

Catering to Your  
Child's Abilities

# SUBJECT-BASED BANDING

FOR  
PRIMARY  
SCHOOLS

Every child is unique, and has different aptitudes, capabilities and talents. Our schools believe in providing a balanced education that caters to the different abilities of each child so that we can prepare him for life.

Subject-based Banding (Pri) was introduced as a refinement to the streaming process to help each child realise his potential, based on his strengths and needs.

## WHAT IS SUBJECT-BASED BANDING (PRI)?

Subject-based Banding (Pri) provides greater flexibility for your child by offering him the option of a combination of standard and foundation subjects, depending on his strengths. For example, if he excels in English and Mother Tongue but needs more support in Mathematics and Science, he may choose to take the first two subjects at the standard level and the others at the foundation level.

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 (PRI) AND SECONDARY SCHOOL ADMISSION: HOW ARE THEY RELATED?

Progression to secondary level depends on your child's PSLE score. The different expectations of standard and foundation subjects will be taken into account when your child's PSLE score is calculated. If he excels in his subjects, he will have the opportunity to pursue higher-level options at secondary school.

Offering subjects at the foundation level is not a disadvantage to your child. It enables him to focus on building up strong fundamentals in these subjects and better prepares him for progression to secondary school.



## WHAT ARE SOME CHOICES AVAILABLE?

If your child (for P4 exam)	Your child may be recommended to take
Passes all 4 subjects and performs very well in Mother Tongue Language	4 standard subjects + Higher Mother Tongue Language
Passes all 4 subjects	4 standard subjects
Passes 3 subjects	4 standard subjects
Passes 2 subjects or less	4 standard subjects; or
	3 standard subjects + 1 other foundation subject; or
	2 standard subjects + 2 other foundation subjects; or
	1 standard subject + 3 other foundation subjects; or
	4 foundation subjects

## HOW DOES SUBJECT-BASED BANDING (PRI) WORK?

### @ PRIMARY 4

Student sits for school-based examinations

School recommends a subject combination based on the student's results.

Parents fill up an option form indicating the preferred combination.

### @ PRIMARY 5

Student takes subject combination chosen by parents

English Language, Mathematics, Science and Mother Tongue Language are available at standard and foundation levels.

Higher Mother Tongue Language is also available.

School assesses student's ability to cope with the current subject combination at the end of the year. Adjustments to the number of standard and foundation subjects can be made, if necessary.

### @ PRIMARY 6

Student takes subject combination decided by his school and sits for the Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) at the end of Primary 6.

**WE ARE  
ALWAYS  
HERE  
TO HELP**

Schools will help recommend subject combinations, based on your child's needs and abilities.

If you have any questions on Subject-based Banding (Pri), you should approach your child's school for help.

🌐 [www.moe.gov.sg/education/primary/subject-based-banding-\(primary\)](http://www.moe.gov.sg/education/primary/subject-based-banding-(primary))

📘 [www.facebook.com/moesingapore](https://www.facebook.com/moesingapore)

✉ [contact@moe.gov.sg](mailto:contact@moe.gov.sg)

☎ 6872 2220



Ministry of Education  
SINGAPORE

The information in this brochure is correct as of December 2017.

Produced by Communications and Engagement Group, MOE