

Key changes from 2021

	Current	New
Scoring	Short for “transformed score”, the aggregate score is the sum of the T-scores in all four subjects – English, Maths, Science and Mother Tongue. It is an adjusted score that shows how well a pupil does relative to his peers.	The aggregate T-score will be scrapped. Pupils will not be graded relative to their peers.
	Pupils receive grades of A*, A, B, C, D, E and U.	Pupils’ marks will be converted into eight grade bands, or “achievement levels” (ALs) for secondary school admissions. The best PSLE score is 4.
Testing system	Norm-referenced. Each pupil compared with his peers and assigned a score.	Standard-referenced. Each pupil given a score based on how well he has done in the subject, independent of how others fare.
School posting	A pupil with a better aggregate score will be given priority in his selected school.	A pupil with a better score based on ALs will be given priority in his selected school.
School posting (in case of a tie between two pupils with the same scores vying for the last place)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on citizenship status (Singapore citizens, then Singapore permanent residents, then foreigners). Between two Singapore citizens, the one with the higher unrounded aggregate score – which extends to decimal points – will be admitted first. If there is still a tie between two citizens with the same unrounded aggregate score, then posting will be determined by a computerised ballot 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Singaporeans still get priority. The second tie-breaker will be choice. A pupil who indicated a school as his first choice will get the nod over someone who puts it down as his second or third choice. If there is still a tie, posting will be determined by a computerised ballot.
Affiliated schools	Primary school pupils who want to enter their affiliated secondary school must indicate it as their first choice. Their entry score for the school is lower than that for pupils from non-affiliated schools.	Affiliation will remain and details will be released at a later date.
Streaming	Reference ranges based on cut-off points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Express: 200 and above Express/Normal (Academic): 188-199 Normal (Academic): 160-187 Normal (Academic)/Normal (Technical): 152-159 Normal (Technical): Below 152 	Known as placement criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Express: 4-20 Express/Normal (Academic): 21-22 Normal (Academic): 23-24 Normal (Academic)/Normal (Technical): 25 Normal (Technical): 26-30
Special Assistance Plan (SAP) schools	Pupils in the top 30 per cent of the cohort who take Higher Chinese at the PSLE will be given bonus points for admission to SAP schools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distinction: 3 Merit: 2 Pass: 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Higher Chinese grading system will remain the same. A pupil with a better Higher Chinese grade will have a posting advantage over someone with the same PSLE score, if both are applying to the same SAP school.