

Everything you need to know about the new PSLE changes

If your child is in Primary 4 in 2019, he or she will be among the first batch to undergo the new PSLE scoring system in 2021.

WHEN YOUR CHILD ENTERS PRIMARY 5 IN 2020

- Result slips will be presented using the new Achievement Levels (ALs) to familiarise pupils and parents with the new system.
- No mid-year exams for P5s, only weighted assessments and year-end exams.
- Example of result slip (below):

SUBJECT	TERM 3: WA		END OF YEAR EXAM		OVERALL	
	Mark	AL	Mark	AL	Mark	AL
ENGLISH LANGUAGE	85	2	88	2	86	2
MATHEMATICS	74	5	76	4	75	4
FOUNDATION SCIENCE	65	B	74	B	70	B
CHINESE LANGUAGE	87	2	88	2	88	2
	Grade		Grade		Grade	
SOCIAL STUDIES	-		-		A	
ART	-		-		A	
MUSIC	-		-		B	
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	-		-		B	

OVERALL	
Total Achievement Level (AL) Score	: 15
Attendance	: 95/95
Class for Next Year	: P6-CH
Subject Combination for Next Year	: 3S1F(FSC)

NEW SYSTEM

The current T-score system with grades A*, A, B, C, D and E, will be replaced by scoring bands known as AL. AL scores will be added up, with the highest score being 4, and the lowest, 32.

Achievement level (AL)	Marks
1	90 and above
2	85-89
3	80-84
4	75-79
5	65-74
6	45-64
7	20-44
8	Below 20

WHEN YOUR CHILD TAKES THE PSLE IN PRIMARY 6 IN 2021

- He will receive his PSLE scores using ALs and not a T-score aggregate, which will determine his secondary school stream.



Pupil A

- 4 Standard-level subjects
- Qualifies for Express

Streams	PSLE score
English language	AL3
Mother tongue language	AL2
Mathematics	AL1
Science	AL2
PSLE SCORE	8



Pupil B

- 3 Standard-level subjects, Foundation-level Science, AL B score corresponds to AL 7
- Also qualifies for Express

Streams	PSLE score
Express	4-20
Express/N(A) option	21-22
N(A)	23-24
N(A)/N(T) option	25
N(T)	26-30, with AL7 or better in both EL and Maths
PSLE SCORE	15

English language	AL2
Mathematics	AL4
Foundation Science	ALB
Mother tongue language	AL2
PSLE SCORE	15

NOTE: Express, N(A) and N(T) streams will be replaced by Subject-Based Banding by 2024



HOW TO BREAK A TIE IF PUPILS HAVE SAME SCORES?

	CURRENT	NEW
1 Higher Chinese grade (if applying to Special Assistance Plan (SAP) schools only)	Pupils who take Higher Chinese get bonus points for their PSLE T-score when applying to SAP schools, depending on their grade	Pupils with better Higher Chinese grades will be allocated a place ahead of other pupils with the same AL score
2 Citizenship	Singapore citizens get priority, followed by Singapore PRs, and then international students	The same
3 Choice order of schools	Between two pupils, the one with the higher unrounded T-score aggregate will be admitted first	A pupil who indicates a school as his first choice will get the nod over someone who chose it second or third
4 Computerised balloting	If there is still a tie, posting will be determined by a computerised ballot	The same

The current Foundation subject grading system will also be replaced by ALs. Grades will be tagged to the numeric AL system for Standard-level subjects.

Current system	NEW SYSTEM		
Grade	Raw mark range	Achievement level	Equivalent standard AL
1	85-100	A	6
2	70-84	B	7
3	50-69	C	8
4	30-49		
U	<30		

HIGHER MOTHER TONGUE ELIGIBILITY BASED ON AL

PSLE score ≤ 8 OR PSLE score 9-14 and AL 1/AL 2 in Mother Tongue or Distinction/Merit in Higher Mother Tongue