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BRIEFING ON FULL SUBJECT-BASED BANDING (FSBB)

21 December 2023

TAMPINES SECONDARY SCHOOL

INTEGRITY COURAGE ADAPTABILITY RESPECT EXCELLENCE



Content

1. Background information on Full Subject Based Banding (FSBB)
2. Secondary school experience under FSBB
3. Eligibility Criteria for more demanding level subject
4. FAQs



What is Full Subject-Based Banding?

- Full Subject-Based Banding (Full SBB) is part of MOE's ongoing efforts to **nurture the joy of learning and develop multiple pathways** to cater to the different strengths and interests of our students.
- With Full SBB, we are moving towards a secondary school education where **students learn each subject at the level that best caters to their overall strengths, interests and learning needs.**

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Rationale of Full SBB

Full SBB aims for students to:



Have **greater ownership of their learning** according to their strengths, interests, abilities, talents and learning needs



Develop a **growth mindset and an intrinsic motivation** to learn for life



Have **more opportunities to interact with friends** of different strengths, interests, abilities and talents



Have **more options for post-secondary pathways**, while ensuring they have strong fundamentals and can thrive in their chosen pathway

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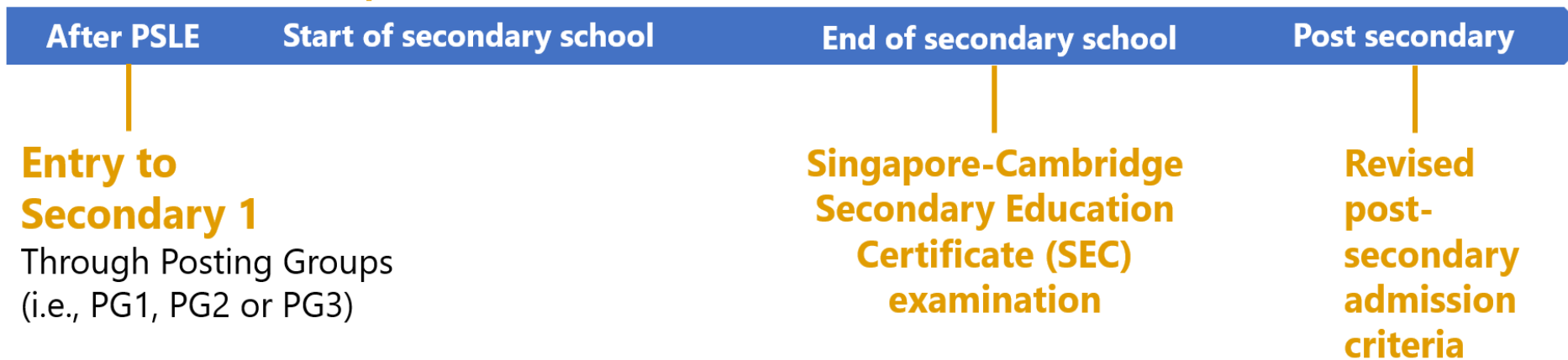
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Secondary school experience under Full SBB

Secondary school experience

1. Mixed form classes upon entering secondary school
2. Common curriculum subjects at lower secondary
3. Subjects to be offered at G1, G2 or G3, mapped from the standards of the N(T), N(A) and Express subject levels respectively
4. Greater flexibility to offer subjects at various subject levels
5. Shift away from stream-based subject offerings



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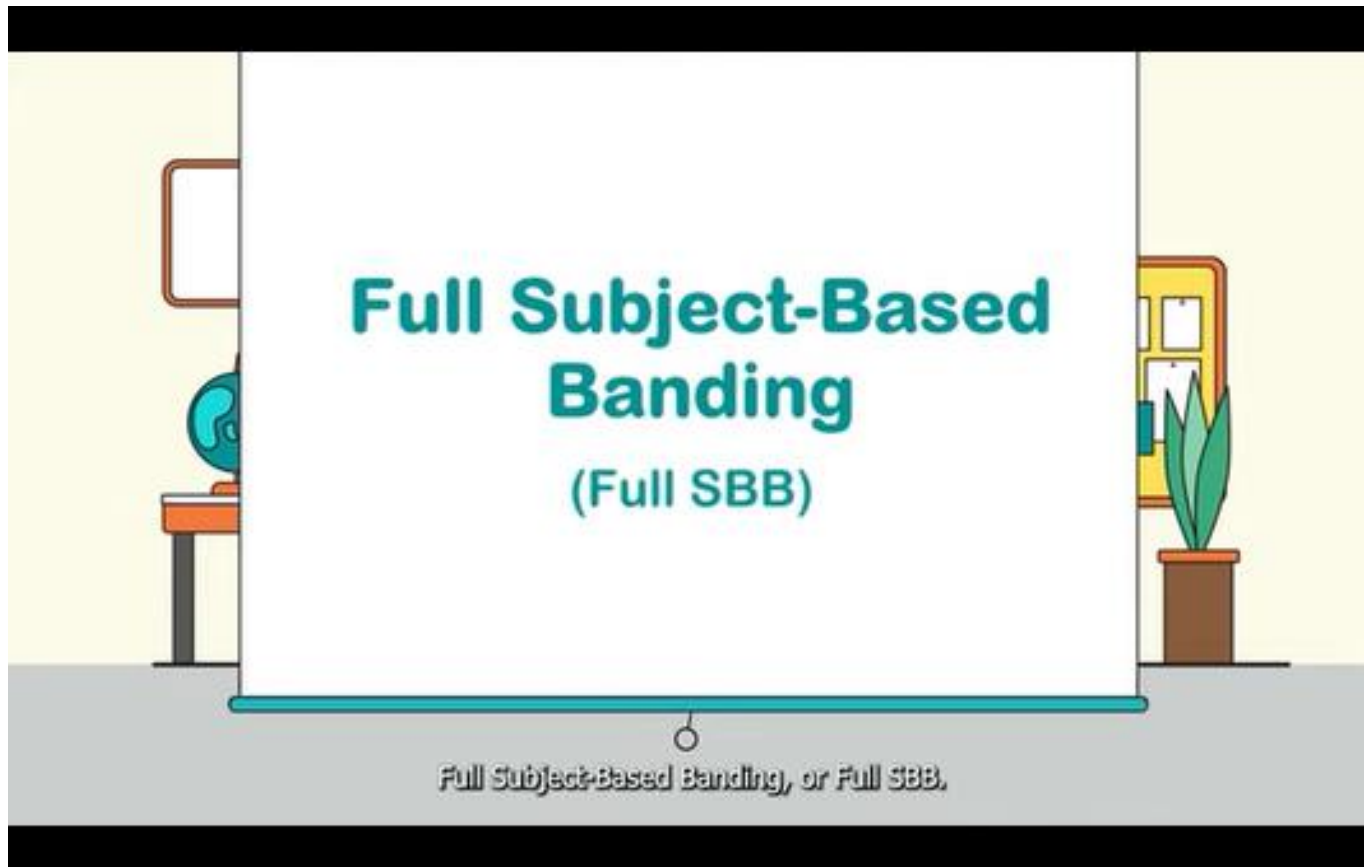
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YouTube video: Secondary school experience under Full SBB

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FGjXlsTBRN0&t=1s>



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Visit the Full SBB Microsite

<https://go.gov.sg/moe-fsbb>



What is Full SBB?

Full SBB is part of MOE's ongoing efforts to nurture the joy of learning and develop multiple pathways to cater to the different strengths and interests of our students.



Secondary school experience under Full SBB

Find out more about Secondary 1 postings, form classes, subject offerings, Common Curriculum and other changes under Full SBB.



FAQ

Read this list of commonly asked questions and answers on Full SBB.

Timeline

2020

Start of Full SBB pilot in 28 secondary schools

2021

First cohort of Primary 6 students undergo new PSLE scoring and Secondary 1 (S1) posting system

2022-2024

Progressive roll-out of Full SBB to more secondary schools

2027

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Find out more about Full SBB

Microsite



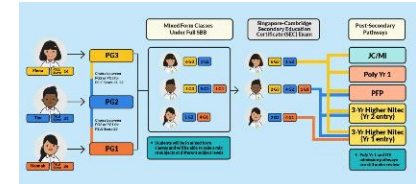
<https://go.gov.sg/moe-fsbb>

Interactive Site



<https://go.gov.sg/my-fsbb-path>

Infographic (updated Feb 2023)



<https://go.gov.sg/fsbb-pathways>

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Find out more about Full SBB

MOE Explainer Video



<https://go.gov.sg/moe-fsbb-explainer>

CNA Singapore Tonight Video



<https://go.gov.sg/cna-fsbb>

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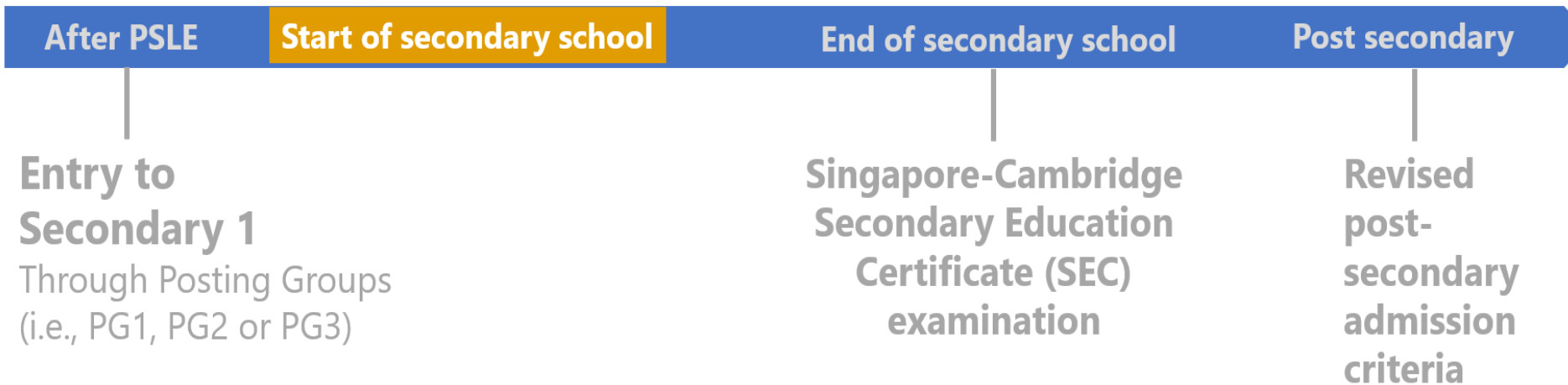
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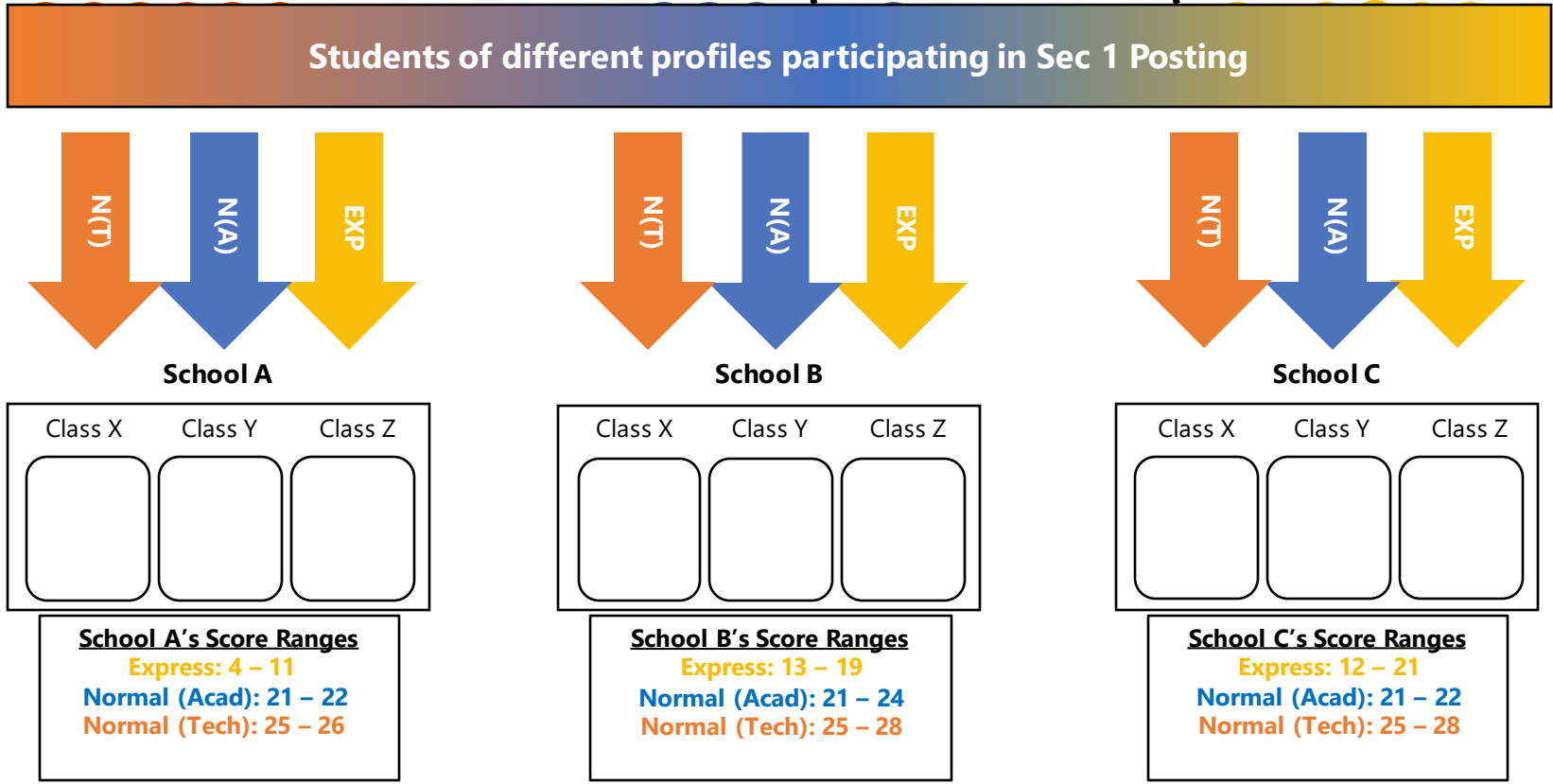
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Mixed Form Classes in Lower Secondary

- Prior to Full SBB implementation, students are arranged in stream-based form classes and interact with peers of similar profiles.



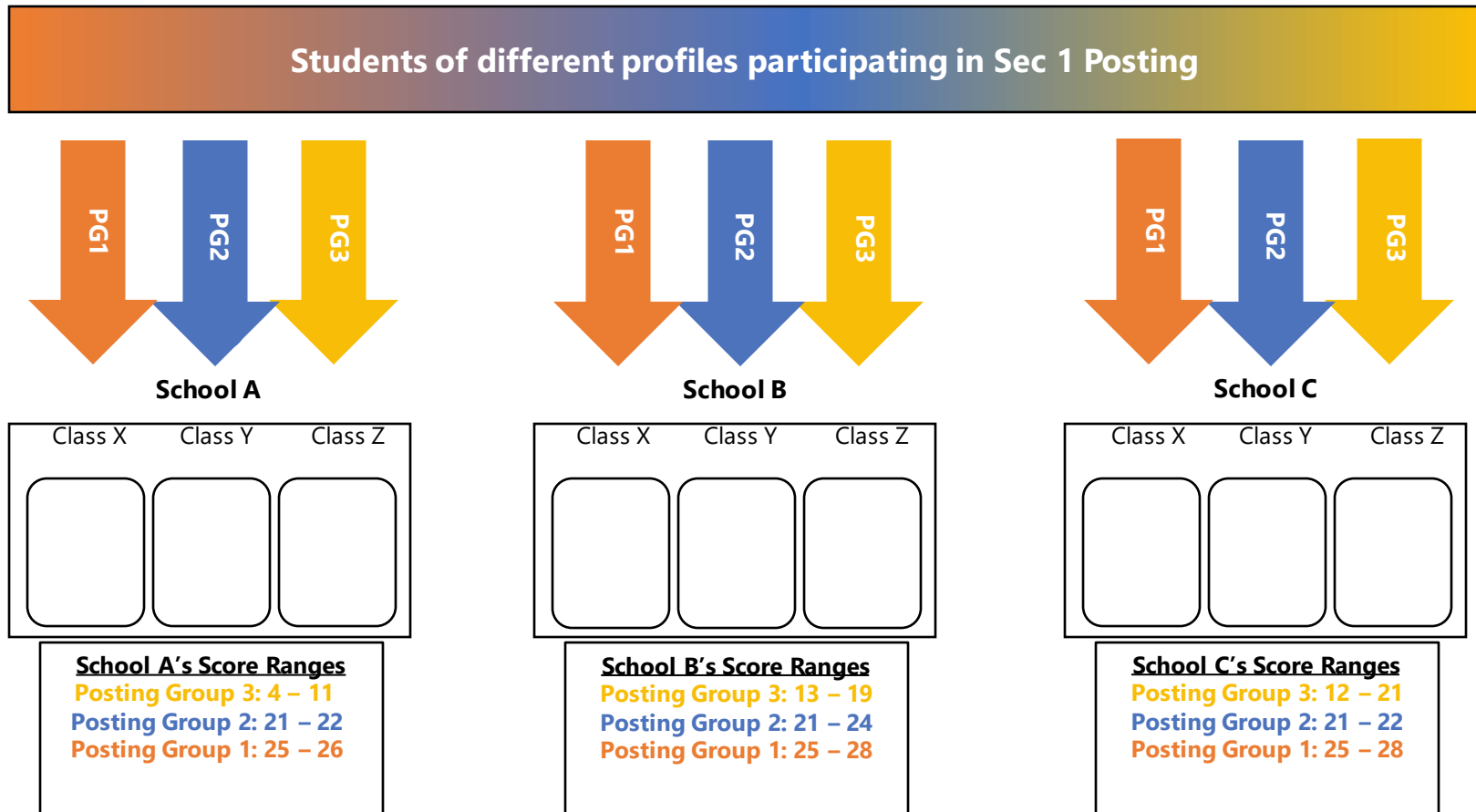
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Mixed Form Classes in Lower Secondary

- With Full SBB, students will be placed in mixed form classes in lower secondary.
- More opportunities for students to interact with other students of different strengths.



How has Full SBB benefitted students from pilot schools?

Students benefitted from interacting and learning from each other in a diverse class.



“It was a **new experience** for me to stand in front of the class and lead, but I enjoyed it as my Form Teachers and classmates were very supportive. Because **everyone in the class is different, I learnt the importance of communicating with everyone respectfully.** I think I have also grown to be **braver and more outspoken** in the process.”

Hazim, a Sec 1 student from Deyi Secondary School

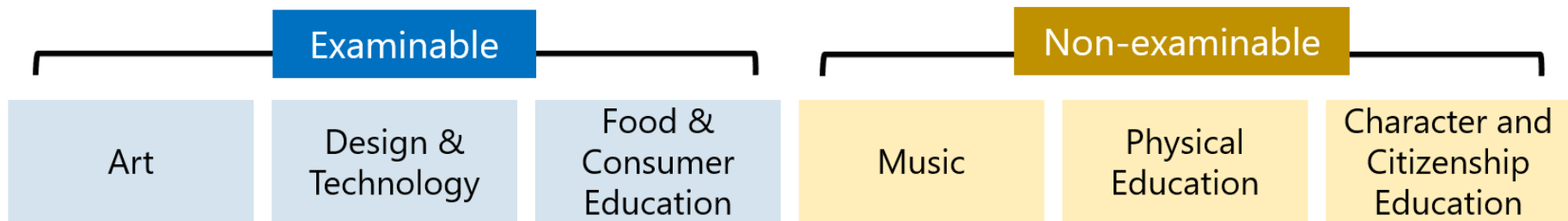
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Common Curriculum Subjects

- Students will take six common curriculum subjects with their form class classmates:



- These subjects take up approximately one-third of curriculum time, giving students time to interact with classmates of different strengths and interests.

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How has Full SBB benefitted students from pilot schools?

Students have more interaction with peers of different backgrounds.



"I feel that Full SBB has helped me make new friends of diverse backgrounds. It has also provided me the opportunity to communicate and work with different people and overall it is a very fun experience."

Jerell Neo, a Sec 1 student from Jurong Secondary School

"I really like Full SBB as my class works well together and I get along with my classmates and teachers."

Coen (right), a Sec 1 student from Bowen Secondary



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Subject Levels under Full SBB

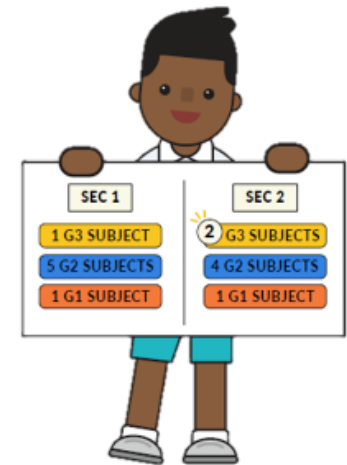
- Students can offer different subjects at different subject levels (i.e., G1, G2 or G3) according to their strengths, interests and learning needs, throughout their secondary school journey.
- These subject levels, G1, G2 or G3, are mapped from the standards of N(T), N(A) and Express subject levels respectively.



Subject Levels under Full SBB

- Students are required to take compulsory subjects at G1, G2 or G3.
- Subject level at the start of Secondary 1 is based on their PSLE Score and indicated by Posting Groups.

PSLE Score	Posting Groups	Indicative level for most subjects at start of Secondary 1
4 – 20	PG3	G3
21 and 22	PG2 or PG3	G2 or G3
23 and 24	PG2	G2
25	PG1 or PG2	G1 or G2
26 – 30 (with AL 7 in EL and MA)	PG1	G1



Offering Subjects at More Demanding Levels



- For **English Language, Mother Tongue Languages, Mathematics and/or Science**, students can offer them at the start of Secondary 1 at a more demanding level if they meet the eligibility criteria.

Eligibility criteria for <u>English Language, Mathematics, Science, Mother Tongue Languages</u>			
Posting Group	PSLE Standard grade	PSLE Foundation grade	Option to offer subject at
PG2	AL 5 or better	-	G3
PG1	AL 5 or better	-	G2 / G3
	AL 6	AL A	G2

Eligibility criteria for <u>Higher Mother Tongue Languages</u>
An overall PSLE Score of 8 or better or An overall PSLE Score of 9 to 14 (inclusive); and attain
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AL 1/AL 2 in Mother Tongue Language; or Distinction/Merit in Higher Mother Tongue Language

- Students can offer **Humanities subjects** at a more demanding level from Secondary 2 onwards, based on their results in Secondary 1.



Subject Level Flexibility Throughout Secondary Education

- Beyond the start of Secondary 1, students may adjust their subject levels across their secondary school journey.
 - E.g. Students can also offer English Language, Mathematics, Science and/or Mother Tongue Languages at a more demanding level from Secondary 2 Semester 1.

Current subject level	School-based results	Option to offer subject at
G1	≥75% in the specific subject	G2 starting from 2025
G2	≥75% in the specific subject	G3 starting from 2025

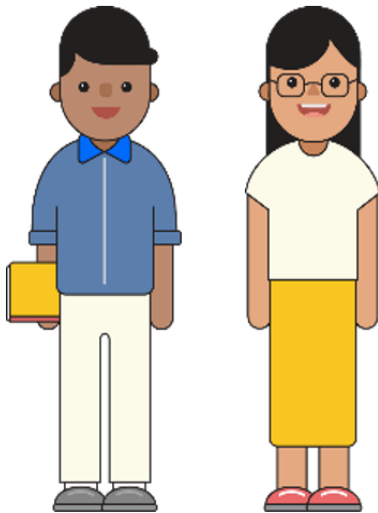


Eligibility Criteria for **Sec 1** End-of-Year SBB Inserts for *History*

Course	Criteria	Option to offer subject at
G1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obtain 75% or higher for English Language at N(T) level, or the equivalent at N(A) level at the End-of-Year Examinations; and A Pass with Distinction grade for both Social Studies N(T) Performance Tasks in Semester 1 and 2. 	G2 level in year 2025



Greater Subject Level Flexibility



"I do see that students actually blossom when they are confident and aware of their strengths. Students taking a subject at a more demanding level **no longer view themselves by their academic stream but take pride in their strengths in a particular subject.**"

Sec 1 Form Teacher

"Full SBB **provides opportunities for students** to take subjects at more demanding level and blurs the lines between the academic streams. **When they are offered to take a subject at a more demanding level, they take a lot more pride in the subject.** They may even work harder than the rest in the class."

Sec 1 Form Teacher

**Quotes from Full SBB pilot study FGD in Q3 2020. Slight edits were made for clarity and personal identifiers have been anonymised.*

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How will our students be supported?

Teachers will provide additional academic and socio-emotional support for students who may face some initial difficulties when making the transition to take subjects at a more demanding level



Eligibility Criteria and Opting into FSBB

- There **will be no cap** on the number of subjects that each student can take at a more demanding level.
- Please complete the online form to indicate the subjects your child wishes to take (or not to take) at a higher level. Submit the completed online form by **27 Dec 2023**.



How does the offer letter look like?

Click on the link [here](#) to watch the video

Subjects Pass Rates (4NT)

OOS Subjects Pass Rates (4NT)

Subjects	2023 Pass Rates
ENGLISH	100 %
MALAY	100 %
MATHS	100 %
SCI (CHEM, BIO)	100 %

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Q&A

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How will Full SBB affect the students' post-sec pathways?

- All students will generally progress to Secondary 2.
 - Teachers will check in with students and parents to discuss the subjects and respective subject levels that best suit the student.
 - Students can offer certain subjects at a more demanding level based on his/her interest and learning progress.
- From 2027, students will sit for the new **SEC examinations**, with different papers for each subject level.
- **5th year of secondary education will continue to be available for eligible students.** This allows them to pace their learning and possibly offer subjects at a more demanding level to access more post-secondary pathways.
- **Admission criteria** to Post-Secondary education institutes have been progressively updated to recognise students taking different combinations of subjects and subject levels.

E.g., Polytechnic Foundation Programme (PFP) has been expanded to allow access to students offering G3 subjects, or a mix of G2 and G3 subjects.



What would Full SBB look like at upper secondary? Are schools expected to continue with mixed-stream form classes then?

- Students would continue to have **access to a wide range of upper secondary subjects** at more demanding levels.
- **Schools are not expected to continue with mixed form classes at upper secondary**, given the amount of time which students would spend together taking common curriculum subjects at upper secondary is significantly less, and timetabling and resource constraints are also likely to increase.
- Nevertheless, **schools have the flexibility to continue with mixed form classes** at upper secondary, taking into consideration whether the form class structures would help in transiting to the common secondary certification system.



Are students in schools implementing Full SBB allowed to opt-out of various aspects of Full SBB? E.g. From the mixed form classes.

- To allow all students to benefit from learning and interacting with one another in a mixed form class, students will **not have the option to opt out** of mixed form classes.



How can schools ensure that students from different courses and backgrounds would be able to socialise well, and accept one another?

- Schools will **strengthen their caring and supportive culture** from the start of the school year, to build bonds between the students and the teachers.
- Some examples of what pilot schools have practised include **creating authentic interaction opportunities** for students during form teacher interaction with students to widen their social circle and forge new friendships, and tapping on peer student leaders to watch out for their classmates.



Thank
You

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