



Briefing on Subject-Based Banding

For Parents of Primary 4 Students

2 August 2024

2.30 pm to 3.30 pm



Assessment for P4

- Assessment is an integral part of the learning process and helps children become self-directed learners
- To gather quantitative and qualitative information about our students' progress and development

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
Assessment	-	Weighted Assessment (WA)	Weighted Assessment (WA)	End-Year Examination (EYE)
Weighting	-	15%	15%	70%

Subject-Based Banding at the end of P4

Rationale

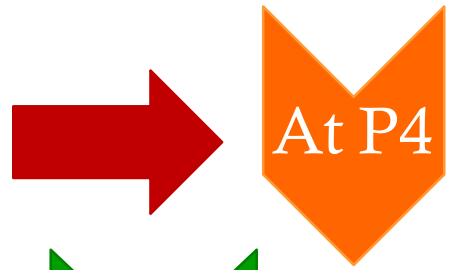
- To further refine the way ability-driven education is delivered in primary education;
- To recognise that each child is unique, and has different aptitudes, capabilities and talents;
- To help each child realise his potential.

Subject-Based Banding at the end of P4

What Subject-Based Banding means to your child

- Provides greater flexibility for your child by offering him the option of a combination of standard and foundation subjects, depending on his strengths;
- Such a choice will allow your child to focus on and stretch his potential in the subjects that he is strong in while building up the fundamentals in the subjects that he needs more support in.

Subject-Based Banding at the end of P4



- School recommends subject combination, based on P4 exam results
- Parents indicate preferred combination on option form



- Student takes subject combination chosen by parents



- Final decision by school

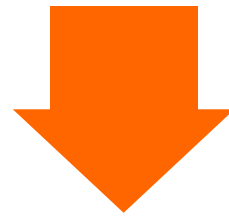


- Student takes subject combination decided by his school and sits for the PSLE

Subject-Based Banding at the end of P4

Possible Recommendation based on Performance

Student performs very well in all 4 subjects

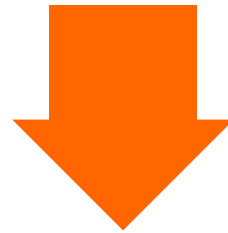


4 standard subjects
+ Higher Mother Tongue Language

Subject-Based Banding at the end of P4

Possible Recommendation based on Performance

Student passes all 4 subjects



4 standard subjects



#CuriousMinds

#CaringHearts

#CreativeSpirits

Subject-Based Banding at the end of P4

Possible Recommendation based on Performance

Student passes 2 subjects or fewer



4 standard subjects

3 standard subjects + 1 foundation subject

2 standard subjects + 2 foundation subjects

1 standard subject + 3 foundation subjects

4 foundation subjects

Higher Mother Tongue

- Higher Mother Tongue is an additional subject. Students must be strong in the other subjects in order to manage studies well;
- Option to take Higher Mother Tongue in P5 is given only **ONCE** at the end of Primary 4;
- Subsequent movement will be based solely on student's performance and advice of the school.

Higher Mother Tongue Structure

	Higher Chinese Language	Higher Malay Language
Learning Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1 HCL textbook for both HCL and CL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1 HML textbook for both HML and ML
Additional Lessons	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1 hourOnce a weekOutside of curriculum hours	
Examination	2 examinations: <ul style="list-style-type: none">1 for CL/ML1 for HCL/HML (for P5 and P6)	

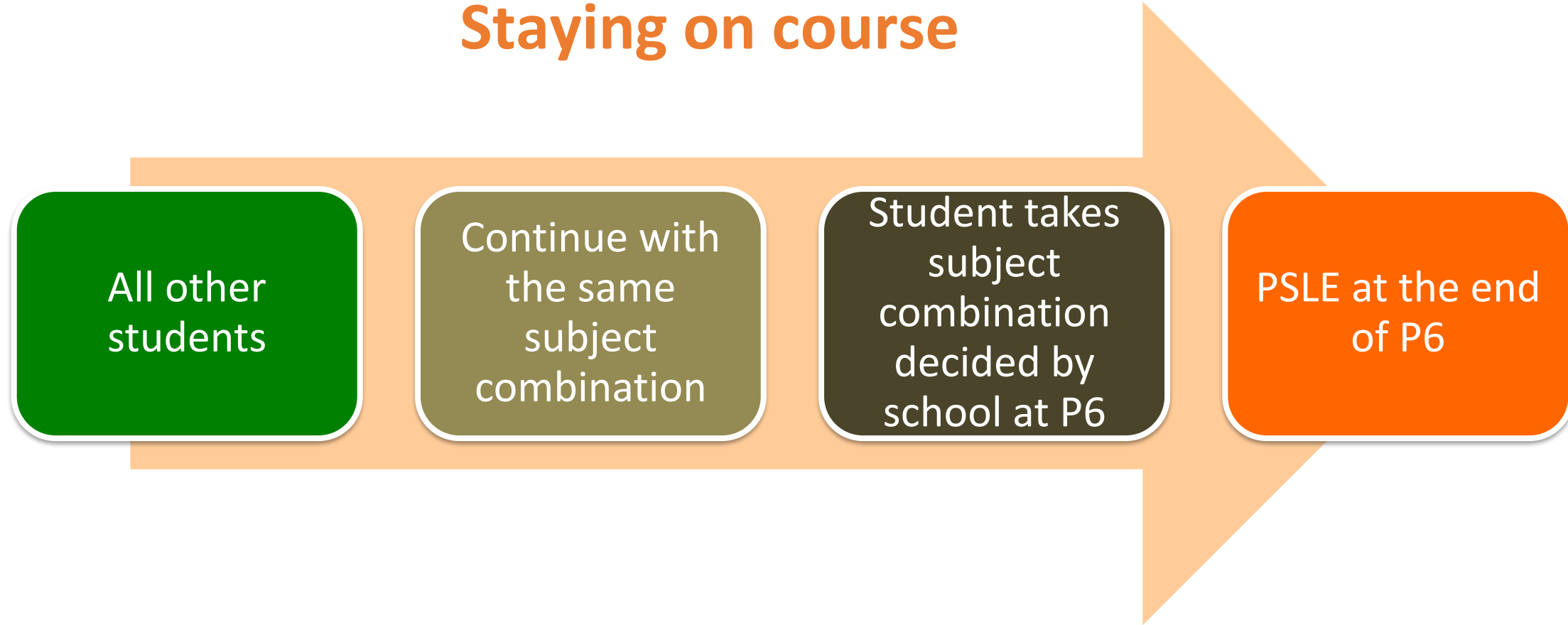
Eligibility for Higher Mother Tongue (HMT)

Mother Tongue	English, Mathematics and Science	School Recommendation
Band 1	3 Band 1/ 2 Band 1, 1 high Band 2	Student takes HMT in P5

- School identifies students and advises parents on whether their child is eligible;
- Students are expected to take HMT for a complete year before they can request to drop the subject.

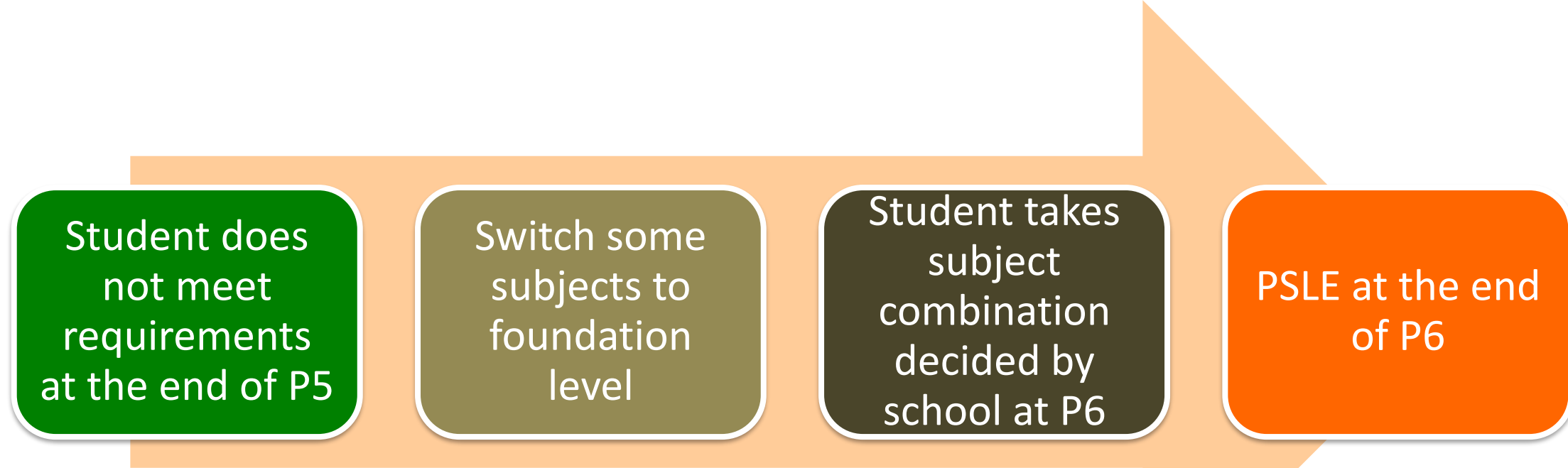
Movement at the end of P5: 1st recommendation

Staying on course



Movement at the end of P5: 2nd recommendation

Switching to a different SBB combination



Students who have difficulties coping with standard levels may:

- Proceed to P6 with 1 or more standard subject(s) switched to the foundation level

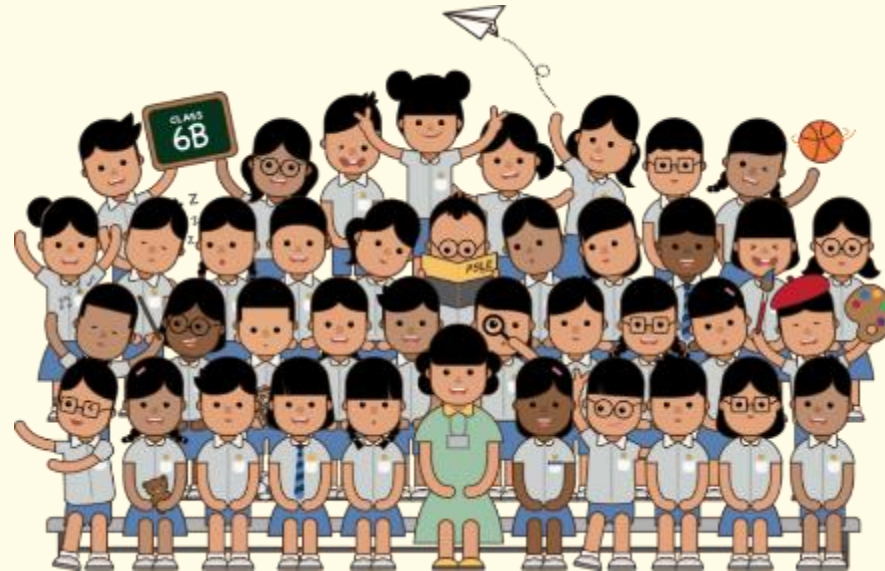
Considerations

- Students who pass 2 or fewer subjects at P4 may offer Foundation subjects, after due consideration is given to the overall and individual subject score obtained as well as the overall ability and aptitude of the child;
- 1S(MT)3F - Academically weaker students should not offer Standard Mother Tongue Language (MTL) at the expense of building a strong foundation in literacy and numeracy. Students offering Standard MTL should also have demonstrated strong MTL performance at P4;
- Offering Standard subjects should not put the child at risk of getting AL8 and not qualifying for progression to secondary school.

The PSLE SCORING and S1 POSTING

**SUPPORTING STUDENTS AND PARENTS IN MAKING
INFORMED SCHOOL CHOICES FOR PSLE**

Briefing Deck to P5 and P6 Parents



WHAT ARE ACHIEVEMENT LEVELS (AL)?

WHY ARE THE BANDS UNEVEN?

- Students with similar scores in each subject are grouped into scoring bands measured in 8 ALs.
- AL bands and mark ranges are set based on the learning objectives of the curriculum, and mirror the way we learn.

When we learn something new, after some initial practice, we often find ourselves improving significantly.


As we get better, the improvements become small steps, and finally, as we reach a high level, we inch just a little further, even after much learning and practice.

The ALs were designed to reflect this reality of learning. They help educators, students, and parents know how ready students are to access the curriculum at the next level.

AL	RAW MARK RANGE
1	≥ 90
2	85 – 89
3	80 – 84
4	75 – 79
5	65 – 74
6	45 – 64
7	20 – 44
8	< 20

HOW DOES THE PSLE SCORING SYSTEM WORK?

- The overall PSLE Score is made up of 4 subject Achievement Levels (ALs).
- The PSLE Score can range from 4 to 32, with 4 being the best.



Elena PSLE Score **14**

PSLE Subject	AL Score
English	2
Math	2
Foundation Science	AL A = 6
Mother Tongue Language	4

GRADING OF FOUNDATION SUBJECT GRADES

- Foundation subject grades are graded in scoring bands from **AL A to C**.
- To derive a student's overall PSLE Score for S1 Posting, AL A to AL C for Foundation level subjects are **mapped to AL 6 to AL 8 of Standard level subjects respectively**.
- This mapping is based on the learning and assessment load of the subjects, and informs students of how ready they are for the curriculum in secondary school.

FOUNDATION LEVEL AL	FOUNDATION RAW MARK RANGE	EQUIVALENT STANDARD LEVEL AL
A	75 – 100	6
B	30 – 74	7
C	< 30	8

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR HIGHER MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGE (HMTL)

- The eligibility criteria for taking HMTL ensures that students can cope with the higher academic load.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR HMTL

- (i) An overall PSLE Score of 8 or better**
- or**
- (ii) An overall PSLE Score of 9 to 14 (inclusive); and attain**
 - **AL 1 / AL 2 in MTL or**
 - **Distinction / Merit in HMTL**

- For students who do not meet the above criteria, secondary schools will have the flexibility to offer HMTL to students if they are assessed to have high ability and interest in MTL, and are able to cope with the learning load required.



Thank you!