

Fuhua Primary School
2024 Primary One First Day of School

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Academic concerns

Will there be additional help if my child is unable to catch up with the curriculum? How will the teachers assist him in his learning?

Learners who require more support may respond favourably to frequent reinforcement of small segments of learning. During these segments of learning, teachers may vary instruction techniques by using active learning experiences such as individualised / concrete materials or even educational games and puzzles.

For a selected group of students who need more support to enhance their literacy and numeracy skills, they will receive help from the Learning Support Team. During Mathematics lessons, these students will be withdrawn from their form classes and be taught in a smaller group setting. For students who need help in building literacy skills, they will have weekly reading sessions in a small group setting. Do approach the form or subject teachers should you have any concerns with regard to your child's/ward's learning.

How would the parents know their child's academic development throughout the year without examinations? How often will parents be updated about their child's progress?

We employ a variety of assessment tools to help us monitor and assess our students' learning. School will use subject-specific Learning Outcomes (LOs) and quantitative descriptors to report P1 & P2 students' learning progress for all subjects in the Holistic Development Profile. Please refer to the 2024 P1 Curriculum Briefing slides for more information.

Teachers will update parents/guardians regularly on their child's/ward's progress through various forms of feedback such as daily work, rubrics/checklists on skills and knowledge attainment and semestral reports on their attainment level of Learning Outcomes. Teachers will also engage parents/guardians on their child's/ward's learning progress during the Parent-Child-Teacher conference. You may also contact the teachers to check on your child's/ward's progress in school if need be.

Will the school provide the learning syllabus for each subject so that parents are able to keep track of the child's learning journey? What does the PE curriculum look like?

As mentioned in the Term 1 letter to parents, the school will send the assessment plan for the year to all parents via Parents Gateway (PG). On the assessment plan, the topics / chapters that will be tested will be stated. The subject syllabuses, which include the outcomes of the curriculum, the skills and content that will be taught can be found on MOE's website. For more information on the subject syllabus, you may visit the MOE website (<https://www.moe.gov.sg/primary/curriculum/syllabus>) for more information.

If PSLE is still the way to gauge their academics, how will the school ensure that the children are well prepared for PSLE yet at the same time work towards holistic development and improved wellbeing for the children (and parents)?

The PSLE is a useful checkpoint to gauge your child's/ward's understanding of key concepts and academic strengths. This will help your child/ward learn at a suitable pace when they progress to secondary school. As we prepare our students to be future-ready, we will ensure that there is sufficient academic rigour while equipping them with the necessary knowledge, skills and dispositions.

Technology-related questions

Do we have Home Based Learning for Primary 1? Do I need to purchase a laptop or a tablet for my child? Do we need to get a Microsoft Office subscription?

Student Learning Space (SLS) is one of MOE's key initiatives to transform the learning experiences of Singaporean students through the purposeful use of technology to enable students to engage in different learning modes. Teachers will use the SLS throughout the year to ensure continuity of learning at home and in the classroom. Students may use a laptop or a handheld device to access the SLS at home. During lessons, students will access SLS using our school devices.

It is not compulsory to get a Microsoft Office subscription as most of the tasks assigned by teachers will be via SLS and Google workspace.

How does the school balance between the use of technology for learning and ensuring that students are not getting too much screen time at a young age?

The school maintains a balance by implementing clear guidelines and policies regarding screen time limits and age-appropriate technology, as outlined in our student

handbook's Acceptable Use Policy Agreement (AUP). We also blend digital learning with offline activities to create a well-rounded educational experience. In addition, we have school-based student development experiences that cover topics in our Cyber Wellness curriculum, including responsible cyber use.

For example, in our Primary 1 FTGP (Form Teacher Guidance Period), students not only learn basic characteristics of the online world and basic online safety rules but also the importance of maintaining a balanced lifestyle, which includes diet, exercise, sleep, and screen time management for their health and well-being. Parental involvement is encouraged to ensure that screen time outside of school remains in check and supports a healthy balance for our students

Day-to-day matters (e.g. recess, uniform etc.)

How will the P1-P4 buddy pairing be like during recess? How long will it last?

We have brought back the buddy programme since last year. Each Primary One student will be paired with a Primary Four Buddy of the same gender. The buddies will guide our P1 Gems in purchasing food, observing personal hygiene, and bring them to different parts of the school. The official buddy programme will run for the first two weeks of school, but we strongly encourage the P1 and P4 students to keep in touch with their respective buddies and continue to build their friendship through the rest of the year.

Will there be snack time after recess?

There is no specific time allocated for students to have snacks during curriculum time. However, we allow students to bring along some healthy snacks such as bread, fruits or biscuits to school. If they are hungry before or after their recess break, they may approach their teachers to seek permission to consume their snack.

Are there specific days for them to wear uniform and PE attire?

All students will report to school in their school uniform unless they have PE lessons for the day. On days when students have PE, they are allowed to report to school in their PE attire and remain in that attire for the whole day. Please refer to your child's/ward's timetable for details on PE days.

There are 5 parent letters allowed for absence per semester. In case of medical situations whereby a child needs more days off, how should we approach such situations?

If your child/ward is unwell, it is advisable to bring him/her to consult a doctor. If the child's/ward's absence is supported by a medical certificate, a parent letter is not required. Upon returning to school, your child/ward should submit the medical certificate to his/her form teacher. We also seek parent's/guardian's cooperation to keep the school updated on key information such as your child's/ward's medical condition and changes to contact details.

Parent engagement

For parents who both work and therefore don't have the time to do parent volunteering during work hours, in what other ways can we support the teachers and the school?

You may lend your support to the school during the planning stage of school/class projects/activities/events if you are unable to be physically present in school due to work commitments. The school will request parents' support through our parent support group (known as the N4S) and parents may volunteer when they share the school's requests.

Others

Will there be any overseas educational trips for children to provide them with exposure to the global environment?

This year we will resume the overseas learning trip for our P5 students. For the rest of the students, there will be opportunities within the CCE curriculum to gain some understanding on global issues.

When will my child begin CCA and swimming lessons? Does it begin in Primary One?

Students will begin CCA from Primary 3 onwards. They will also be having their swimming lessons (i.e. Swimsafer) when they are in Primary 3.

Does the school allow students to wear smartwatches?

Mobile devices such as handphones and smartwatches must always be switched off and kept out of sight during school hours. Should parents want their children to bring mobile phones or smartwatches to school for communication, students will be allowed to use them only with their teacher's permission. The device must be labelled, and the school will not be responsible for any damage or loss. Please take note that mobile devices will be confiscated if students fail to comply with the above rules.

If we plan to travel during term time, how should we inform the school of my child's absence?

Parents may inform the school via an email to the Form Teachers. Please take note that the school places a premium on students' holistic development and curriculum time is carefully planned for this endeavour. Students have about 26 hours of curriculum time each week and your child will be missing a significant amount of curriculum time if he/she were to travel during term time, and this might affect his/her learning. It is not the policy of the school to grant leave to students to be absent from their lessons.

If you do decide to go ahead, please take note of the following:

- The teachers will not be making up for the learning lost.
- There will be no make-up assessment if the class is given any form of assessment during her period of absence.
- With your guidance, your child must assume the responsibility to ensure that the topics covered during his/her absence are learnt so that he/she can catch up with his/her work when he/she returns.