

**FUHUA PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**Parent Engagement Session (Primary 4) 22 April 2022**  
**Questions raised during the session and the responses**

**STANDARD AND FOUNDATION SUBJECTS**

***Question: Can you share how the banding works in PSLE if my child takes both standard and foundation subjects?***

The PSLE T-Score will be replaced with wider scoring bands, known as Achievement Levels (ALs). Each PSLE subject will be scored using 8 ALs for the standard subjects. Students who perform similarly will be placed in the same AL for each subject.

Under the new AL system, if your child is taking foundation subjects, your child will be graded AL A to AL C. Like standard subject ALs, the Foundation subject ALs will reflect a student's level of achievement, rather than how they have performed relative to their peers. For the purpose of S1 posting, Foundation Level AL A to AL C will be mapped to a Standard Level subject equivalent of AL 6 to AL 8 respectively, to derive a student's overall PSLE Score.

Please refer to the following MOE microsite for detailed information –  
<https://www.moe.gov.sg/microsites/psle-fsbb/psle/main.html>

***Question: Is it that only Mathematics and Science subjects have standard module and foundation module?***

There is offering of Standard and Foundation courses for English Language, Mother Tongue, Mathematics and Science.

***Question: If my child takes foundation for all subjects, will he still be able to enter mainstream secondary school?***

To qualify for Secondary school, a student must achieve a PSLE Score of 30 or less, including getting a grade of AL 7 or better in both English and Mathematics. If your child takes foundation for all subjects but meets the above criteria, he/she will be able to enter Secondary school. Depending on his/her results, he/she can opt for the Normal (Academic) or the Normal (Technical) stream.

***Question: Who will ultimately decide on the subject combination?***

At the end of Primary 4, the school will recommend a subject combination suited for your child based on his/her academic results and learning disposition. Parents will then exercise your option on the preferred subject combination at the end of Primary 4 for your child.

In Primary 5, your child takes his/her opted subject combination. At the end of Primary 5, the school will assess your child's ability to cope with the demands of the subjects based on his/her academic results and learning disposition. A panel comprising SLs, Form and Subject teachers will be convened to decide on the final subject combination your child will pursue in Primary 6 in preparation for PSLE.

## **HIGHER MOTHER TONGUE (HMT)**

***Question: Is there a quota to the number of students who can take HMT? What if there are more students than a class can take?***

There is no quota. The school will support all students in their learning.

***Question: Do students opting for HMT in P6 have any advantage over those not opting for HMT for secondary school admissions?***

Students who offer and pass Higher Chinese Language (HCL) will receive a posting advantage for admission to Special Assistance Plan (SAP) schools. If students with the same PSLE Score are vying for limited places in the same SAP school, those with better HCL grades [in the order of Distinction (D), Merit (M) and Pass (P)] will be allocated a place ahead of other students. This posting advantage applies before the tie-breakers for S1 posting.

***Question: If my child is not offered HMT, can he still opt for it?***

If your child is not offered HMT by the school, you can write in to the school to request for your child to offer HMT. The school will review your request taking into consideration your child's aptitude for the subject and ability to cope with the other subjects as HMT is offered as an additional subject. If the school offers your child HMT upon considering your request, your child can continue to do HMT in Primary 5. At the end of Primary 5, the school will review your child's performance in HMT to decide whether he/she should continue with the subject at Primary 6.

***Question: Can HMT be dropped mid-year if child is struggling?***

We strongly encourage all students to commit to the subjects they choose to pursue for the entire year. If your child is struggling with the subject, do approach the MTL teachers as they will be supporting your child in his/her learning. We will review the decision on dropping the subject at the end of Primary 5.

***Question: To take HMT, do all subjects need to be above Band 1 for P4 exam? What is the cut-off mark?***

Higher Mother Tongue is offered to students who pass all 4 subjects and do very well in their Mother Tongue Language. The school will also take into consideration your child's aptitude and passion for the subject.

***Question: Is one extra hour sufficient for HMT?***

Students offering HMT will be taught the planned standard Mother Tongue syllabus during normal curriculum time. For HMT students, 2 additional periods (1 hour) is set aside every week to teach the HMT content. During this additional 1-hour slot, students will be taught literary-based texts which exposes them to ethnic literature and cultural knowledge. Students will need to manage their time well between MT and HMT as they are expected to complete tasks and work assigned for both subjects.