



Subject Selection Exercise

Briefing for Parents of
Secondary 2 Students

27 Mar 2026



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Objectives

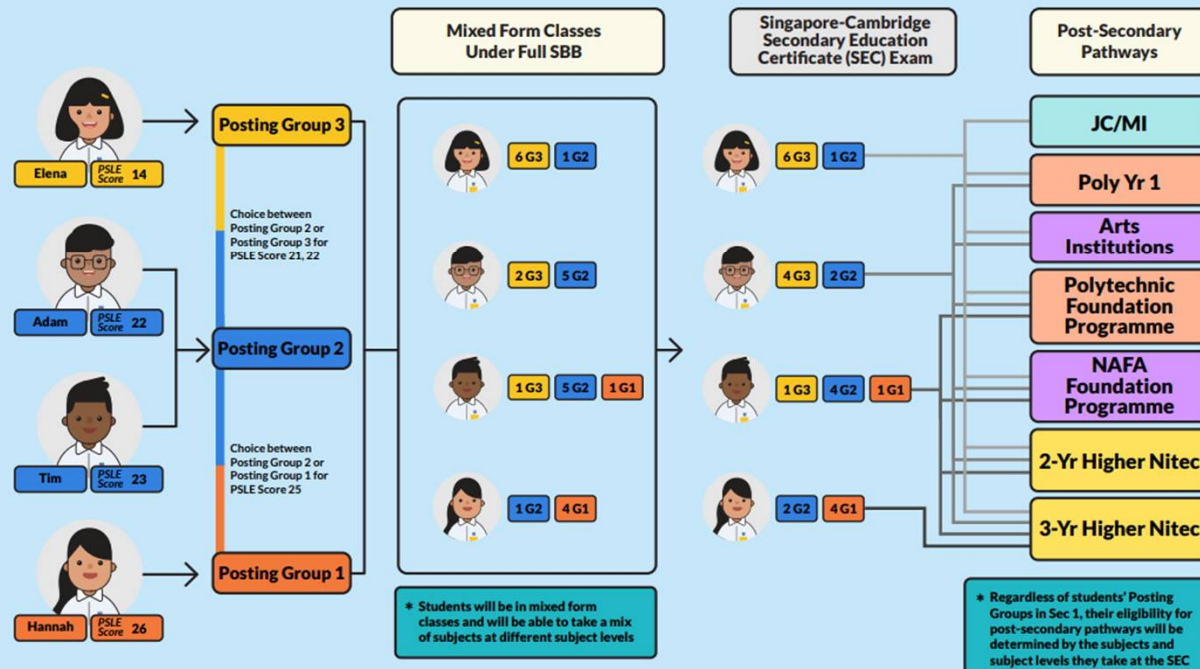
- Guide students to select a subject combination at upper secondary that **complements their strengths, personal interests/passion and career aspirations**
- Provide subject combinations that **keep future pathways open** for students when applying for courses at Institutes of Higher Learning
- Partner parents in guiding your child to **make informed decisions** through this briefing, subject talks and Education and Career Guidance (ECG)



Secondary School Experience and Post-Secondary Pathways Under Full SBB



From 2024, you can take subjects at different levels, eg. G1, G2 or G3, which suit your strengths, interests and learning needs. Along the way, your teachers will guide you to make adjustments as needed. At the end of Secondary Four, all students will take the Singapore-Cambridge Secondary Education Certificate examinations. There will be more options for your post-secondary pathways, and many more opportunities to excel in the pathway you choose. The future is yours to make!



Information presented is accurate as of Jan 2024

Post Secondary Pathways Under Full Subject-Based Banding



**From 2028,
more post-secondary options
will be available.**

Students taking at least	POST-SEC PATHWAYS							
	3-Year Higher Nitec	2-Year Higher Nitec	NAFA Foundation Programme (NFP)	Arts Institutions	Polytechnic Foundation Programme (PFP)	Polytechnic Year 1	Millennia Institute	Junior College
5 G3 subjects	✓	✓	NEW ✓	✓	NEW ✓	✓	✓	NEW ✓
4 G3 + 1 G2 subjects	✓	✓	NEW ✓	NEW ✓	NEW ✓	NEW ✓		
5 G2 subjects	✓	✓	✓		✓			
4 G1 subjects	✓	NEW* ✓						

*Students who offer 4 G1 subjects will join Year 1 of Higher Nitec, and may be offered the accelerated pathway if they meet academic requirements during their Year 1 Semester 1 examinations. This pathway will allow them to attain a Higher Nitec in a shorter duration of about two years.

More Post-Secondary Pathways will be available



	Current (2026 and before)		From 2027
	GCE N(T)/N(A)-Level Examinations	GCE O-Level Examinations	SEC Examinations
Non-written exam components, e.g., oral, listening comprehension, practical	These examinations will continue to be held before the written examinations.		
Other written examinations	Held in mid-September to mid-October	Held in mid-October to mid-November	One common period, starting in October
English Language written examinations	Held together with other written examinations for N- or O-Level subjects respectively.		Held in September alongside MTL written examinations.
MTL written examinations	Held in one sitting for N(A) and N(T) MTL	Held in two exam sittings: one during mid-year, one during O-Level written examinations period.	G1/G2/G3 MTL and G3 Higher MTL examination held in one sitting in September alongside English Language written examinations.
Results release	Held in mid-December	Held in mid-January of the following year	One common results release , held in January of the following year.

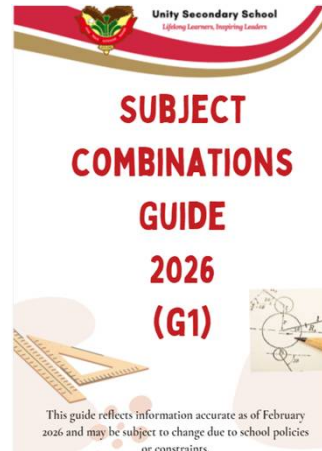
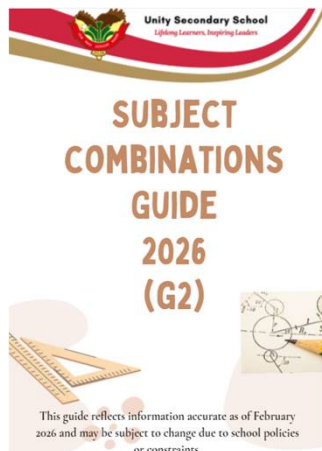
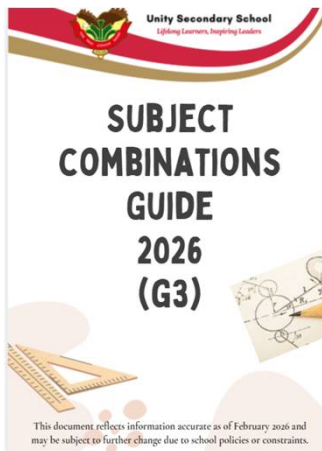
Singapore-Cambridge Secondary Education Certificate

The **Secondary Education Certificate (SEC)** will be implemented **from 2027**, and students will sit for the Singapore-Cambridge SEC examination. The SEC will report results of subjects at **G3, G2 and G1** levels, which are of the **same examination format and standards as the GCE O-, N(A)- and N(T)-Level papers respectively.**

Students may sit for a combination of different subject levels (e.g. some subjects at G3 and others at G2) but not different levels for the same subject. Students will receive an SEC that reflects the subjects and subject levels they offer.

<https://www.seab.gov.sg/secondary-education-certificate-sec/syllabus-for-school-candidates/>

INTRODUCTION TO UPPER SECONDARY SUBJECTS



**Lifelong Learners
Inspiring Leaders**

More information is shared in the Parents Gateway and school website:



<https://www.unitysec.moe.edu.sg/s2-subject-offering-exercise/>



Subject Combinations

Sec 3 (Predominantly G1 Subjects)

May be subject to further change due to school policies or constraints.



Subject Combinations

Selection Criteria - *Sec 3 (Predominantly G1 subjects)*

6-Subject Combination	
	G1 Combination
Subject 1	English
Subject 2	Mother Tongue
Subject 3	Mathematics
Subject 4	Computing
Subject 5	Science
Subject 6	Art <u>OR</u> Design and Technology (DT)



Subject Combinations

Sec 3 (Predominantly G2 Subjects)

May be subject to further change due to school policies or constraints.



Subject Combinations Selection Criteria - Sec 3 (Predominantly G2 subjects)

2 Classes (6-Subject Combinations)			
	Subject	Combination A	Combination B
Subject 1	English	✓	✓
Subject 2	Mother Tongue	✓	✓
Subject 3	Elementary Mathematics	✓	✓
Subject 4	Science	Science (Chemistry, Biology) OR Science (Chemistry, Physics)	
Subject 5	Combined Humanities	Social Studies, Geography OR Social Studies, History	
Subject 6	Electives	Additional Mathematics (AM) OR Principles of Accounts (POA) OR Design & Technology (DT) OR Nutrition and Food Science (NFS) OR Art	

Criteria:
For A Math: $\geq 65\%$ overall Math marks

More Demanding Level (MDL) offer:
 $\geq 75\%$ for EL/MA/SCI/HUMS

*For students who currently study Humanities at G3 level Rank 1, 2 and 3 in the boxes

- Social Studies/Geography (SG)
OR
- Social Studies/History (SH)
OR
- Social Studies/Literature (SL)

Note: Lesson may be conducted after school hours.



Subject Combinations

Sec 3 (Predominantly G3 Subjects)

May be subject to further change due to school policies or constraints.

**From 2028,
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will be available.**

*Lifelong Learners
Inspiring Leaders*

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5 G3 subjects	✓	✓	NEW ✓	✓	NEW ✓	✓	✓	NEW ✓
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7 G3 Subject Combinations

	Combination 1	Combination 2
Subject 1	English	English
Subject 2	Mother Tongue	Mother Tongue
Subject 3	Elementary Mathematics	Elementary Mathematics
Subject 4	<u>Combined Humanities</u> Social Studies, Geography OR Social Studies, History OR Social Studies, Literature	
Subject 5	Pure Chemistry	
Subject 6	Pure Biology	Pure Physics
Subject 7	Additional Mathematics	Additional Mathematics

- Interests in science and enjoys problem-solving in Mathematics.
- Prepares students to pursue Science-based courses or Science-related fields at Junior College or Polytechnic.

Criteria:

*For Double Science (Pure Chemistry & Pure Biology **OR** Pure Chemistry & Pure Physics):
≥ 65% overall Science & Math marks*



7 G3 or 6 G3 + 1 G2 Subject Combinations

	Combination 3
Subject 1	English
Subject 2	Mother Tongue
Subject 3	Elementary Mathematics
Subject 4	<u>Combined Humanities</u> Social Studies, Geography <u>OR</u> Social Studies, History <u>OR</u> Social Studies, Literature
Subject 5	Science (Chemistry, Biology) <u>OR</u> Science (Chemistry, Physics)
Subject 6	Principles of Accounts (POA) <u>OR</u> Design and Technology (DT) <u>OR</u> Nutrition and Food Science (NFS) <u>OR</u> Art
Subject 7	Additional Mathematics (AM at G3 level) <u>OR</u> Additional Mathematics (AM at G2 level)

- Displays a strong interest in Applied Learning, e.g. **Coursework subjects** or **Principles of Accounts**.
- **Additional Mathematics:** The 7th subject can be offered G3 or at a **less demanding G2 level** for students who have an interest in Additional Mathematics to:
 - i) broaden students' learning while keeping overall curriculum load manageable, and
 - ii) provide students with a stronger foundation for post-secondary courses.

Criteria:

For AM G3 Level: ≥ 60% overall Math



6 G3 Subject Combinations

	Combination 4
Subject 1	English
Subject 2	Mother Tongue
Subject 3	Elementary Mathematics
Subject 4	Social Studies & Geography <u>OR</u> Social Studies & History <u>OR</u> Social Studies & Literature
Subject 5	Science (Chemistry, Biology) <u>OR</u> Science (Chemistry, Physics)
Subject 6	Principles of Accounts (POA) <u>OR</u> Design and Technology (DT) <u>OR</u> Nutrition and Food Science (NFS) <u>OR</u> Art <u>OR</u> Additional Mathematics (AM) (G3)

- **Newly introduced in 2025**, and well-received by students
- Suitable for students who display a strong interest in applied learning, e.g. **Coursework** subjects or **Principles of Accounts**.
- Provides a focused workload that is more manageable.

Criteria:

For AM G3 Level: ≥ 60% overall Math



Additional Subject Information

- G3 Music
- G3 Computing

as elective subjects offered by MOE via Centre-based Approach for these subjects

Note:

- Subject to **MOE's criteria** (academic performance, aptitude, interviews)
- If offered, student will need to travel to the centre **after lessons end in his/her school to attend the lessons**
- May be an elective on top of the students' subject combinations or in replacement of an elective they offer at USS.



Guidelines for Allocation of Subjects



Guiding Principles for Subject Allocation

Merit:

Sec 2 overall subject-specific performance

E.g. For Double Pure Chemistry/Pure Biology OR Pure Chemistry/Pure Physics: $\geq 65\%$ overall Science & Mathematics marks

Choice:

Combinations are to be indicated in order of preference.

The first choice will be considered if **eligibility criteria are met**.

Vacancy:

*Subject allocation is subject to the take-up rate and the availability of places for each subject combination. Factors considered include the availability of teachers and support staff, as well as workshop, laboratory, and classroom capacity.**

** Note: The minimum class size required is **10 students**.*



Important Dates



Timeline

**T2W1
(27 Mar)**

**Briefing for
Parents of
Secondary 2
Students**

**T2W1 – T2W10
(Mar – May)**

**CCE - ECG
lessons on
purposeful
pursuits and
explore subject
combinations**

**T3W8 – T3W10
(Aug – Sep)**

**Briefing for
students
Trial for Subject
Selection
Exercise**

**T4W7
(21 Oct – 26
Oct)**

**Actual Subject
Selection
Exercise**

**T4W9 – T4W10
(13 Nov – 20
Nov)**

**Release of
allocation
outcomes

Appeal phase**



ECG at USS

- Term 1 and 2 CCE lessons on purposeful pursuits
- Students complete a self-directed SLS lesson on navigating subject combinations in Secondary 3 to explore available options
- ECG counsellor's sharing on selection of relevant subjects and provide guidance

Subject Selection Instructions

- Check **Parents' Gateway** for details of the **Indicative/Trial Subject Selection Exercise** and **Actual Subject Selection Exercise**
- Submit the Subject Combination form via the **All Ears platform**

Appeal Period

- **3 working days** from release of posting results
- Submit all appeals **online**
-  **Result of Appeal**
- 5 working days** after end of appeal period
-  View results via **Parents' Gateway**

Note: Dates may vary slightly due to unforeseen changes in school activities



Parents can support by...

NOW...

- Monitor your child's progress
- Asking your child for the combinations they are considering and their reasons and interests
- Ensuring your child completes the SLS lesson so they are more aware of the options.

AUG TO SEPT 2026

- Discussing the options with your child.
- Discussing the pros and cons of your child's choices.
- Ensuring your child submits the **Indicative Subject Combination.**

OCT 2026

- Discussing the subject combination with your child based on his/her results.
- Ensuring your child understands that this is the final decision and will be able to cope with the demands of the subjects.
- Ensuring your child accurately reflect the subject combinations of his/her choice and submits the **Actual Subject Combination.**

Supporting Your Child through This Journey



*Lifelong Learners
Inspiring Leaders*

Discovering Purpose: Help Your Child Know Themselves

- Guide informed decision-making and ownership
- Understand Values, Interests, Personality, Skills and Strengths
- Have conversations beyond grades
- Show confidence and encourage growth

Exploring Opportunities: Open Doors, Not Just Options

- Encourage exploration of education pathways and careers
- Subjects are a bridge to JC, poly, and future careers
- Support your child in researching pathways and requirements

Staying Relevant: Model Lifelong Learning

- Foster a growth mindset
- Emphasise learning beyond exams
- Encourage curiosity and continuous learning
- Partner with teachers for holistic insights



Every child has **unique dreams**
and **aspirations**.

Lets work together to support
and guide our children as they
choose their preferred courses!

Thank you



FAQs



FAQ 1

I understand that the class size for certain subjects is 40 students.

If the demand hits 60 applicants, will school try their best to support opening 2 classes with existing limited resources?

The 60 applicants would first need to meet the subject's eligibility criteria. Class allocation will then be determined based on overall school considerations, including available manpower resources.



Guiding Principles in subject allocation

Merit:

Overall percentage for Sec 2 academic performance **AND** subject specific criteria e.g. To offer Pure Chem and Pure Biology OR Pure Chem and Pure Physics: students should have obtained $\geq 65\%$ overall for Science and Math respectively

Choice:

Subject combinations will be considered based on rank order of preference, e.g., 1st choice will be considered **if results meet eligibility criteria**

Vacancy:

Subject allocation is also subject to the take up rate* and availability of places for particular subject combination. The availability of teachers/support staff and capacity of our workshops/laboratories/classroom space are factors for consideration

*Note: Minimum of 10 students to form a class



FAQ 2

My child is taking English, Math and Humanities at G2 level but Science at G3 level. Can he/she choose Pure Science?

Your child is currently offering predominantly G2 subjects and will select his/her subject combination from the Predominantly G2 options. The Pure Sciences option is **NOT** available within this set of subject combinations.

If your child performs well at the end of Secondary 2 and is offered MDL for English, Mathematics, and Humanities, he/she may then choose subject combination options from the Predominantly G3 stream.

However, please consider carefully whether your child will be able to cope with the demands of the Pure Science combination, which includes Additional Mathematics at the G3 level.



FAQ 3

My child and I do not know what to choose. Can he/she change the subject combination after Term 1 in 2027?

Students should thoroughly research their subject options before making choices. The school supports this by providing a subject combination guide in Term 3, helping students align choices with their strengths and aspirations.

Mid-year subject changes are discouraged, even if eligibility requirements are met. Students would need to catch up on significant Term 1 content while managing current lessons. Additional challenges include subject vacancy limitations, timetabling constraints, and assessment complications.

Instead, students should give themselves time to adjust to their new subjects in Secondary 3 and seek help from the teacher when needed.