

Sharing on Subject Based Banding (SBB)

P3 and P4



Summary

- **What is SBB?**
- **How does SBB work?**
- **SBB and Secondary School Admission**
- **Higher Mother Tongue**



What is SBB?

Every child is unique, and has different aptitudes, capabilities and talents. Our schools believe in providing a balanced education that caters to the different abilities of each child so that we can prepare him for life.

Subject-based Banding was introduced as a refinement to the streaming process to help each child realise his potential, based on his interests and strengths.



What is SBB?

- **SBB provides greater flexibility for your child by offering him the option of a combination standard and foundation subjects, depending on his strengths.**
- **Such a choice will allow your child to focus on and stretch his potential in the subjects that he is strong in while building up the fundamentals in the subjects that he needs more support in.**

How does SBB work?

At Primary 4

Student sits for school-based examinations

School recommends a subject combination based on the student's results.
Parents fill up an option form indicating the preferred combination.



At Primary 5

Student takes subject combination chosen by parents

English, Mathematics, Science and Mother Tongue Language
are available at standard and foundation levels.

Higher Mother Tongue Language is also available.

School assesses student's ability to cope with the current subject
combination at the end of the year. Adjustments to the number of
standard and foundation subjects can be made, if necessary.



At Primary 6

**Student takes subject combination decided by his school and sits for the
Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) at the end of Primary 6**

Option Form



MERIDIAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Our Ref: MP8/LM/2017/077

8 November 2017

Dear Parent / Guardian,

PART 1

SCHOOL'S RECOMMENDATION ON PUPIL'S SUBJECT COMBINATION AT PRIMARY 5, 2018

Name of Pupil: _____ ID No. _____ Class: P4 _____

1. Your child/ward has completed four years of primary education. Based on his/her academic records and our assessment of his/her performance, we recommend that he/she takes the following subject combination in Primary 5 next year as indicated by a tick (✓) in the box below:

Option	Subject Combination	Recommended Option
1	English Language, Mathematics, Science, Mother Tongue Language, Higher Mother Tongue Language	
2	English Language, Mathematics, Science, Mother Tongue Language	
3	English Language, Mathematics, Science, Foundation Mother Tongue Language	
4	English Language, Foundation Mathematics, Foundation Science, Mother Tongue Language	
5	Foundation English Language, Foundation Mathematics, Foundation Science, Foundation Mother Tongue Language	

2. However, if you wish, you may choose an alternative subject combination for your child/ward.
3. Please indicate your option by completing Part 2 of this letter, and return it to your child's/ward's form teacher by **Friday, 10 Nov 2017**. If you have chosen an alternative subject combination, your child's/ward's form teacher will contact you to arrange for a meeting on Monday, 13 Nov 2017, to discuss your option.
4. Should you need further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact your child's/ward's form teacher through the school at 6538 2125.

Ms Liza Rahmat
Principal

School Stamp

PART 2

PARENT'S OPTION ON PUPIL'S SUBJECT COMBINATION AT PRIMARY 5, 2018

1. I have taken note of your recommendation in Part 1. The subject combination I have opted for my child at Primary 5 next year is indicated by a tick (✓) in the box below.

Option	Subject Combination	Parent's Option
1	English Language, Mathematics, Science, Mother Tongue Language, Higher Mother Tongue Language	
2	English Language, Mathematics, Science, Mother Tongue Language	
3	English Language, Mathematics, Science, Foundation Mother Tongue Language	
4	English Language, Foundation Mathematics, Foundation Science, Mother Tongue Language	
5	Foundation English Language, Foundation Mathematics, Foundation Science, Foundation Mother Tongue Language	

2. I understand that this option is only given once at the end of Primary 4. Any subsequent change of subject combination will be based solely on my child's/ward's performance and the professional judgement of the school at the end of Primary 6.

Parent's Name (In block letters)

Parent's Signature

Date

SBB and Sec Sch Admission

- **Progression to secondary level depends on your child's PSLE score.**
- **The different expectations of standard and foundation subjects will be taken into account when your child's PSLE score is calculated.**
- **If you are not taking HMT at PSLE, you may also be offered HMT at secondary school based on PSLE results.**

Higher Mother Tongue

Admission to Special Assistance Plan (SAP) Schools

- **Students in the top 30% of the Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) cohort who take Higher Chinese at the PSLE will be given bonus points for admission to SAP schools according to the following:**
 - **Distinction: 3 points**
 - **Merit: 2 points**
 - **Pass: 1 point**

Higher Mother Tongue

Special Assistance Plan (SAP) Secondary Schools

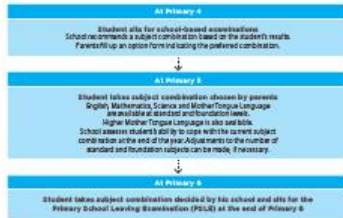
1. Anglican High
2. Catholic High
3. CHIJ St Nicholas Girls'
4. Chung Cheng High (Main)
5. Dunman High
6. Hwa Chong Institution
7. Maris Stella High
8. Nanyang Girls' High
9. River Valley High
10. Nan Hua High
11. Nan Chiau High

SBB Brochure

<https://www.moe.gov.sg/docs/default-source/document/education/primary/files/sbb-english-2017.pdf>



HOW DOES SUBJECT-BASED BANDING WORK?



Ministry of Education
Singapore

1 North Bridge Road
Singapore 188757
Tel: 6733 3333
Email: contact@moe.gov.sg
www.moe.gov.sg

The information in this brochure is correct as of April 2017.
 Produced by Communications and Engagement Group, MOE



For Primary Schools
SUBJECT-BASED BANDING
 Catering to Your Child's Abilities

Every child is unique, and has different aptitudes, capabilities and talents. Our schools believe in providing a balanced education that caters to the different abilities of each child so that we can prepare him for life.

Subject-based Banding was introduced as a refinement to the streaming process to help each child realise his potential, based on his interests and strengths.



WHAT IS SUBJECT-BASED BANDING?

Subject-based Banding provides greater flexibility for your child by offering him the option of a combination of standard and foundation subjects, depending on his strengths. For example, if he excels in English and Mother Tongue but needs more support in Mathematics and Science, he may choose to take the first two subjects at the standard level and the others at the foundation level.

Such a choice will allow your child to focus on and stretch his potential in those subjects that he is strong in while building up the fundamentals in the subjects that he needs more support in.

WHY INTRODUCE SUBJECT-BASED BANDING?

- To recognise the different abilities of students and give them greater flexibility to concentrate on the subjects they are good at.
- To encourage more interaction among students with different strengths.



SUBJECT-BASED BANDING AND SECONDARY SCHOOL ADMISSION: HOW ARE THEY RELATED?

Progression to secondary level depends on your child's PSLE score. The different expectations of standard and foundation subjects will be taken into account when your child's PSLE score is calculated. Previously, students from (P4) stream would mostly enter the Normal (Technical) course at secondary level.

With Subject-based Banding, some students with clear strengths in some areas are able to offer at least one subject at the standard level. If they excel in these subjects, they will then have the opportunity to pursue higher-level options at secondary school.

Offering subjects at the foundation level is not a disadvantage to your child. It enables him to focus on building up strong fundamentals in these subjects and better prepares him for progression to secondary school.



WHAT ARE SOME CHOICES AVAILABLE?

If your child (for PE assessment)	Your child may be recommended to take
Passes all 4 subjects and performs very well in Mother Tongue Language	4 standard subjects + Higher Mother Tongue Language
Passes all 4 subjects	4 standard subjects
Passes 3 subjects	4 standard subjects
Passes 2 subjects or less	4 standard subjects, or 3 standard subjects + 1 other foundation subject, or 3 standard subjects + 2 other foundation subjects, or 1 standard subject + 3 other foundation subjects, or 4 foundation subjects

WE ARE ALWAYS HERE TO HELP

Schools will help recommend subject combinations, based on your child's needs and abilities.

If you have any questions on Subject-based Banding, you should approach your child's school for help.



SUPPORT AND CONTACT

For more information, please visit the MOE website at www.moe.gov.sg/education/primary/subject-based-banding.

You can also call the MOE Customer Service Centre at 6733 3333 or connect with us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/moes.english

Thank you!

