

Response to queries regarding Subject Based Banding (SBB) briefing on 26 May 2023

Which grading should we be looking at? The former Band 1-4, or AL1

Primary 3 & 4 results are in Achievement Bands

Primary 5 & 6 results are in Achievement Levels (see Student Handbook p.22)

Therefore, decisions regarding SBB at the end of P4 is based on Achievement Bands.

Decisions regarding SBB at the end of P5 will be based on Achievement Levels (AL1 to AL8)

Does SBB mean that if the mark of a subject is on grade ≥ 3 then the child should take foundation? Only grade 1 & 2 can choose standard?

Students who score Band 1 to Band 3 (50 marks and above) for a subject will do that subject at standard level.

For students who score Band 4 (below 50 marks), the teachers will evaluate the child's potential based on class performance as well as previous assessment before deciding on recommendation for Standard or Foundation.

Do CCA and other extra school activity (sport leader, prefect, etc.) have any impact to AL and secondary posting? If yes, how does it work?

CCA and other extra school activity (sport leader, prefect, etc.) have no bearing on a child's Achievement Level (AL) in PSLE. Secondary school posting is based on (a) child's PSLE Score, which is the total AL of the 4 subjects (b) child's choice of school. However, child can try for alternative posting through the Direct School Admission, where the relevant CCA and leadership experience will be considered.

If my child's interest is not supported in school, and we have external support, how does the DSA fit in?

For eg: his interest is volleyball, but no such sports in Skps. He has external volleyball sessions. How to fit in dsa profile?

His external involvement & certification can be submitted to the relevant Secondary School for consideration under DSA

Will it be very stressful if the child took all standard subjects?

If a child has scored 50 marks and above for all subjects at Primary 4, it would mean that he has sufficient subject mastery to do all standard subjects at Primary 5. With consistent hard work, the child is not likely to be stressed with taking all standard subjects.

For a child taking foundation, will he be taking the same PSLE paper as other children taking standard.

Children taking subjects at foundation level will be taking different papers from those taking at standard level. As the name suggests, they are taught and will be tested at a foundational level, i.e. Topics covered and questions asked would be at basic level.

Can the child apply for only one DSA from school? Is it okay for child to apply for different Secondary School using different DSA?

Child can Indicate up to 3 choices and 3 talent areas. You may indicate up to 2 talent areas for the same school. Please access <https://www.moe.gov.sg/secondary/dsa> for more information

With regard to S1 and DSA Posting, where can we have the info of secondary school and their open house?

You can access <https://www.moe.gov.sg/schoolfinder> for the information

My child is in Handbells CCA currently. May I know if there is any secondary schools that we can look into for DSA-Sec that has Handbells as their CCAs?

So far, only Paya Lebar Methodist Girls' School and Singapore Chinese Girls' School offer DSA for handbells. However, your child may want to try for DSA admission to schools offering Concert Band.