

Updated on 16 May 2024

For Express Stream

1. If my child fails her Mathematics and does not score 50% or better for all her other subjects, can she still proceed to Secondary 3 Express? What are her choices?

To be promoted to Secondary 3 Express, a student needs to have a pass in English and obtained 50% or more in the overall percentage of all subjects combined. Students who do not meet this promotion criteria will be laterally transferred to Secondary 3 Normal (Academic).

You may refer to the Student Handbook for the promotion and lateral transfer criteria (pages 38 and 39) found at our school website:

https://www.hougangsec.moe.edu.sg/files/HS_Handbook_2024_caa17Apr2024.pdf

If your child does not meet the promotion criteria, she will be advised accordingly by her Character Coaches, during platforms that include Parent-Teacher Meetings (PTM). PTM 1 was held on Friday, 24 May 2024.

2. Is Mother Tongue a compulsory subject to pass for entry to Junior College?

To be eligible for admission to a Junior College (JC), a student must meet the grade requirements for specific subjects, which include:

Subject	Grade
English Language	1-6
Any 1 Mathematics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mathematics ● Additional Mathematics 	1-7
Any 1 Mother Tongue Language (MTL) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● MTL: Chinese, Malay, Tamil ● MTL approved by MOE in lieu of an official MTL (MTL-in-lieu): Arabic, Bengali, Burmese, French, German, Gujarati, Hindi, Japanese, Punjabi, Thai, Urdu 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● MTL or MTL-in-lieu: 1-7 ● Higher MTL: 1-8 ● 'B' Syllabus: Merit or Pass <p>Note: There is no Higher level or 'B' Syllabus for MTL-in-lieu.</p>

As such, a student must attain a grade of D7 or better for MTL or a grade of E8 or better for Higher MTL or Merit/Pass in "B" Syllabus MTL to be eligible for admission to a JC course. In addition, he/she must attain an L1R5 gross aggregate score of 20 or less to be eligible for

admission to a JC course. Do note that MTL need not be included in the computation of L1R5 gross aggregate score.

For more information on admission on JC, please refer to <https://www.moe.gov.sg/post-secondary/admissions/jae/junior-colleges-and-millennia-institute#GradeReqJC>

3. Would my child be exempted from any subject(s) if he takes English Literature?

Hougang Secondary School (HS) offers all Express students a 7-subject combination. Students who take English Literature will not be exempted from any subject.

4. My child takes Literature at Secondary 2 Express.

Is it recommended for her to take Literature as one of the Humanities subjects?

All Secondary 2 Express students take English Literature. Students can decide whether to continue to take English Literature in Upper Secondary based on their interest in the subject as well as their aptitude for the subject. Do advise your child to consult his/her Literature teacher to find out more.

For Normal Academic

1. Are there relevant electives that will enable my child to apply for IT-related courses after she graduates from secondary school?

You may refer to the links below for the admission criteria for IT-related courses in Institutes of Higher Learning (Polytechnic / Institute of Technical Education)

Polytechnic Foundation Programme, courses, and eligibility:

<https://www.tp.edu.sg/schools-and-courses/students/schools/cfs/polytechnic-foundation-programme-pfp.html#course-overview>

ITE (page 22 onwards):

<https://www.ite.edu.sg/docs/default-source/full-time-courses-doc/ite-course-booklet-final.pdf>

2. Regarding the promotion criteria for Sec 2 Normal (Academic), what are the four subjects for promotion to Secondary 3 Normal (Academic) if my child fails English?

To be promoted to Secondary 3 Normal (Academic), a student needs to pass English and 2 other examinable subjects OR pass 4 examinable subjects.

You may refer to the Student Handbook for the promotion & lateral transfer criteria (pages 38 and 39) found at our school website:

https://www.hougangsec.moe.edu.sg/files/HS_Handbook_2024_caa17Apr2024.pdf

3a. What is the criteria for promotion to Secondary 3 Express?

Students MUST pass English AND obtained 70% or more in the overall percentage of all subjects combined may be laterally transferred to Secondary 3 Express.

You may refer to the student handbook for the promotion & lateral transfer criteria (pages 38 and 39) found at our school website:

https://www.hougangsec.moe.edu.sg/files/HS_Handbook_2024_caa17Apr2024.pdf

3b. What are the criteria for taking Out-of-Stream (OSS) subjects? What is the difference between the two?

Students are allowed to take 1 or more subjects at a more demanding level, i.e. Out-Of-Stream (OSS) subjects. For example, Normal (Academic) students will be able to take on subjects at the Express level and sit for the GCE 'O' level paper for that subject.

If your child is already taking a more demanding subject at Secondary 2, she needs to obtain at least a pass in the subject's overall results for the year for him/her to continue taking the OSS at Secondary 3.