

# Subject-based Banding (SBB)

Briefing for Parents @ Sec 1 Registration (22 Dec 2017)

# What is Subject-based Banding (SBB)?

- SBB provides greater flexibility in subject offering at lower secondary levels, to better cater to the strengths of students in different subjects.
- Sec 1NA and Sec 1NT students can take English, Mathematics, Science and Mother Tongue at a higher level subjects (capped at 3) if they meet the PSLE eligibility criteria.

# MOE's SBB Implementation Journey

- 2014: 12 schools selected to be SBB Prototype schools
- 2017: Phase 1 roll out to 46 more Sec schools
- 2017: 1<sup>st</sup> batch of SBB students (12 prototype) schools will sit for national exams
- 2018: Phase 2 roll out to ALL remaining Sec schools offering NA/NT courses

# Intent & Rationale of SBB

- Each student is different and possesses different strengths
- To help each student find fulfilment in learning and be motivated to excel in what he or she is good at
- Starting SBB at lower sec will better cater to the strength of each student in different subjects and give them a stronger foundation in subjects that they are good at
- A broad and inclusive approach, creating a more diverse and flexible education system, with opportunities for all

# Eligibility Criteria (Based on PSLE Results)

Course	PSLE Standard Grade	PSLE Foundation Grade	Option to offer subject at
N(A)	A*, A	-	Express
N(T)	A*, A	-	Express / N(A)
	B, C	1	N(A)

- Each student should take no more than 3 subjects at higher level so as to ensure that students can cope with the overall academic demands
- Students have a choice to reject the offer

# SBB Offer at Mid-year & End of Year

- Sec 1 students who perform well at Sec 1 mid-year or end-of-year exams may be offered EL/Math/Sc/MTL at a higher level

Course	Schoo-based Results (MYE and EOY)	Option to offer subject at
N(A)	75% or higher in specific subject & 60% or higher in the overall average	Express level starting from next semester
N(T)	75% or higher in specific subject & 60% or higher in the overall average	N(A) level starting from next semester

**Note: There should be no “double jump” in the course of a year, that is, from N(T) to N(A) after MYE, then to EXP after EOY, as we need to take into consideration the student’s overall academic workload.**

- Students who offer SBB subjects from mid-year onwards, their final subject results will be a combination of 2 results (e.g. NA results in SEM 1 + EX results in SEM 2)

# Benefits of SBB

- From the prototyping experience in the 12 schools, students who have participated in SBB (Sec) were generally happy to take higher-level subjects and to continue doing so. Their knowledge of the subject deepened; and their confidence and motivation increased. Their classmates viewed them positively, and were also motivated to work harder upon seeing them take higher-level subjects.

# Benefits of SBB for Admission to ITE NITEC (for NT students offering NA subjects)

- Admission criteria based on best 4 GCE 'N' subjects (includes pre-requisites & bonus points)
- 2 bonus points awarded for a pass in each pre-requisite subject (capped at 4 bonus points)

N(A) Grade	N(T) Grade	ITE Aggregate Point
1	A	1
2	B	2
3	C	3
4	D	4
5	U	5

Type	Bonus Points
CCA A1 - A2	2
CCA B3 - C6	1
Grades 1-5 for pre-requisite NA level subjects	2 for each pre-requisite subject, capped at 4



# Benefits of SBB for DPP & PFP (for NA students offering EX subjects)

- GCE 'O' level subjects may be used in the computation for eligibility for DPP and PFP
- 'O' Level Prelims Results can be used for application to DPP prior to the Release of actual 'O' level results
- The same subject cannot be used twice ('N' and 'O' level grades)- the better grade will be used

GCE 'O' Level Grade	GCE 'N' Level Grade
A1 – B3	1
B4 – C6	2
D7 – E8 (E8 is not considered for PFP)	3

# Lateral Transfer

- MOE policy of **min 70% for 'Overall' percentage at Sec 2**
- Above policy will apply to **ALL** students, **including SBB students**
- Sec 4NT SBB students may use their NA results when seeking lateral transfer to 4NA

<b>Subject</b>	<b>NT level</b>	<b>NA level</b>
EL	A	Pass
Math	A	Pass
1 Best Other Subject	B	Pass

# Progression to Sec 4

	<b>Sec 1 to Sec 2</b>	<b>Sec 2 to Sec 3</b>	<b>Sec 3 to Sec 4</b>
<b>Continue to be offered SBB subjects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pass in SBB subjects</li><li>• Students are encouraged to continue their SBB subjects until end of Sec 2 as they need time to adjust to new academic demands</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 75% for the relevant SBB subject</li><li>• 60% for final overall percentage</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pass in SBB subjects</li><li>• Students are encouraged to continue with the SBB subjects till the end and sit for the national exams</li></ul>
<b>Promotion to next level</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• MOE guidelines for promotion applies</li></ul>		

# Mark Conversion

- MOE provides guidelines for conversion of marks to derive the equivalent score a lower sec SBB student would have scored at his original level, e.g. EX convert to NA, NA convert to NT.
- This is to ensure that lower sec SBB students are neither advantaged nor disadvantaged when it comes to promotion, streaming, lateral transfers, or Edusave awards.
- For upper sec students offering out-of-stream subjects, the prevailing MOE mark / grade conversion guidelines will apply. Schools cannot decide on the mark conversion for each subject.

# National Exam Policy

<b>Policy</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NT</b>
Minimum No. and Compulsory Subjects	5 distinct subjects, including EL, MTL, MA, Combined Humanities and Science	5 distinct subjects, including EL, MTL, MA, CPA and one Elective Subject
Subject Cap	8 subjects	7 subjects
Duplicate Subjects (e.g. NA + EX, NT + NA)	No cap on duplicate subjects but must be within the 8-subject cap	2 sets of duplicate subjects, within the 7-subject cap

- For school-based common tests and exams, SBB students will only be required to sit for the higher level paper

# Dropping of SBB subjects

- Students and parents can make the final decision to continue or drop SBB subject/s.
- However, students are encouraged to give themselves time to adjust to the demands of the higher-level subject.
- Before making the decision to drop the subject, seek advice from Subject Teachers, Year Head, and/or School Leaders on your child's academic progress

# Sec 1 SBB student data for 2018

	<b>EL</b>	<b>MA</b>	<b>SC</b>	<b>CL</b>	<b>ML</b>
<b>N(A) Students Eligible for EXP (scored A/A*):</b>	3	1	3	8	15
<b>N(T) Students Eligible for EXP (scored A/A*):</b>	0	0	0	0	1
<b>N(T) Students Eligible for N(A) (scored B/C/1):</b>	21	2	9	1	10

# Lesson Arrangements for SBB students

Level	EL	Math	Science	CL	ML
<b>1NT</b>	Pull out class Mrs June Ng	Pull out class Mr Asraf	Pull out class Mr Mukmien Mdm Zhao Xuying	Combined Class with 1NA Ms Poh Shi Hui	Combined Class with 1NA Mdm Zurianah
<b>1NA</b>	Pull out class Mrs Daisy Kee	Pull out class Ms Lim Xin Yi	Pull out class Ms Bharathi Mr Shah Dhaval	Pull out class Ms Zhang Mingyue Mdm Wang Huali	Pull out class Mdm Siti Raihanni



# Support for SBB

- SBB Core Team led by VP Academic and SBB Coordinator (HOD Maths)
- Additional manpower to cater for SBB classes
- Teachers hand-picked to spearhead SBB efforts
- Training and support for SBB teachers provided by MOE

# Expectations for SBB Students

- Continue to work hard for **ALL** your subjects
- Aim for more than a 'Pass' in SBB subjects
- Maintain a positive attitude and open mind for the demands of the higher stream subjects
- Voice your concerns, worries to your subject teachers or form teachers- don't be afraid to seek help

# What's Next?

- 2 book lists- original level + higher level
- Upon acceptance of SBB offer,
  - Sign & return the Letter of Offer to you're the General Office by **Wed 27 Dec 2017**
  - Purchase the correct textbooks for your child according to the booklist of the correct stream
  - Once Letter of Offer is issued, the offer is valid
- If you have any query, you may contact Mr Tan (VP, Academic) @ Tel: 6582 7864

**Thank you!**