

PRIMARY SCHOOL EDUCATION



Ministry of Education
SINGAPORE

Preparing Your Child For Tomorrow



Your Child's Best Interests at Heart

The primary school years are an important phase of your child's education. During these formative years, the Ministry of Education (MOE) wants to build every child's confidence and desire to learn. Our curriculum aims to provide your child with a broad range of learning experiences that will help him to discover his talents and interests.

PRIMARY SCHOOL EDUCATION AT A GLANCE

- Six years of compulsory education.
- Subject-based Banding to cater to children with different strengths.
- Co-curricular Activities and Values in Action activities to provide a holistic education.
- Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) at the end of six years.
- Singapore Citizens need not pay school fees, but a standard monthly miscellaneous fee of \$6.50, and a second-tier miscellaneous fee capped at \$6.50 will be payable.

For more information on school fees payable for your child, please visit www.moe.gov.sg/admissions/international-students/general-info#monthly-school-fees.

YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATION MILESTONES

Primary

Pre-Pri 1

- Choosing a Primary School

Pri 4

- Choosing a Subject Combination

Pri 6

- PSLE Certification
- Choosing a Secondary School

Secondary

Sec 2

- Choosing a Subject Combination

Completion of Secondary Education

- Common National Examination Certification
- Choosing a Post-Secondary Educational Institution

A note for readers: The masculine pronouns ('him', 'he', 'his') in this publication are used as gender-neutral pronouns.



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Ministry of Education
SINGAPORE

The Ministry of Education formulates and implements policies on education structure, curriculum, pedagogy and assessment. We oversee the development and management of Government-funded schools, the Institute of Technical Education, polytechnics and autonomous universities. We also fund academic research.

Schooling for Every Child

In Singapore, every child receives a six-year compulsory primary school education, which builds a strong foundation to develop him to his fullest potential and to prepare him for future learning and work.

To help each child thrive in a digital-rich, diverse and globalised environment, our schools develop in him 21st Century Competencies and nurture him to become:

- a **confident person** who has a strong sense of right and wrong, is adaptable and resilient, knows himself, is discerning in judgment, thinks independently and critically, and communicates effectively;
- a **self-directed** learner who questions, reflects, perseveres and takes responsibility for his own learning;
- an **active contributor** who is able to work effectively in teams, is innovative, exercises initiative, takes calculated risks and strives for excellence; and
- a **concerned citizen** who is rooted to Singapore, has a strong sense of civic responsibility, is informed about Singapore and the world, and takes an active part in bettering the lives of others around him.



Nurturing Our Young for the Future



In school, your child will be able to gain the knowledge, skill sets, competencies and values he needs to thrive in the 21st century.

Our Framework for 21st Century Competencies and Student Outcomes encapsulates values and competencies which we have identified as being fundamental in the development of every child. The Framework incorporates:

- **Core values**
(respect, responsibility, resilience, integrity, care, harmony);
- **Social and emotional competencies**
(self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship management, responsible decision-making); and
- **Emerging 21st Century Competencies**
(critical and inventive thinking; communication, collaboration and information skills; civic literacy, global awareness and cross-cultural skills).

All these values and competencies are integral to the total curriculum.

Our curriculum is designed to inculcate these values in your child and nurture the competencies through various subject disciplines, Character and Citizenship Education (CCE), enrichment programmes, and other informal learning experiences in school.

The diverse range of Co-curricular Activities (CCAs) offered in each school also provides another platform for your child to acquire and apply these values and competencies, while discovering his interests and talents.

We have also strengthened the quality of Physical Education, Art and Music education for your child's holistic development. Your child will get to develop physical robustness, enhance his creative and expressive capacities, and shape his personal, cultural and social identities.

Curriculum for Well-Rounded Learning

The primary school curriculum is designed to give your child a strong foundation that includes:

- Nurturing sound values;
- Loving Singapore; and
- Developing literacy and numeracy.

The curriculum offered by the Ministry focuses on three main aspects of education – subject disciplines, knowledge skills and character development.

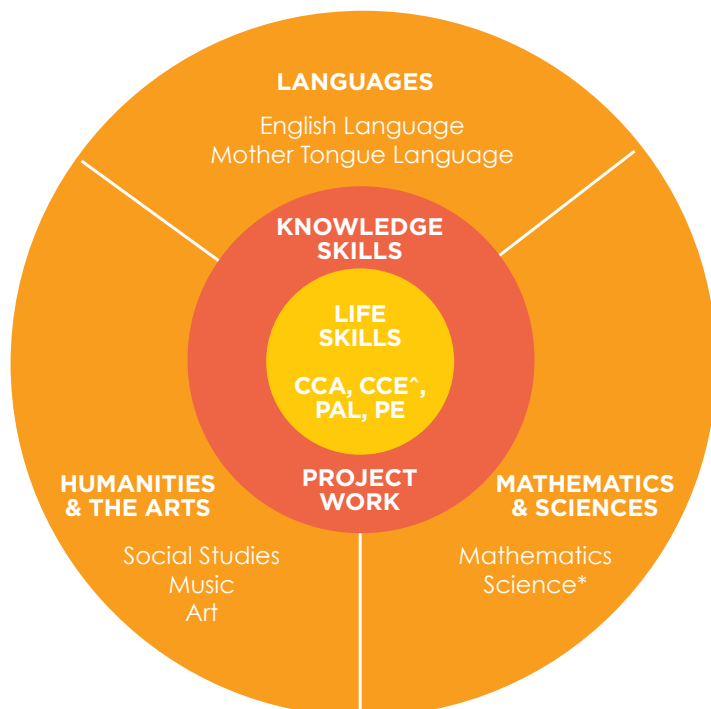
- **Subject disciplines** comprise subject areas such as languages, humanities and the arts, and mathematics and sciences, designed to give your child a good grounding in different fields of study.
- **Knowledge skills** focus on developing your child's thinking and communication skills. Knowledge skills are taught through a variety of subjects and often through a project-work approach. This enables your child to tap into his knowledge skills, and clearly demonstrate what he has acquired, either individually or collaboratively in teams.
- **Character development** is facilitated through daily interactions, as well as the different learning experiences planned by the school. These experiences focus on instilling sound values and building character in your child. Your child will have many opportunities to develop values and skills for life and civic responsibility through Character and Citizenship Education, and Co-curricular Activities.

Following the introduction of **Subject-based Banding (Primary)**, your child will be offered English Language, Mother Tongue Language, Mathematics and Science as either Foundation or Standard subjects at Primary 5 and 6, depending on his learning needs and strengths. Students with aptitude and interest may also be offered Higher Mother Tongue Language.





PRIMARY SCHOOL CURRICULUM



SUBJECTS EXAMINED IN PSLE[#]

Standard Subjects:

English Language, Mother Tongue Language, Mathematics, Science

Foundation Subjects:

Foundation English Language, Foundation Mother Tongue Language, Foundation Mathematics, Foundation Science

Optional Subject:

Higher Mother Tongue Language

LEGEND

CCA	Co-curricular Activities
CCE	Character and Citizenship Education
PAL	Programme for Active Learning
PE	Physical Education

[#] Students offer Standard or Foundation subjects depending on their learning needs and strengths in each subject.

^{*} Science is taught from Primary 3 onwards.

[^] CCE includes National Education (NE), Values in Action (VIA) and Form Teacher Guidance Period (FTGP).

Language Mastery



ENGLISH AND MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGES

Your child will learn English as a first language in primary school. English is the lingua franca of international business, science and technology. Therefore, a strong foundation in the English Language remains an essential skill to develop in our young.

Your child will learn his Mother Tongue Language (Chinese Language, Malay Language or Tamil Language) as a second language. Bilingualism, a cornerstone of our education system, has been a valuable asset to our students, enabling them to tap on the opportunities that can be found in the global environment.

With more Primary 1 students coming from households where English is the dominant language spoken at home, we will continue to refine the teaching of Mother Tongue Languages. Schools adopt differentiated teaching approaches to cater to students from different home-language backgrounds.

We promote the use of the Mother Tongue Languages, with greater emphasis on listening and speaking skills.

REVISED MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGE CURRICULUM: KEY FEATURES

CHINESE LANGUAGE CURRICULUM	MALAY LANGUAGE CURRICULUM	TAMIL LANGUAGE CURRICULUM
• Emphasis on listening, speaking, reading and writing. • Emphasis on interaction skills. • Teaching tailored to meet the different learning needs of students. • More engaging and appealing teaching materials that capture students' interest.		
• Modular approach where all students will take the Core Module; students who require more support can take Bridging/Reinforcement Modules; students with interest and ability to go further can take Enrichment Modules.	• Students will have the opportunity to progress to different levels of achievement in their learning.	• Students will have the opportunity to progress to different levels of achievement in their learning. They will also be given more opportunities to practise Spoken Tamil.

Differentiated Learning Environment

LEARNING SUPPORT PROGRAMMES

Schools have Learning Support Programmes (LSP) for students entering Primary 1, to ensure that help is provided for those who need it.

The LSP for English provides additional support for students with weak literacy skills. Students attend lessons one period a day in small groups, and are taught by specially trained teachers using strategies that will improve their reading ability.

The LSP for Mathematics provides additional support to students who need help in acquiring basic numeracy skills. Students are taught in smaller classes during their regular mathematics periods or supplementary lessons by specially trained teachers.

PROGRAMMES FOR INTELLECTUALLY GIFTED STUDENTS

The Gifted Education Programme (GEP) caters to students who are intellectually gifted.

Your child's school will invite him to participate in a Screening Exercise when he is in Primary 3, as part of a two-stage Identification Exercise, to select students for the GEP.

GEP students will be placed in selected primary schools from Primary 4 to Primary 6. The enriched curriculum in the GEP is built upon the subject syllabi of the regular curriculum, and taught by teachers selected and trained by MOE's Gifted Education Branch.

GEP students have many opportunities to learn and play with fellow non-GEP students during planned lessons and activities for Mother Tongue Language, Physical Education, Art and Music, as well as Values in Action (VIA) projects and CCA.

For learners with high ability in specific areas, who are not in the GEP, there are opportunities to enrich their learning through both school-based and MOE centrally organised activities during or outside of school hours.



SUBJECT-BASED BANDING (PRIMARY)

Subject-based Banding for Primary Schools begins in Primary 5 and continues till Primary 6.

It provides greater flexibility for your child by offering him the option of a combination of Standard and/or Foundation subjects, depending on his strengths. This will help him focus on and stretch his potential in the subjects that he is strong in, while building up the fundamentals in the subjects in which he needs more support.

HOW DOES SUBJECT-BASED BANDING (PRIMARY) 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 Language, 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.



Learn Through Play



The MOE has progressively implemented a series of enhancements to primary school education from 2009, which incorporate the recommendations made by the Primary Education Review and Implementation (PERI) committee. These enhancements aim to make learning more enjoyable and meaningful for your child, and seek to develop in him a balance of skills and values.

MORE ENGAGING TEACHING METHODS

Our teachers are adopting more creative learning strategies in the curriculum to make lessons come to life. For example, your child will be able to learn mathematical and science concepts through investigative tasks and real-life activities, and language skills through role-play and drama.

FORM TEACHER GUIDANCE PERIOD

As Form Teachers play a central role in shaping the development of their young charges, the Form Teacher Guidance Period (FTGP) has been introduced in all primary schools since 2012.

The allocated one period per week carves out time for more quality teacher-student interaction, and

allows teachers to equip students with social and emotional competencies.

PROGRAMME FOR ACTIVE LEARNING

To encourage learning beyond the classroom, we offer the Programme for Active Learning (PAL), which will give your child the chance to discover new interests, learn new skills and develop his character.

Your child will have the opportunity during curriculum time to try out activities in sports and outdoor education, as well as in the performing and visual arts.

All primary schools offer PAL to their Primary 1 and 2 students.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Co-curricular Activities (CCAs) are an integral part of a well-rounded education and play an important role in building character. There is a whole spectrum of exciting CCAs for your child to choose from, ranging from physical sports, uniformed groups, visual and performing arts, to clubs and societies. They help nurture in your child qualities such as resilience, cross-cultural awareness, confidence and creativity.

HOLISTIC ASSESSMENT TO SUPPORT LEARNING

Assessment is integral to the learning process.

Holistic Assessment emphasises the development of skills and values, as well as the acquisition of knowledge to enable your child to build greater confidence and nurture a stronger intrinsic motivation to learn. This will in turn help your child to develop his potential.

With Holistic Assessment, schools move beyond tests and examinations, and use other appropriate assessment modes to provide useful information that supports your child's learning and holistic development.

At Primary 1 and 2, there will be no examinations and weighted assessments* so that your child can ease into formal schooling more smoothly. Teachers will continue to leverage assessments to check for students' understanding, and provide timely feedback to improve learning. To provide your child with adequate time and space to adjust to the increased curriculum

* Weighted assessments refer to assessments where the scores form part of the computation of a student's overall results in a subject for the year.

demands during the Primary 3 and 5 transition years of learning, mid-year examinations will be removed for these levels by 2021.

As parents, you will receive more meaningful and regular feedback that highlights areas where your child has done well, and also ways to improve his learning.

SINGLE-SESSION PRIMARY SCHOOLS

The majority of government primary schools have transitioned to a single-session structure in 2016. This means schools will have more time and space to focus on non-academic aspects such as leadership training and character building.

A single-session structure does not mean a full day of school; it only means an extension of one to two hours on certain days to facilitate your child's non-academic development. Schools are given the flexibility to plan these activities based on their specific needs.

New infrastructure will be put in place to support these non-academic activities. School facilities and spaces are being redesigned, and this includes outdoor learning spaces and additional venues for performing arts.



Choosing the Right School



To help you choose a school that matches the needs of your child, here are some possible factors to consider.

DISTANCE TO SCHOOL

A shorter distance from the school to your home means a shorter travelling time and reduced transport costs. It also provides better opportunities for you to forge a strong relationship with the school of your choice.

Stronger ties with the school means better co-operation in raising and educating your child.

For a list of schools near (within 1 km and 1-to-2 km) your residential address, visit the Singapore Land Authority's One Map School Query Service (www.onemap.sg).

MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGES

There are Mother Tongue Language options offered at the school. Parents should note that:

- Chinese Language is offered in all schools
- Malay Language is offered in all except Special Assistance Plan schools
- Tamil Language is offered in most schools, but do confirm this with the school of your choice

YOUR CHILD'S INTERESTS

Consider your child's non-academic interests like sports, performing arts, music and technology, and find out if

the school offers activities that match these interests.

- **Co-curricular Activities**

Schools offer a variety of Co-curricular Activities that include sports and games, uniformed groups, and visual and performing arts groups, and clubs and societies.

- **School-based Programmes**

If your child has interests in areas such as sports or the arts, you may wish to find out about the schools that offer distinctive programmes in these areas.

SCHOOL IDENTITY

Each school has its own unique strengths. Learning about the school will enable you to find out about the:

- School's vision and mission
- Culture of the school
- Parent Support Groups

AFFILIATED SCHOOLS

Some primary schools (mostly those with religious/clan associations) have close ties with certain secondary schools, in the form of affiliation.

Your child can enjoy priority for admission to the secondary school affiliated to his primary school, provided he meets the school's admission criteria, and he indicates the affiliated secondary school as his first choice.

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE PLAN SCHOOLS

Special Assistance Plan schools nurture in their students a deep understanding of the Chinese Language, culture and heritage, and enable them to be effectively bilingual in both English and Chinese languages.

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS (SEN)

The Compulsory Education Act provides for compulsory primary education in Singapore. Your child must attend a national primary school (government or government-aided primary school or government-funded special education (SPED) school) regularly if they are:

- of compulsory school age (above 6 years old and under 15 years old);
- a Singapore Citizen; and
- living in Singapore,

unless they have been granted exemption.

This requirement has been extended to children with

moderate-to-severe special educational needs (SEN) born after 1 January 2012, since 2019.

Children with special educational needs may require additional help and support to adapt socially or learn in school. Understanding your child's needs, strengths, and difficulties can help you identify the right kind of support for him/her. You can find out more about your child's needs by speaking to your child's teachers and professionals working with your child. An assessment by a qualified professional is the best way to get a clear diagnosis and recommendation for support. An assessment is also necessary to apply to a SPED school.

Check with your healthcare professional that he/she adheres to the Professional Practice Guidelines on psycho-educational assessment and placement which can be found here: <https://www.moe.gov.sg/docs/default-source/document/education/special-education/files/professional-practice-guidelines.pdf>



Professional Practice Guidelines





For more information, read "Which School for My Child? A Parent's Guide for Children with Special Educational Needs" at: <https://www.moe.gov.sg/docs/default-source/document/education/special-education/files/parents-guide-children-special-educational-needs.pdf>



Which School
for My Child? A
Parent's Guide for
Children with Special
Educational Needs

SUPPORT IN MAINSTREAM SCHOOLS

Support is available in all mainstream schools for students with mild SEN, such as Dyslexia, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), mild Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), hearing loss, visual or physical impairment.

These students are likely to be able to cope with the national curriculum and learn in large-group settings. All primary schools have teachers trained in special needs and Allied Educators (Learning and Behavioural

Support) to help students with SEN integrate into the school environment. Schools also have access to MOE psychologists who provide consultation and advice on supporting these students.

Students with dyslexia are identified at the end of Primary 2 and are supported through the School-based Dyslexia Remediation (SDR) programme at Primary 3 and 4. They can also access the MOE-subsidised Main Literacy Programme conducted by the Dyslexia Association of Singapore.

Students with social or behavioural difficulties have access to community health services through their schools. One such service is the Response, Early Intervention and Assessment in Community Mental Health (REACH) provided by the Institute of Mental Health.

Students with hearing loss, and visual or physical impairment can access school-based itinerant support services provided by AWWA Ltd and Singapore Association of the Deaf. Assistive technological devices

such as Frequency Modulation (FM) equipment, electronic magnifiers, talking calculators etc. are also made available to support students' learning needs. Designated mainstream schools provide specialised support for students with moderate to profound hearing loss or visual impairment, who are able to access the national curriculum*:

- Mayflower Primary School has specially trained teachers to support students with moderate-to-profound hearing loss and who use signing as their primary mode of communication.
- There are also designated secondary schools equipped to support students with visual impairment or hearing loss at secondary level.

Please see the Primary School Education Insert in the back cover pocket for the list of schools with barrier free accessibility. You may also access information on the schools in SchoolFinder at <https://beta.moe.gov.sg/schoolfinder/>.



SchoolFinder

* Lighthouse School and Canossian School are SPED schools that support students with moderate-to-profound visual impairment and hearing loss, who are able to access the national curriculum.

SUPPORT IN SPECIAL EDUCATION SCHOOLS

Special Education (SPED) schools offer customised curriculum and educational pathways to cater to the diverse needs of children with moderate-to-severe SEN. SPED schools are structured to optimise their students' potential and abilities for independent living, continual learning, and meaningful work.

Support available in SPED schools includes smaller class sizes with specialised instruction and in-class support, as well as therapy support services from professionals such as speech and language therapists, occupational therapists, psychologists and social workers. The schools are also equipped with facilities such as hydrotherapy pool and vocational training kitchens, to suit the needs of students. There are 19 government-funded SPED schools run by Voluntary Welfare Organisations.

NEED TO KNOW MORE?

Learn more about the support available in SPED schools at: <https://www.moe.gov.sg/docs/default-source/document/education/special-education/files/special-education-for-exceptional-lives.pdf>



Special Education for Exceptional Lives

Students attending SPED schools are also eligible for the same level of financial assistance as their peers in mainstream schools, including public transportation subsidies. Refer to <https://www.moe.gov.sg/education/special-education/what-financial-support-is-available-for-sped-school-students> for more information.



Financial assistance for students attending SPED school

If you'd like to know about available transport schemes for students with disabilities, visit: <https://www.sgenable.sg/pages/content.aspx?path=/schemes/transport/>



Transport schemes



Financing Your Child's Schooling

FEES

School and miscellaneous fees in our local schools have been kept affordable so that every child can enjoy the benefits of primary school education.

2019 SCHOOL FEES AND MISCELLANEOUS FEES: MONTHLY FEES PAYABLE IN GOVERNMENT AND GOVERNMENT-AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS

	SCHOOL FEES	STANDARD MISCELLANEOUS FEES	SECOND-TIER MISCELLANEOUS FEES ¹
Singapore Citizen	\$0	\$6.50	\$6.50 (Your child may use his Edusave account to pay the second-tier miscellaneous fees)
Singapore PR	\$180.00	\$6.50	\$6.50
International Student (ASEAN)	\$440.00	\$6.50	\$6.50
International Student	\$700.00	\$6.50	\$6.50

¹ Second-tier miscellaneous fees are decided by schools up to a cap of 100% of the standard miscellaneous fees.

For more information on school fees payable for your child, please visit www.moe.gov.sg/admissions/international-students/general-info#monthly-school-fees

EDUSAVE SCHEME

The Edusave Scheme maximises educational opportunities for all Singaporean children by providing both the children and schools with funds to pay for enrichment programmes, or to purchase additional resources. It also rewards those who perform well, or who make good progress in their academic and non-academic work.

Your child will receive an annual contribution in his Edusave account, if he is a Singapore Citizen and aged 7 to 16 and enrolled at primary and secondary levels in MOE-funded schools. The amount contributed for 2019 is \$230 for primary-level students.

EDUSAVE PUPILS FUND	EDUSAVE GRANTS
Your child may use the funds in his Edusave account to pay for: • Enrichment programmes organised by his school; and • Second-tier miscellaneous fees in government or government-aided primary schools.	Your child's school will also receive annual grants to purchase teaching tools or organise enrichment activities that will benefit your child.

EDUSAVE AWARDS

The Edusave Awards recognise students' achievements in academic and non-academic domains and encourage them to continue to excel. Your child may qualify for the Edusave Awards if he is a Singapore Citizen and performs well in the following areas in school.

EDUSAVE AWARDS	ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA	VALUE OF AWARD
• Edusave Character Award	Up to 2% of students in each school who demonstrated exemplary character and outstanding personal qualities through their behaviour and actions.	• \$200 for Pri 1 to Pri 3 • \$350 for Pri 4 to Pri 6
• Edusave Scholarship	Students who are within the top 10% of their school's level and course in terms of academic performance, and have demonstrated good conduct.	• \$350 for Pri 5 to Pri 6
• Edusave Awards for Achievement, Good Leadership and Service	Up to 10% of students from each school who have demonstrated leadership qualities, service to community and schools, excellence in non-academic activities, and good conduct.	• \$250 for Pri 4 to Pri 6
• Edusave Merit Bursary	<u>FOR PRIMARY 1 AND 2 STUDENTS</u> Students who consistently demonstrated positive learning dispositions in the course of the year, have demonstrated good conduct and whose monthly household income does not exceed \$6,900 (or Per Capita Income* does not exceed \$1,725). <u>FOR PRIMARY 3 TO 6 STUDENTS</u> Students who are within the top 25% of their school's level and course in terms of academic performance, have demonstrated good conduct and whose monthly household income does not exceed \$6,900 (or Per Capita Income* does not exceed \$1,725).	• \$200 for Pri 1 & Pri 2 • \$200 for Pri 3 • \$250 for Pri 4 to Pri 6
• Edusave Good Progress Award	<u>FOR PRIMARY 2 AND 3 STUDENTS</u> Students who do not qualify for Edusave Merit Bursary but showed the greatest improvement in learning disposition in the course of the year and demonstrated good conduct. <u>FOR PRIMARY 4 TO 6 STUDENTS</u> Students who are within the top 10% of their school's level and course in terms of improvement in academic performance and have demonstrated good conduct.	• \$100 for Pri 2 to Pri 3 • \$150 for Pri 4 to Pri 6

* Per Capita Income is the Gross Household Income divided by the number of household members, which include the student, his parents, unmarried siblings and grandparents.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE SCHEMES

Financial assistance schemes are available to ensure that no child is denied an education because of his financial situation. The MOE Financial Assistance Scheme (FAS) provides needy students with free textbooks, school attire, transport subsidy and waiver of standard miscellaneous fees. Primary school students on MOE FAS are also provided meal subsidies under the School Meals Programme.

In addition, schools provide discretionary assistance using school-based funds. This school-based assistance can benefit those who do not meet the qualifying criteria for the MOE FAS, as well as provide additional assistance to those on the MOE FAS who need further aid. Parents and students can approach the schools directly if they require financial assistance.

MOE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME (FAS) FOR GOVERNMENT AND GOVERNMENT-AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL

ELIGIBILITY	STANDARD MISCELLANEOUS FEES	TEXTBOOK	SCHOOL ATTIRE	MEALS	TRANSPORT
Family with gross household income not exceeding \$2,750 per month or Per Capita Income* not exceeding \$690 per month	100% waived	Free	Free	Subsidies for seven meals per school week	Students taking school bus: 50% of school-bus fares Students taking public transport: \$10 transport credit per month, up to \$120 per annum

* Per Capita Income is the Gross Household Income divided by the number of household members, which include the student, his parents, unmarried siblings and grandparents.



OPPORTUNITY FUND

Beyond the financial assistance schemes, MOE provides the Opportunity Fund which our schools, ITE and polytechnics can use for the provision of enrichment activities and other co-curricular development opportunities for Singaporean students from less-advantaged backgrounds. The Fund can also be used to subsidise the purchase of computers for needy students in our schools under the IMDA's NEU PC Plus Programme. This ensures that they will not be denied learning opportunities due to family circumstances.

Parents and Schools as Partners



Tips on how you can support
your child's educational journey

Parenting can be an exciting and enriching journey and as a parent, you play a key role in your child's growth together with the school. Our children do best when schools and parents work hand-in-hand, with mutual trust and respect. Through working hand-in-hand with schools, you will better understand the needs and development of your child, so that you may give him the necessary care, support and reinforcement at home. The QR code on the left provides some tips on how you can support your child's educational journey.



Primary school open house dates

When your child enters Primary 1, you will receive a copy of the Parent-Child Activity Book, which is a resource for parents to support their child's transition from pre-school to Primary 1. The book offers parenting tips and activities to encourage conversations at home. It also helps you reinforce values and routines that your child practices in school. There's also a segment titled "Family Time" in the Character and Citizenship Education and Form Teacher Guidance Period in school, which promotes parent-child bonding through suggested activities.

Here are some tips on how you can help your child in his early years of education so he can enjoy his learning experience in primary school.

HELP YOUR CHILD KNOW HIS SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

The earlier your child becomes familiar with his new environment, the more positive he will feel about going to school.

- Visit the school with your child or show him pictures of the school. You may wish to refer to the QR code on page 17 or www.schoolbag.sg for a list of Primary School Open House dates in June 2019.
- Talk to your child about the new routines he will be going through every day, such as wearing a school uniform, going to the canteen and playing with his peers at recess.
- Encourage your child to practise skills such as asking for permission, buying food, organising his school bag and passing messages between his school and parents.
- Get him excited about new experiences, such as making new friends or learning new things.
- Tell your child whom he can approach for help in school (such as his Form Teacher or School Counsellor) and how he can seek assistance. You can even role-play asking for help with your child.

KNOW AND SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

As your child starts his new educational journey, we need to continue to understand his strengths and interests and support his development.

- Build and strengthen a good relationship with your child. Respect his opinions and listen to what he has to say.
- Talk to the teachers about how you can support your child in adapting to school life during the transition to P1.
- Understand your child's strengths and weaknesses. Get feedback from your child's teachers on his strengths and progress in academic and non-academic areas, as well as his behaviour. This will help you understand how to guide him and develop his strengths further.
- Have realistic expectations and achievable goals for your child. Set step-by-step goals to enable your child to achieve them and experience success.

- Avoid comparing your child's performance with that of others.
- Affirm your child's efforts – focus on the process, not the achievements, marks or grades.
- Make time to play with your child and enjoy his company.
- Encourage your child, especially when he is disheartened, and help him learn to be resilient.

HELP YOUR CHILD TO LEARN INDEPENDENTLY AND MANAGE HIMSELF

Parents play a key role in shaping the values, skills and habits the child picks up that will serve him well throughout life.

- Create a conducive learning environment for your child to enjoy reading and to learn.
- Help your child to develop a routine, so that he learns to be responsible for the things he has to do, including homework.
- Encourage your child to do his homework independently – it helps him to learn and it helps teachers understand his learning progress.
- Guide your child in managing his time.
- Encourage your child to live a healthy, balanced life with time for sleep and play.
- Discipline your child with empathy and care. Your child's misbehaviour, though incorrect, may be his best attempt to meet his needs at that moment. Misbehaviours require consequences and correction with understanding and love. Engage the teachers to find out how you can support your child in managing problems and emotions.
- Teach your child to monitor his own behaviour so as to develop self-discipline.
- Be alert to his needs and fears. Seek help from school personnel such as the Form Teacher, School Counsellor, Head of Department overseeing student welfare, Learning Support Coordinator, or other professionals, if necessary.



SUPPORT AND CONTACT

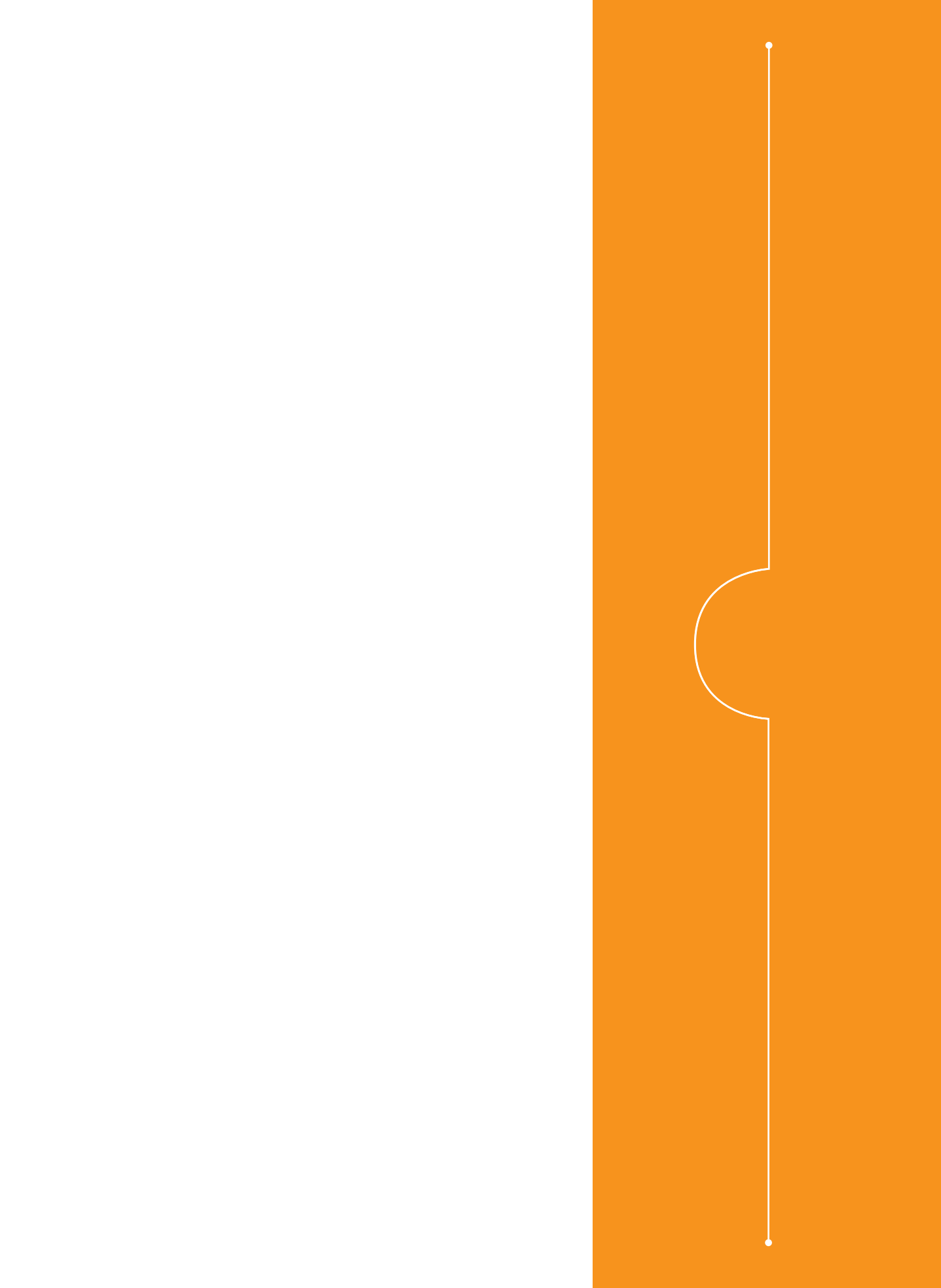
Find out more about the various school programmes and be in regular contact with your child's teachers. The partnership established between parents and the school will help you stay constantly informed and involved in your child's progress.

Your child's holistic development is the focus of our schools' efforts. Together, we can help your child realise his full potential.

Parents keen to serve in their child's school can consider joining its Parent Support Group (PSG). As part of the PSG, parents will have opportunities to work with school personnel on programmes and projects that will benefit their child and the school.

For the latest news on education and features on schools and teachers, please visit www.schoolbag.sg and Schoolbag mobile app available on Apple iTunes Store (for iOS) or the Google Play store (for Android).

If you need further information on primary school education, visit MOE's website at www.moe.gov.sg or call the MOE Customer Service Centre at 6872 2220. You can also connect with us on facebook at www.facebook.com/moesingapore.





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THE INFORMATION IN THIS BOOKLET IS CORRECT AS OF MAY 2019
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