

Principal-Meets-Parents 2025 (Secondary 4)

HOUGANG
SECONDARY SCHOOL



Mr Lim Soon Wai, Vice-Principal
Mdm Martini, Sec 4&5 AYH
7 February 2025

Outline

1. Preparing our Graduating Cohort

2. Academic Support

3. Emotional Support

4. Support from Parents



1. Preparing our Graduating Cohort



Overview

End Goal: Know the Pathways to a course of your choice in JC / Poly / ITE
Know your aptitude, interest, passion, strengths

Timeline: Know the dates / deadlines

Strategies: Pacing, Practising

Support: Academic / Emotional / Parents



Know the Pathways

Sec 4 Exp & 5NA

- JC – consider DSA JC
- Poly – consider EAE Poly

Sec 4NA

- Poly – aim for PFP / DPP + consider EAE ITE

Sec 4NT

- ITE – consider EAE ITE

If you have strong aptitude, interest, talent in certain areas

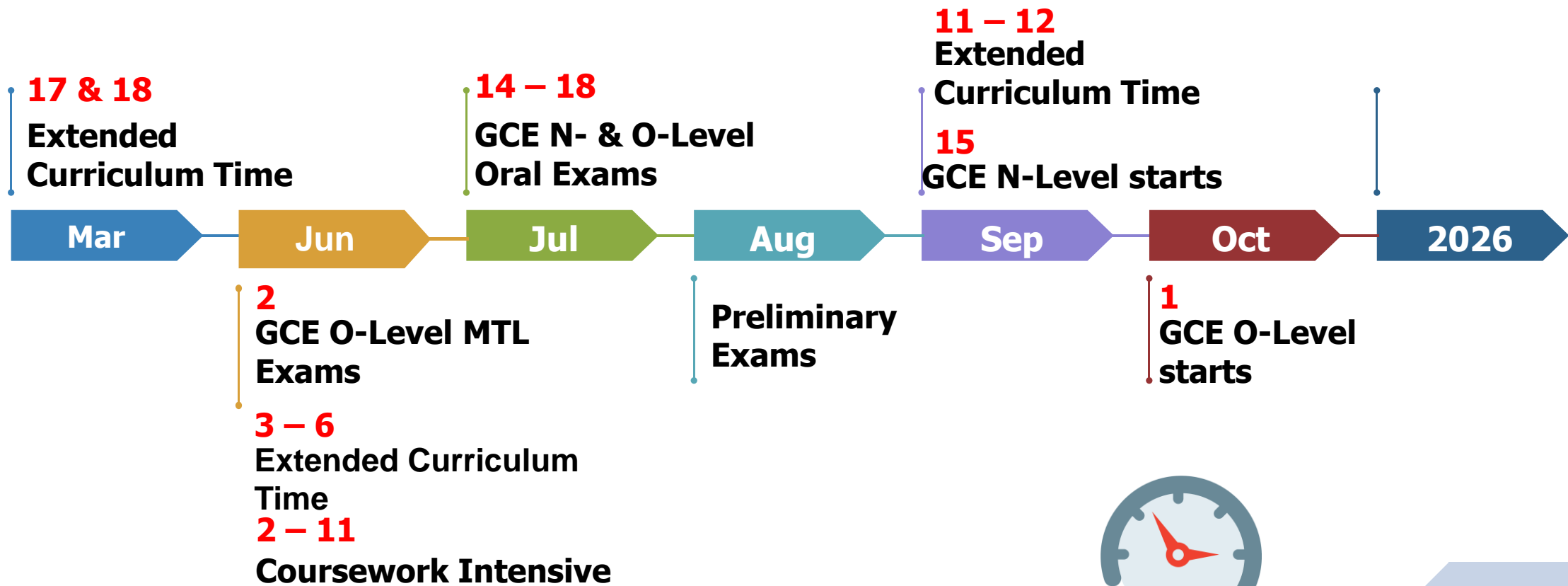
You will learn:

- How to prepare a portfolio
- Interview skills

DSA: Direct School Admission
EAE: Early Admission Exercise



Know the Timeline (At A Glance)





Timeline: School Assessment

- Weighted Assessment 1 – **Term 1 Week 5 to 9**
- Weighted Assessment 2 – **Term 2 Week 4 to 8**
- 4E5N MTL / MTLB Preliminary Examination – **23 April**
- 4N Preliminary Examination (Written) – **12 to 19 August**
- 4E5N Preliminary Examination (Written) – **20 to 29 August**
- 4E5N Preliminary Examination (Science Practical) – **1 to 3 September**





Timeline: GCE N-Level Exam (Tentative)

- N-Level EL/MTL Syllabus A & T Oral Examination – **14 to 18 July**
- N-Level LC EL Syllabus A / N(T) BCL / BML – **16 September**
- N-Level LC EL Syllabus T / N(A) CL / ML – **17 September**
- N-Level CPA Practical Exam – **19 & 25 September**
- N-Level Written Exam – **15 to 23 September; 6 to 14 October**

Refer to SEAB's website for confirmed GCE exam timetable 2025:
<https://www.seab.gov.sg/important-dates-for-candidates/>





Timeline: GCE O-Level Exam (Tentative)

- Mid-Year O-Level MTL / CLB / MLB Exam – **2 June**
- O-Level LC MTL – **8 July**
- O-Level EL / MTL Oral Examination – **14 to 18 July**
- O-Level Science Practical – **1 to 14 October**
- O-Level Computing Practical – **8 October (am)**
- O-Level LC (EL & CLB/MLB) – **8 October (pm)**
- O-Level Written Exam – **16 October to 10 November**

Refer to SEAB's website for confirmed GCE exam timetable 2025:

<https://www.seab.gov.sg/important-dates-for-candidates/>





Timeline: Coursework

Subject	Stream / Schedule
Art	4E5N – 24 Jan to 22 Sep, 5pm 4NA – 24 Jan to 1 Aug, 5pm 4NT – 24 Jan to 13 May, 5pm
D&T	4E5N – 23 Jan to 31 Jul, 5pm 4NA – 23 Jan to 18 Jul, 5pm 4NT – 23 Jan to 18 Jul, 5pm
NFS	4E5N – 23 Jan to 4 Aug, 5pm 4NA – 23 Jan to 14 Jul, 5pm 4NT – 23 Jan to 14 Jul, 5pm
EBS	4NT – 5 Feb to 20 May, 5pm

Coursework Intensive Dates

26 May to 11 June 2025





2. Academic Preparation & Support





Academic Preparation & Support

Term 1		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structured Consultation Time • Feedback
March Holiday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extended Curriculum Time 	
Term 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral Communication Workshops • MTL Intensive • Coursework Intensive • Complete Syllabus 	
June Holiday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extended Curriculum Time • Coursework Intensive 	
Term 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timed Practices • Topical Practices • AI Bot (Support self revision) 	
September Holiday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extended Curriculum Time 	

- *Consultation & Skill Enhancement*
- *Pacing & Time Management*
- *Structured Practice & Feedback*
- *Self Study Tools*



Academic Preparation & Support

- Scores/grades are quick, easy indicators, but incomplete indicators
- The focus must be on learning**; seek to improve, not simply prove
- When we learn well, good results will follow
- Day-to-day feedback** is most critical to improving thinking and learning, to deepen knowledge and skills



Academic Preparation & Support

Take proactive action

- Start now; you still have time
- Set reasonable progressive goals/targets and deadlines
- Attempt and complete the homework given by teachers
- Understand the feedback given by teachers and work to improve
- Consult teachers
- Aim to improve by one grade for the next assessment/exam
- Partner – Feel free to meet with School Leaders/HODs/CCs if you would like further discussions**

CARE LEAD INSPIRE PARTNER

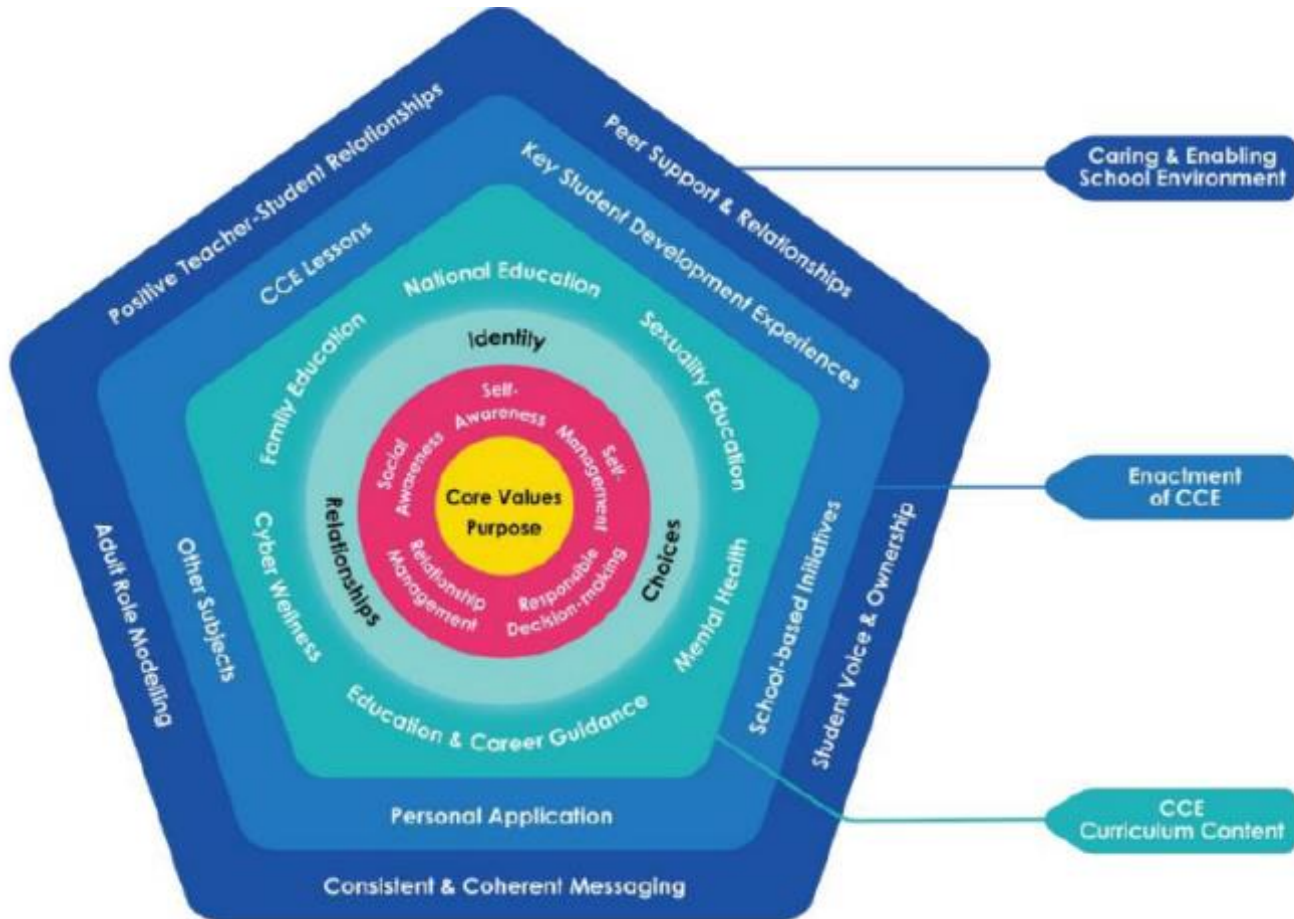


Conduct of Timed Practices

- ❑ **Timed Practices (TP)**, which begin in **Term 3 Week 1**, will provide teachers and students with feedback on students' overall learning and familiarise them with examination formats and conditions; taking into consideration students' learning needs, level of readiness and assessment load.
- ❑ **Sec 4&5 TP** will be scheduled by departments during curriculum and/or extended curriculum time slots; as a lead-in to the Preliminary and National Exams.
- ❑ **TP** may take the form of full-length paper(s) or truncated paper(s). Feedback will be given to students on their TP



Awareness – Beliefs, Emotions, Behaviours



Why pay attention to emotions?

Social and emotional competence has been strongly linked with **being happier** and **contented**, and **stronger achievement**



Emotional Support

- Safety & stress are two sides of the same coin
- To develop resilience, students must feel safe + students must experience some form of 'healthy stress'. Too much of either is not healthy
- Students must feel **physically**, emotionally and psychologically safe in order to improve and become more resilient
- Rest – When we sleep right, we think right**
- Exercise – Head outdoors, enjoy a good meal together**
- Motivation gets us started; habits sustain and determine who we become**



Support from Parents

- Help your child to plan; structure study time
- Praise your child's efforts, and not only successes
- Don't dwell on mistakes and marks. Signal mistakes as opportunities to improve.
- Give your child confidence to seek help
- Explore pathways together with your child
- Keep distractions away. Role model



Every child is unique



A child is like a butterfly in the wind

Some can fly higher than others;

But each one flies the best it can.

Why compare one against the other?

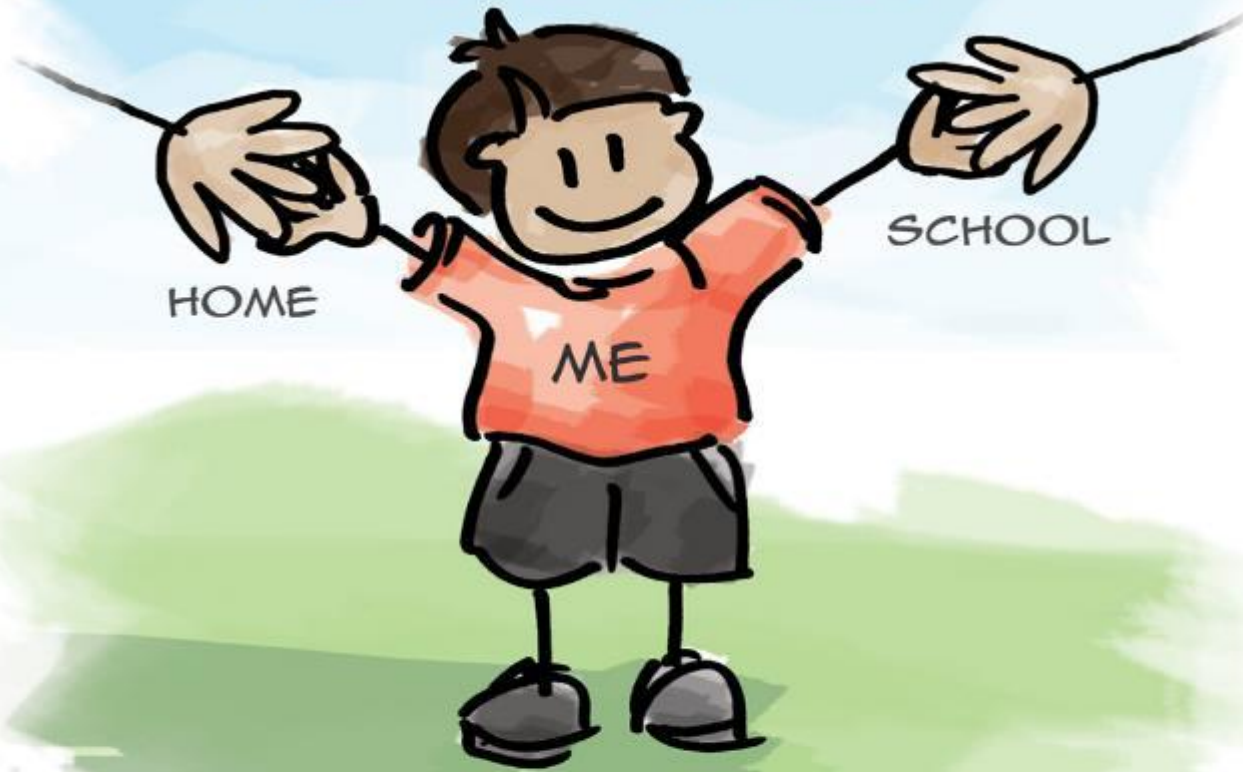
Each one is different.

Each one is special.

Each one is beautiful.



BETTER TOGETHER



HOME-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP



Summary

- We have **developed processes to monitor students' learning without Mid-Year Exam** and **leveraged the freed-up time and space to deepen students' learning.**
- We will **monitor students' learning progress; and give them feedback and guidance to improve their learning** through **regular interaction in class** and **assignments.**
- We will continue to help our students focus on **learning and mastery**, and develop in them the **intrinsic motivation, resilience** and **confidence to learn**, which will enable them to **learn for life.**



Home Based Learning – Student Initiated Learning (HBL – SIL)

On HBL days, students are to spend **1 hour doing SIL to pursue their own interests and learn outside of the curriculum. SIL is compulsory for all students.**

Students need to share their approved SIL plan with their parents and their parents will need to endorse the plan. **Parents will be alerted to endorse their child's plan via PG.**

Level	When	Remarks	Nos of Sessions (1 hour each)
Sec 4 & 5	Term 1 Week 5 to Term 2 Week 9	Last session on 21 May 2025	8



Thank you
Have a GREAT year ahead!
