combinations?**

- **Consider Your Child's Interests and Goals:** It is important to choose subjects that align with what your child enjoys and is passionate about. This will help them stay motivated and more focused on their learning.
- **Encourage Them to Challenge Themselves:** If your child has a strong interest or talent in a particular subject, consider taking it at a higher level. This can help them grow their skills and boost their confidence.
- **Keep the Workload Manageable:** It's important to strike a balance. Make sure the combination of subjects is not too overwhelming, allowing your child to handle the demands of Upper Secondary without too much stress.
- **Seek Help When Needed:** If your child is unsure about their choices, encourage them to speak to teachers, the ECG counsellor, and you as parents. Having open discussions and getting advice from trusted sources will help them make a decision that feels right for them.

2. Should my child take on double or triple Science if he/she is interested in Medicine?

It's not necessary for your child to take Triple Science to pursue Medicine in Singapore. They can choose Double Science at the O-Levels or pursue a relevant polytechnic course that matches their interests.

Example Pathways:

- **Local University (NUS) Medicine:** For a direct degree in Medicine, your child will need a good H2 pass in Chemistry and a H2 pass in either Biology or Physics.
- **Polytechnic Pathways (e.g., Ngee Ann Polytechnic):** Diplomas like Biotechnology, Nursing, Biomedical Science, or Pharmaceutical Science are also good options for students interested in medical-related fields.

Taking Triple Science can be helpful, but it's more important to find a path that aligns with your child's strengths and interests while managing their workload.

3. Is it better to take Double Science rather than Combined Science to keep more post-secondary options open?

Combined Science (Two Subjects Combined)

- **What it is:** You study **two science subjects** together (like Physics and Chemistry, or Chemistry and Biology), and you get one combined grade for the two subjects.
- **Why it's good:**
 - **Easier workload:** Combined Science is less detailed, so it's a more manageable option if you're juggling other subjects or extracurriculars.
 - **Polytechnic options:** Combined Science (Physics and Chemistry, or Chemistry and Biology) meets the minimum pre-requisite for polytechnic courses, so you can still get into many science-related polytechnic programs (e.g., in fields like environmental science, nursing, or technology).
- **Why it might limit you:**
 - **JC H2 subject requirements:** If you want to pursue **H2 Physics, H2 Chemistry, or H2 Biology** at JC, you typically need to have studied those subjects separately at the secondary level. Some JCs may allow students with Combined Science to take H2 Science subjects, but **you might need to do self-bridging** to catch up with the A-Level syllabus. This can be extra work on top of your regular studies and might feel overwhelming as you try to catch up with the depth of knowledge required.
 - **Less depth:** Combined Science doesn't go into as much detail as Double Science, so it may not prepare you as well for advanced study in science at the A-Level or university, especially for courses that require specific subject knowledge.

Double Science (separate subjects) is **better if:**

- You're aiming for **H2 Science subjects at JC** (like H2 Physics, H2 Chemistry, or H2 Biology). JC typically requires you to have studied the individual sciences, and it's easier to transition to H2 with a solid foundation from Double Science.
- You want more in-depth knowledge of each science.
- You have a specific interest in science-related careers or university courses that require deeper subject knowledge.

Combined Science is **good if:**

- You want a **more balanced workload** or have other subjects you need to focus on.
- You plan to go to **polytechnic**—Combined Science meets the minimum requirement for most polytechnic courses, including those in health, technology, and other fields.
- You're not sure yet whether you want to specialize deeply in science at the A-Level.

Conclusion

- **For JC:** Double Science is the better option if you're looking at taking H2 Science subjects later on. Combined Science might require you to do extra bridging to catch up.
- **For Polytechnic:** Both Double Science and Combined Science meet the minimum requirements, so either will work, but Double Science may give you a bit more flexibility.

4. How does Mother Tongue Language (MTL) impact the progression to JC/ Polytechnic/ University?

- **Junior College (JC):** MTL is usually part of the H1 compulsory subjects in JC. It also factors into university admission, though *exceptions may apply. It's important to meet the MTL requirement to progress smoothly.
- **Polytechnic:** For most polytechnic courses, MTL is not part of the entry requirements, except for specific courses like the Diploma in Chinese Media & Communications or Diploma in Chinese Studies, where MTL proficiency is needed.
- **Local University Admission:** To be admitted to a local university, your child must meet the MTL requirement set by the universities. This could involve passing specific MTL papers or meeting certain language proficiency standards.

In short, while MTL is important, its requirements vary based on the next step your child takes. It's always a good idea to check the specific requirements of their desired path and make sure they're well-prepared.

5. Is Additional Mathematics (A Math) required for my child to progress to JC or Polytechnic?

- **For Junior College (JC):**
A Math can be counted as one of the L1R5 subjects for JC admission. If your child wants to take H2 Math in JC, they generally need A Math at the O-Level. However, some JCs may allow students to take H2 Math even without A Math. If your child plans to take H1 Math, A Math is not required.
- **For Polytechnic:**
A Math is not compulsory for all polytechnic courses. However, for certain diploma courses, especially in fields like Engineering or Computer Science, having A Math can be beneficial. It can also be counted as one of the two relevant subjects for the ELR2B2 aggregate. Ultimately, students only need one Mathematics subject (either E Math or A Math) to meet the polytechnic minimum entry requirements.

In short, A Math is helpful if your child is aiming for more advanced Math in JC or specific polytechnic courses, but it's not a strict requirement for all paths.

6. Is the Termly results taken into consideration for this placement exercise?

Yes, results from Term 1-3 will be considered as part of Overall score for calculating Overall percentile. The breakdown is as follows: WA1: 10%, WA2: 10%, WA3, 10%, EYE:70%

7. Which type of combination gives students a higher chance of eligibility to enter the Junior College (JC)?

All subject combinations offered will allow students to be eligible for application into JC provided they fulfil the requirements of $L1R4 \leq 16$.

8. Are the subject combinations offering enough subjects to allow students to be eligible for university courses?

All subject combinations offered will allow students to meet the entry requirement for Junior Colleges and Polytechnic.

9. Is Additional Mathematics (A Math) a compulsory subject for all Express classes?

No, it is not a compulsory subject.

10. What is the eligibility for A Math?

For students to be eligible to apply for A Math, their overall Math grade should minimally be a B (B3 or B4). However, being eligible does not mean that your child will be offered the subject. Priority will be based on merit.

11. If my child is eligible for the subject, does it mean that he/she will offer that subject? For e.g. If he/she scores B4 for Math, does that mean he/she will be offered A Math?

No, being eligible does not mean that your child will be offered the subject. Priority will be based on merit. For example, if many of the students who opted for A Math are scoring above B for Sec 2 Math, then the subject will be allocated first to the student who have the higher Overall score for the subject.

12. Is Combination A offering Two Pure Science subjects?

Yes, students taking Combination A will study Chemistry and either Biology OR Physics.

13. For Combination C, is POA a mandatory subject?

Yes, all students will take POA in Combination C.

14. How many students will be offered Combination A/B/C/D respectively?

Each year, the number of students allocated to each combination will be dependent on students' choice and qualification for eligibility criteria. Past years' data might not necessarily be an accurate gauge of student allocation in current exercise.

15. If a student does not get his/her choice of subject combination, does he/she get to choose again?

All students are given multiple choices on the option form. It is encouraged that students and parents make strategic decisions by choosing from more than one combination type. In the scenario where the student does not meet the criteria for all choices submitted, the school will make the decision to allocate the combination that the student can qualify for.

16. Is there an appeal process in case my child does not qualify for one of the criteria?

The appeal process will be made known to students after the first Placement Exercise result is released. However, appeal cases are considered only on a case-by-case basis.