

# School Leader's Address (Sec 2)

Mr Tay Yuan Zhuang

Vice-Principal

27 Jan 2024

后港中学



**HOUGANG**  
SECONDARY SCHOOL



Re-Envisioned from 2024

# School Vision

## Nurturing Empowered, Future-Ready Hougeans of Character and Purpose





# School Mission

**Care**  
**Lead**  
**Inspire**  
**Partner**





# Our School Values

GratITUDE

Respect

Empathy

Adaptability

Trustworthiness

**FROM GRIT  
TO GREAT!**



*Every Hougéan*



**A Future-Ready Learner  
An Empowered Leader  
A Resilient Innovator  
A Community Builder**

# SEC 1 ROADMAP (2023)

## January

- Sec 1 Orientation
- GRIT Formation Week
- Study Skills Workshop
- CCA Open House
- Innovation Cohort Programme

## February

- Home Based Learning
- Student-Initiated Learning

## March

- Sec 1 Outdoor Adventure Learning

## May

- Sports Carnival @ Singapore Sports Hub
- Enrichment Programmes (EL Applied Learning, Code for Fun and Learning Journey)
- HS Spirit Day
- Innovation Cohort Programme

## September - October

- Inter-level – Encourage the Heart for Sec 4/5
- Innovation Carnival
- Post Exam Programmes (Arts Fest, MT Applied Learning, Code for Fun and Learning Journey)
- SIL showcase
- Student-Initiated Class Bonding
- Cleanathon

# SEC 2 ROADMAP (2024)

1

**JAN**

Learner Centred Programme  
(Conflict Management)  
GREAT Formation Week  
Breakfast with Character Coaches  
Sec 2 PMP

2

**FEB**

Home Based Learning  
Student Initiated Learning  
Mother Tongue Fortnight I  
Experience @ ITE  
(Sec 2 Normal Technical only)

3

**MAR**

Inspire Week @ HS  
Learner Centred Programme  
(Study Skills focusing on  
memory and retention)  
Careers Day  
Financial Literacy Workshop

4

**APR/MAY**

Sports Carnival  
Learn a Skill Carnival (VIA)  
English and Mother Tongue Oral Exam  
Mid Year Parent Teacher Meet

5

**JUL/SEPT/OCT**

Subject Combination & ECG Briefing  
Mother Tongue Fortnight II  
End of Year Examinations  
**Inspire Week @ HS**  
Interclass Challenge  
Class Bonding  
Subject Combination Exercise for students  
End of Year Parent Teacher Meet

**GRATITUDE RESPECT EMPATHY ADAPTABILITY TRUSTWORTHINESS**

# Sec 1 & 2 as Foundation Years

- The importance of Sec 1 and 2 as foundation years to put the students in good standing for Upper Sec.
- Sec 1 & 2 are not “honeymoon” years.



# HOME-BASED LEARNING (HBL) & STUDENT-INITIATED LEARNING (SIL)

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# List of HBL Days in 2024

SN	Date (Day)	Remarks
1	14 Feb (Wed)	
2	29 Feb (Thu)	
3	20 Mar (Wed)	
4	4 Apr (Thu)	
5	15 Apr (Mon)	
6	16 May (Thu)	
7	24 Jun (Mon)	
8	10 Jul (Wed)	
9 -11	23 Jul (Tue) 24 Jul (Wed) 25 Jul (Thu)	Sec 4 Nat'l Exams (Oral)
12	5 Aug (Mon)	

- ❑ For 2024, HBL days will be held **once a fortnight** and **rotated** across **Mon, Wed and Thur.**
- ❑ For Sec 2, it will commence from **Term 1 Week 7 (14 Feb).**

# Things to Note for HBL Days

- ❑ HBL will be in the form of **asynchronous learning (i.e. not 'live'/real time lessons)** where students will learn at their own pace and time by accessing and completing lessons prepared in advance by their Subject Teachers.
- ❑ Students can follow the school's timetable for the day, including the recess period which will serve as a break for the students.

# Things to Note for HBL Days

- ❑ There will be **no morning attendance taking**, and students are encouraged to complete their assignments **before 5 pm**.
- ❑ Students **do not have to come to school** on HBL days. Those who need a more conducive environment to learn are requested to inform their Character Coaches (CCs). Arrangements could be made for these students to return to school on HBL Days, on a **case-by-case basis**.

# HBL Schedules for Reference

- ❑ **Centralised HBL schedule for reference** (avail on school website):
- ❑ **Monitoring** of student engagement:
  - Through quizzes/exit passes, submission of assignments (via Student Learning Space etc)
  - Consolidated feedback from Subject Teachers to CCs, IP HODs and Year Heads/ Asst Year Heads where necessary.

9 Jan 2023 MONDAY					
T1W2				Homework	ETC (mins)
Lesson	Teacher	Instruction			
SCI3	Mdm Sisca/Ms Chua YJ	Refer to Google Classroom for details		N.A.	40
SCI2	Ms R Yong	View and complete SLS assignment on Forces		Home-based experiment from the SLS assignment	50

# HBL Schedules for Reference

Via School  
Website



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OPEN HOUSE [↗](#)

**HBL-SIL**

DEPARTMENTS [∨](#)

KEY PROGRAMMES [∨](#)

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES [∨](#)

ABOUT US [∨](#)

HOME / QUICK LINKS / HBL SIL / HBL-SIL

## HBL-SIL

Secondary One

Registration

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**HBL SIL**



### Home-Based Learning and Student-Initiated Learning (HBL-SIL)

Home-Based Learning (HBL) on every even Wednesday, will commence from Term 1 Week 2 (12 January) onwards for all levels. HBL will be in the form of asynchronous learning. Your

# HBL Schedules for Reference

Via School Website

## HBL-SIL

Education and Career  
Guidance (ECG) and  
Counselling Services

For Students 

For Parents 


For Staff 

PLD Initiative 

Admin 

Appeal For Transfer Into HS

passionate about, such as tinkering, baking or playing a musical instrument.

1. **General Instructions.** Assignments are based on the timetable for HBL Wednesday. While there is no morning attendance-taking, students are encouraged to start the day early and complete their assigned tasks before 5 pm. Please refer to the links below for the schedule and subject-specific instructions. The instructions (I), Estimated Time on Computer (ECT) and Homework (HW) (where applicable) will be indicated clearly in the schedule. The HBL briefing slides can also be found  [here](#).

- [Sec 1 Schedule](#)
- [Sec 2 Schedule](#)
- [Sec 3 Schedule](#)
- [Sec 4/5 Schedule](#)

Click on "Sec 2 Schedule"

# Support from Parents for HBL

- ❑ Encourage your child to **maintain healthy sleep hours** in preparation for HBL.
- ❑ Check-in with your child/ward through **conversations** on how they are coping with the new responsibilities and expectations.
- ❑ Guide your child to **establish routines at home**, inclusive of short breaks to refresh the mind.
- ❑ **Share good stories** of your child with their CCs or subject teachers so that we can reinforce and affirm your child's growth.



# Student-Initiated Learning (SIL)

- ❑ On HBL days, **1 hour** is set aside for SIL.
- ❑ Students are to use this time to **explore an area of interest by initiating learning activities on their own**. For e.g., students can try out hands-on activities on topics that they are passionate about, such as learning a language, baking or playing a musical instrument. This can be **within or beyond the curriculum**.
- ❑ We hope that through SIL, your child will become lifelong learners who are **self-directed, passionate** and **intrinsically motivated in learning**.

# SIL Schedule 2024

Level	Period	Remarks	No. of Sessions (1hr each)
Sec 1	T1W8 – T3W10	- Submission of plans in W8 (23 Feb) - Last session – 30 Aug	10
<b>Sec 2 to 3</b>	<b>T1W6 – T3W10</b>	<b>Last session – 30 Aug</b>	<b>13</b>
Sec 4 to 5	T1W4 – T2W9	Last session – 17 May	7

# Support from Parents for SIL

- ❑ Parents will receive a **request via Parents Gateway** for you to acknowledge your child's SIL plan **by 23 Feb 2024.**
- ❑ Engage your child in conversations to **explore his/her strengths and interests**, and work with him/her if he/she requires help in planning the SIL activities.
- ❑ Ensure that he/she **takes ownership** of his/her learning, by setting his/her own action plans for SIL. You are strongly encouraged to **set ground rules together** with him/her to provide a **conducive home environment** for his/her HBL-SIL experience.
- ❑ For more details on SIL, please refer to the **HS SIL One-Stop Portal:**  
<https://sites.google.com/view/hssil/home>  
(also avail on sch website via "For Parents" link)

# Queries

- ❑ For matters relating to **HBL or the HBL assignments**, you may contact the respective subject teachers.
- ❑ For **queries on SIL**, please contact your child's Character Coaches.

# ASSESSMENT MATTERS

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# Removal of Mid-Year Exams

- ❑ **Mid-Year Exams (MYE) for all Primary and Secondary schools have been removed since 2023.**
- ❑ This enables schools to further **reduce excessive focus on exams** and provide more time and space to **deepen learning** and **strengthen their development of 21CC** (21st Century Competencies).
- ❑ The promotion of students from one level to the next is based on their **overall** performances in **both the Weighted Assessments (WA) and End-of-Year (EOY) Examination.**

# Assessment Modes & Weighting (Sec 2)

Refer to Student Handbook p.36

## 2024 Assessment Modes and Weighting for Secondary 2

Subject	Stream	Term 1 WA	Term 2 WA	Term 3 WA	Term 4 WA	Term 4 (EOY)	Total
English Language	E, NA, NT	10%	15%	15%	10% (AA)	50%	100%
Chinese and Malay Languages	E, NA, NT	10%	15%	15%	10% (AA)	50%	100%
Tamil Language	E, NA, NT	15%	15%	15%	0%	55%	100%
Literature	E, NA	10%	15%	15%	10% (AA)	50%	100%
Mathematics	E, NA, NT	15%	15%	15%	5% (AA)	50%	100%
Science	E, NA, NT	15%	15%	15%	5% (AA)	50%	100%
Art	CMN	15%	15%	15%	5% (AA)	50%	100%
History	E, NA	10%	15% (HI)	15% (HI)	10%	50%	100%
Geography	E, NA	10%	15% (GI)	15% (GI)	10%	50%	100%
CPA	NT	15%	15%	15%	5% (AA)	50%	100%
Design & Technology	CMN	15%	15%	NIL		70% (Cwk+AA)	100%
Food & Consumer Education	CMN	NIL		15%	15%	70% (AM+AA)	100%

Note: CMN denotes common curriculum  
 CWK denotes coursework  
 HI denotes Historical Investigation  
 GI denotes Geographical Investigation

# Weighted Assessments (WA)

- ❑ **Weighted Assessments (WA)** comprises (i) **Class Tests** and (ii) **Alternative Assessments (AA)**.
- ❑ For Sec 2, **Class Tests will begin in Term 1 Week 5**. The Class Test schedule (summary) has been put up on the **school website** (refer to letter from school via **Parents' Gateway**) and your child will be notified to refer to it.
- ❑ Students and parents will also receive updates on the exact **dates and modes** of the WAs for each subject (via school website and PG).



# Class Test Schedule 2024 (Summary)

**Semester 1**

**Term 1**

	WEEK 5 29 Jan – 2 Feb		WEEK 6 5 Feb – 9 Feb		WEEK 8 19 Feb – 23 Feb			WEEK 9 26 Feb – 1 Mar	
	SUB 1	SUB 2	SUB 1	SUB 2	SUB 1	SUB 2	SUB 3	SUB 1	SUB 2
Sec 1	SUB 1	SUB 2	SUB 1	SUB 2	SUB 1	SUB 2	SUB 3	SUB 1	SUB 2
G3/G2	EL	MT	NFS	Literature	Science	# Geo	# Hist	Maths	
G1	EL	MT	NFS		# Science			Maths	

2E/NA	EL	MT	Literature		Science	# Geo	# Hist	Maths	D&T
2NT	EL	MT			# Science	CPA		Maths	D&T

**Term 2**

	# WEEK 5 15 Apr – 19 Apr		WEEK 6 22 Apr – 26 Apr		WEEK 7 29 Apr – 3 May		WEEK 8 6 May – 10 May		WEEK 9 13 May – 17 May	
	SUB 1	SUB 2	SUB 1	SUB 2	SUB 1	SUB 2	SUB 1	SUB 2	SUB 1	
Sec 1	SUB 1	SUB 2	SUB 1	SUB 2	SUB 1	SUB 2	SUB 1	SUB 2	SUB 1	
G3/G2	# EL		MT	NFS	Science	Literature	Maths			
G1	# EL		MT	NFS	Science		Maths			

2E/NA	# EL		MT		Science	Literature	Maths	D&T		
2NT	# EL		MT		Science	CPA	Maths	D&T		

# WA Feedback & Updates

- ❑ WAs are **bite-sized** and **just-in-time** after a topic, chapter or skill has been taught.
- ❑ Opportunities for **regular checks of understanding**.
- ❑ Provides **feedback for teachers**, informs and guide them in tailoring and customising content to suit different learner profiles.
- ❑ Provides **feedback for students** on their learning progress, their areas for growth and guides them in terms of strategies to improve,
- ❑ A **Progress Report** will be issued to parents for endorsement at the end of each term.

# End-of-Year Examination Dates

<b>25 Sep 2024</b>	English Language Paper 1 & 2
<b>26 Sep 2024</b>	Mother Tongue Languages Paper 1 & 2
<b>27 Sep – 4 Oct 2024</b>	Examinations for all other subjects

# Timed Practices

- ❑ Timed Practices (TP) aim to **familiarise students with examination formats and conditions**. They also provide teachers and students with **feedback on students' overall learning progress**.
- ❑ TP for Sec 2 will be scheduled by departments during curriculum and/or Structured Consultation Time slots. They will be scheduled TP at appropriate junctures, for example, as a lead-in to the End-of-Year Examination.
- ❑ TP may take the form of **full-length paper(s) or partial paper(s)**.
- ❑ **Feedback** will be provided to students for TP too.

# CHARACTER & CONDUCT

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# Mobile Phone Usage Policy **Updated**

Refer to Student  
Handbook p.14

## **Only allowed:**

- Before formal curriculum begins at 7.30 am.
- During recess time at designated locations (i.e. Canteen and Foyer) in school.
- After the last period of their lessons.

# Mobile Phone Usage Policy **Updated**

Refer to Student Handbook p.14

- **1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> offence:** Mobile phone/electronic device will be confiscated till 5pm on that day. Parents will be informed.
- **3<sup>rd</sup> offence and above:** Confiscated mobile phone/electronic device will be returned only **after 5 school days**. The student will be required to submit a signed parent's reply slip.

# Our Expectations of Hougeans

Please refer to the HS Student Handbook on the school website for school rules, expectation and consequences.



## Secondary One Registration

HBL SIL

## For Students

For Parents

For Staff

PLD Initiative

Admin

Appeal For Transfer Into HS

HS ICT Helpdesk Form

## Pathway for Students

- [A Guide To Post-Secondary Admission Exercises](#)
- [On Poly Foundation Program \(PFP\)](#)
- [On ITE to Poly Program \(DPP\)](#)

## HS Student Handbook

[Download HS Student Handbook \(04 Jan 2024\)](#)

## Timetable 2024

[Download Class Timetable 2024 Semester 1](#)

## HS ICT Helpdesk Form

OUR LATEST UPDATES  
**Announcements**



# Home-School Partnership

## How parents can partner the school in cultivating GREAT Stars (in the area of self-discipline and self-management)

1. Encourage responsible use of technology both in school and at home;
2. Discourage smoking/vaping (*please refer to PG message sent on 4 Jan 2024*);
3. Encourage healthy sleeping habits to promote attention in school; and
4. Reiterate the importance of being punctual for school.

# CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (CCAs)

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## Co-Curricular Activities

Life Skills

Social Mixing

Leadership Opportunities

# LEAPS 2.0 Domains

## Participation

- Affirms students' **sustained development** in school-based CCA throughout secondary school.

## Service

- Affirms students' contributions to the community and development as **responsible and active citizens**.

## LEadership

- Affirms students' **development as a leader**.

## Achievement

- Affirms different levels of **representation and accomplishment** in students' involvement in school or external organisations.

# Participation

- Continuous sustained participation in CCA throughout the four years in school.
- **96.3% of our Secondary 2 students achieved at least 75% attendance in 2023.**
- Absence from CCA must be accompanied by Medical Certification from a doctor.
- Note: CCA Attendance is included in the computation of Conduct Grade.

# Where to Find LEAPS 2.0 Info

Via School Website



- OPEN HOUSE
- HBL-SIL
- DEPARTMENTS
- KEY PROGRAMMES
- CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
- ABOUT US
- QUICK LINK

HOME / CO CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES / LEAPS 2'0 GUIDE

## LEAPS 2'0 Guide

Co Curricular Activities (CCA)

Performing Arts

Uniformed Groups

Sports and Games

Club and Society

LEAPS 2'0 Guide

Co Curricular Activities (CCA)

Performing Arts

A holistic education provides students with a broad and deep foundation for lifelong learning. This includes learning not just in the academic areas. Equally important is the development of values and life skills in each child. This will equip the child to handle the challenges in life later on.



# Awards & Recognition for Students

- EAGLES Award
- Scholarships at Higher Institutions
- Colours Award
- Sportsmanship Award
- Best Unit Awards (Uniformed Groups)
- Certificate of Distinction / Accomplishment (SYF)
- External Performances / Competitions (SYF, NSG)

# CHARACTER & CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION (CCE)

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# Learning for Life Programme: Community Youth Leadership

*Make The Difference, A Hougean's Way of Life*



**Stop animal cruelty**

animal abuse, or animal cruelty is the crime of inflicting physical pain, suffering or death on an animal.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

- one animal is abused every minute
- annually, over 10 million animals in the US are abused to death
  - laboratory testing uses 115 million animals in experiments every year

**WHAT CAN WE DO TO HELP THEM?**

we can speak up for the ones that do not have a voice for themselves and report animal abuse to the police or authorities, be a responsible pet owner

The infographic features three illustrations: a white dog with a bandage, a brown dog with a red heart and a red bandana, and a grey dog with a sad expression.

## As part of Character & Citizenship (CCE) lessons

- Building empathy
- Looking beyond one's immediate environment to identify areas of need

## Student-initiated VIA Projects

- Plan
- Implement
- Reflect



# National Education Programme

- Learning Journey to National Museum of Singapore (Oct 2024)
- Racial Harmony Day Commemoration (all levels)
- National Day Care Packs for Elderly (all levels)



# Educational & Career Guidance (ECG) Experiences

## Enrichment Week (T1W10 March 2024)

Learn-a-skill workshops	Learning Journey
Career Life Game & Public Communication	Science & Engineering
Financial Literacy	Tourism & hospitality
Dialect, Sign Language	Food & Beverage
Balloon Sculpting, Magic Tricks	Healthcare/Early Childhood
Make a Sock Plushie	



# Our Counsellors



## Ms Juan Pei-Ling ECG Counsellor

1. Face-to-face at the Engagement Centre, every Tue & Wed (8am – 5pm)
2. Book appointment via MOE ECG Counsellor booking form <https://go.gov.sg/hss-ecgc>,

OR scan this QR code:



<https://go.gov.sg/hss-ecgc>

# Our Counsellors



## **Mrs Laila**

### Senior School Counsellor

Book appointment  
face-to-face at the counselling room  
OR via Character Coach

# SECONDARY THREE SUBJECT COMBINATION SELECTION

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# Tentative Sec 3Exp Subject Combinations for 2025

## Sec 3 Express (Pure Sciences)

NO.	SUBJECTS		
1	English Language		
2	Mother Tongue ( Chinese / Malay / Tamil / Others)		
3	Elementary Mathematics		
4	Additional Mathematics		
5	Pure Science 1 (Chemistry)		
6	Pure Sciences 2	Physics	Choose 1
		Biology	
7	Humanities	Social Studies & Geography	Choose 1
		Social Studies & History	

**Sec 3 Express 2025  
(Combined Sciences)**

NO.	SUBJECTS		
1	English Language		
2	Mother Tongue ( Chinese / Malay / Tamil / Others)		
3	Elementary Mathematics		
4	Principles of Accounts		
5	Combined Sciences	Chemistry/Biology	Choose 1
		Chemistry/Physics	
6	Humanities	Social Studies & Geography	Choose 1
		Social Studies & History	
		Social Studies & Malay Literature	
7	Elective (*coursework subjects)	Additional Mathematics	Choose 1
		English Literature	
		Computing	
		Art*	
		Design & Technology*	
		Nutrition and Food Science*	





# Tentative Sec 3NA Subject Combinations for 2025

NO.	SUBJECTS		
1	English Language		
2	Mother Tongue ( Chinese / Malay / Tamil / Others)		
3	Mathematics		
4	Combined Science ( Physics / Chemistry)		
5	Humanities	Social Studies & Geography	Choose 1
		Social Studies & History	
6	Elective (non-coursework/coursework)	Principles of Accounts	Choose 1
		English Literature	
		Art*	
		Design & Technology*	
		Nutrition and Food Science*	

\* Coursework subjects



# Tentative Sec 3NT Subject Combinations for 2025

NO.	SUBJECTS		
1	English Language		
2	Basic Mother Tongue ( Chinese / Malay / Tamil)		
3	Mathematics		
4	Computer Applications		
5	Elective 1	Science	Choose 1
		Elements of Business Skills*	
6	Elective 2	Art *	Choose 1
		Design & Technology*	
		Nutrition and Food Science*	

\* Coursework subjects



# OSS for NA and NT Students

1. **Out-of-Stream Subjects (OSS)\*** that are currently offered are **English Language, Mother Tongue, Mathematics and Science**.
  - NA students will be offered OSS subjects if they meet the **school-based criteria of 75% or better** for the subject.
  - These students can take up to a **maximum of 3** OSS subjects.
2. For **current Sec 2 SBB** students who are taking more demanding level subject(s), they would need to score **50% or better for Express** more demanding level subjects or **60% or better for NA** more demanding level subjects to be eligible for the OSS in Secondary 3

*\*OSS are offering of subjects at a higher level, for example NA students taking Exp Math OR NT students taking NA Math .*



# Important Dates

Date	Details	Remarks
27 Jan	Principal-Meets-Parents Session	Tentative Subject Combinations for 2025
6 – 8 March	Careers Day : Subject Combination Talks	For students during curriculum time
<b>15 May</b>	<b>Subjects Combination briefing to parents</b>	<b>Online (Evening) 5.30 – 6.30 pm</b>
24 May	Parent-Teacher Meet (Mid-Year)	Details will be sent via Parents Gateway nearer the date.
25 Sept – 4 Oct	End of Year Exam	
<b>10 Oct</b>	<b>Briefing on Subject Combinations for students</b>	<b>During CC Admin Time</b>
25 Oct	Parent-Teacher Meet (End of Year)	Details will be sent via Parents Gateway nearer the date.
<b>25-28 Oct</b>	<b>Actual Subject Combination Exercise</b>	<b>Deadline on 28 Oct 24, 5 pm</b> Students who did not submit their options after deadline will be assigned a combination based on availability.
<b>11 Nov</b>	<b>Release of Subject Combination outcome</b>	<b>Online Portal</b>
<b>11 – 13 Nov</b>	<b>Appeal period</b>	<b>Deadline, 13 Nov 3 pm</b> with consent from parents and CCs are to be informed. Students will be informed via email on the outcome of the appeal.

**DONE**

# HOME-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

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# Communicating with Teachers

- In line with the Ministry of Education's Five-Day Work Week, parents are advised that **teachers can be contacted during weekdays between 7.30am and 6pm.**
- All teachers' email addresses are also available on the school website for parents' convenience.
- Parents can also **contact the General Office at 6385 1990** for further assistance.

Thanks  
You

