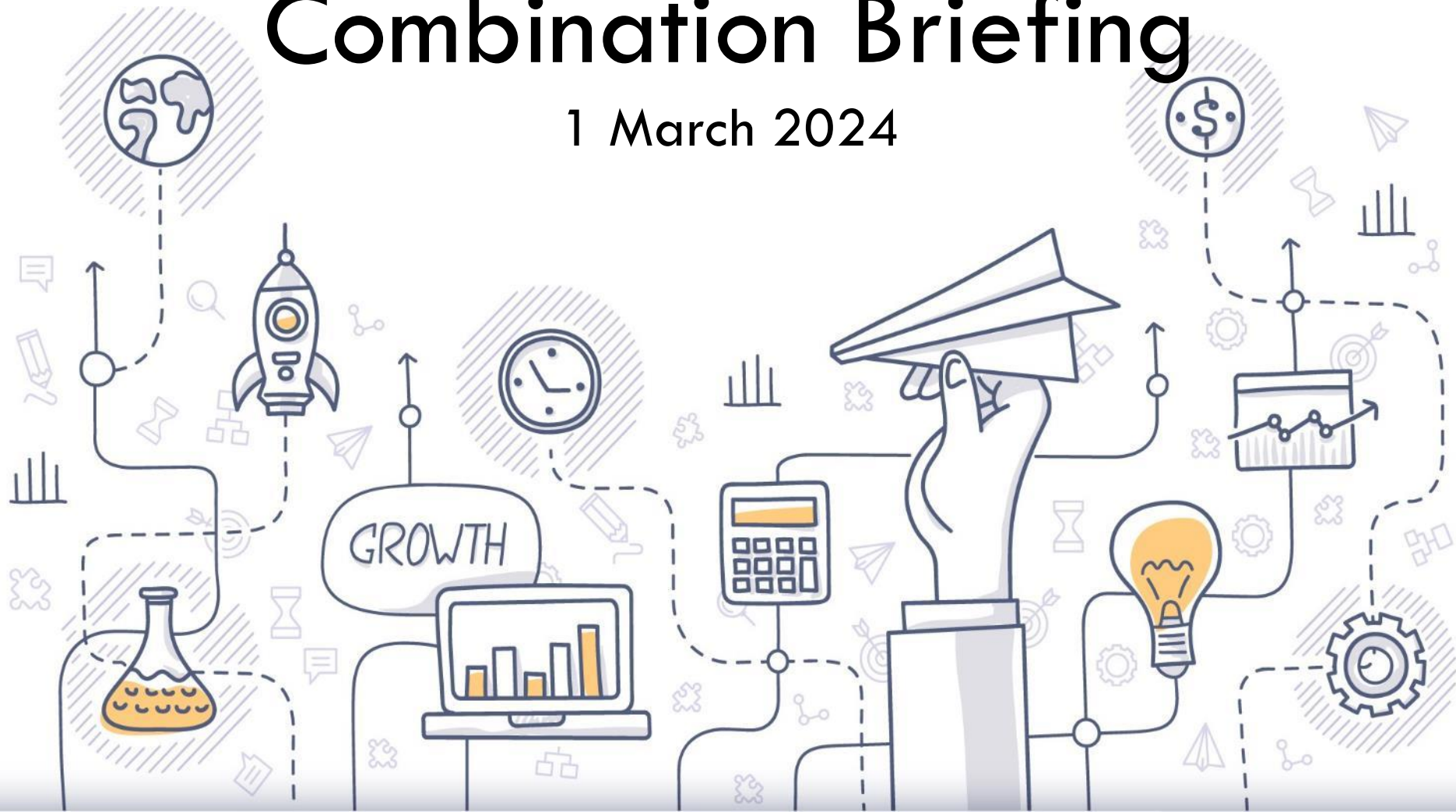


# Sec 2 N(A) Subject Combination Briefing

1 March 2024



# Overview

Importance of choosing the right subjects

Subject combinations offered

Considerations when exercising choices

Allocation process

Preparation needed

# Importance of choosing the right subjects

## End of Sec 4

Affects the type of tertiary education and course of study you are eligible for

## End of tertiary education

Affects the interest/passion/ aspiration / career you wish to pursue



## End of Sec 2

The subjects you choose



## Middle of Sec 2

Your academic performance now!



# Key Principles of Upper Secondary Subject Combinations

## 01

**Provide a range of options to cater to student needs and interests**

Enable access to multiple post-secondary pathways while ensuring manpower resource is sustainable

## 02

**Nurture students' ownership through voice and choice**

Support informed decision-making based on assessment of demonstrated strengths and identified aspirations

## 03

**Enable each student to succeed based on his/her current and demonstrated comparative strengths**

Set reasonable criteria for subjects identified to be challenging

# Subject combinations offered in BMSS



- All Secondary 3 students will offer at least 5 and up to 9 secondary examinable subjects
- N(A) students generally take 6 subjects
- Some of these subjects/combinations are more challenging. Hence, criteria are set to enable each student to succeed based on his/her comparative strengths.

# Subject combinations offered in BMSS

No	Subjects
1	English Language
2	Mother Tongue
3	Mathematics
4	<b>Choice of combined humanities (choose 1)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Humanities (Social Studies, History)</li> <li>• Humanities (Social Studies, Geography)</li> <li>• Humanities (Social Studies, Literature in English)</li> </ul>
5	<b>Choice of science (choose 1)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Science (Physics, Chemistry)</li> <li>• Science (Chemistry, Biology)</li> </ul>
6	<b>Choice of electives (choose 1)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Art</li> <li>• Design &amp; Technology</li> <li>• Nutrition &amp; Food Science</li> <li>• Principles of Accounts</li> <li>• <b>Additional Mathematics*</b></li> </ul>

These subjects are offered at O level standard for selected students.

## Subject-specific Criteria

Subject	Criteria (based on Sec 2 overall results)
A Math	Mathematics $\geq 75\%$ AND $\geq 75\%$ in Algebra component

\* Subject with criteria

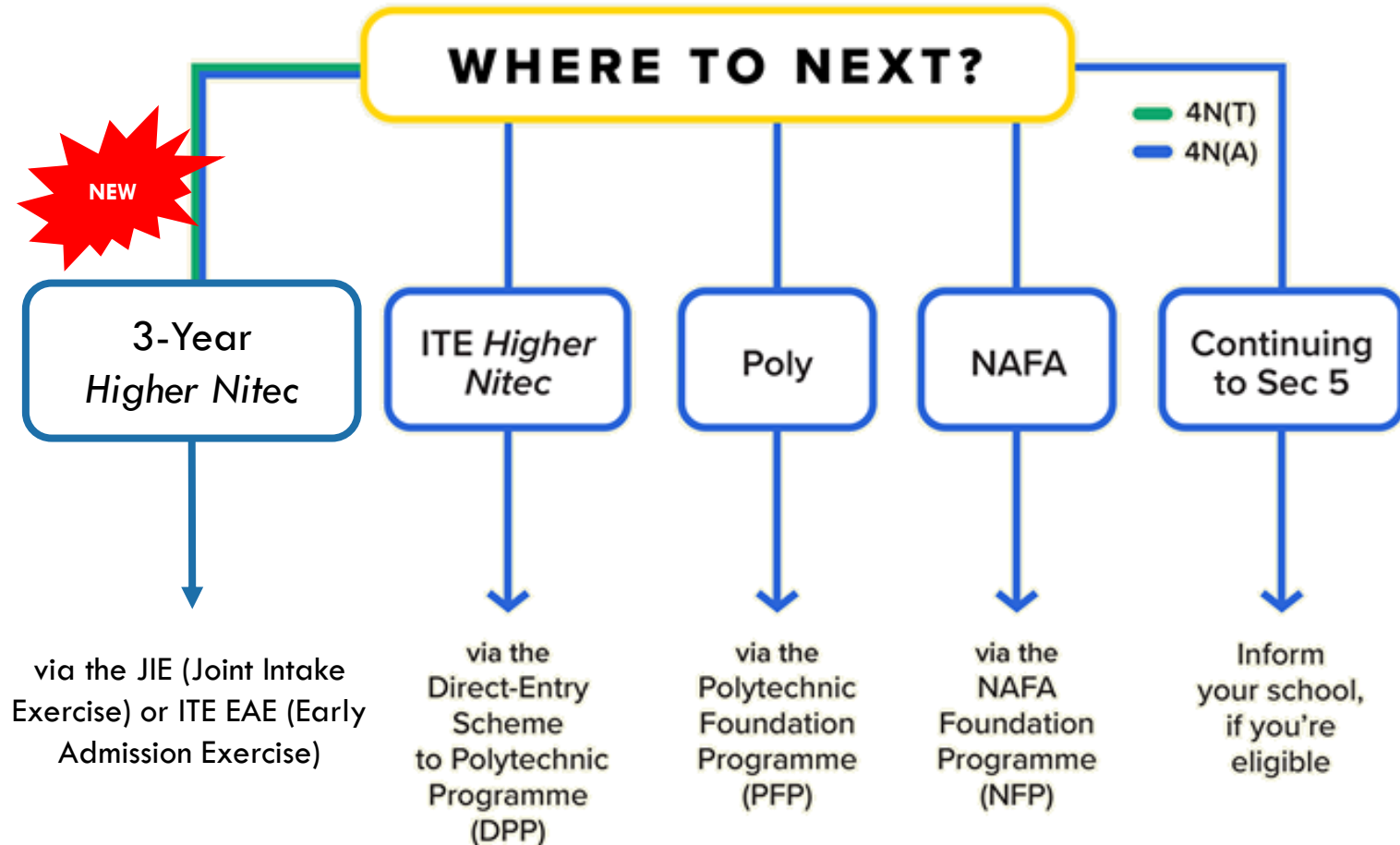
## Consideration 1: Translating interests into demonstrated strengths & aspirations



**What do you want to do in future?**

# Consideration 2: Desired tertiary education & course

Use **CourseFinder** at [www.moe.gov.sg/coursefinder](http://www.moe.gov.sg/coursefinder) to explore courses in polytechnics and ITE





## Consideration 2: Desired tertiary education & course

### PFP (Poly Foundation Program)

- ELMAB3  $\leq$  **12 points** (excl. CCA)
- Meet course specific requirements
  - ✓ Group 1: EL  $\leq$ 3, MA  $\leq$ 3, R1  $\leq$ 3
  - ✓ Group 2: EL  $\leq$ 2, MA  $\leq$ 3, R1  $\leq$ 3
- 1-year foundation programme in poly

### Sec 5

- ELMAB3  $\leq$  **19 points** (excl. CCA)
- 1-year to prepare for O-Level course

### DPP (Direct Poly Program)

- ELMAB3  $\leq$  **19 points** (excl. CCA)
- Meet course specific requirements
  - ✓ Applied Sciences, Engineering InfoComm: EL  $\leq$ 4, MA  $\leq$ 4, any 3  $\leq$ 5
  - ✓ Business & Services: EL  $\leq$ 3, MA  $\leq$ 4, any 3  $\leq$ 5
- 2 $\frac{1}{4}$  year in ITE, including 10-week preparatory course
- Guaranteed a place in the 1st Year relevant polytechnic diploma course and may progress to second year in relevant polytechnic diploma course\* (if you meet the qualifying GPA for Higher Nitec)

**What are your abilities, strengths and weaknesses?**

# Consideration 2: Desired tertiary education & course

## *Polytechnic route (PFP)*

Many courses require relevant subjects

Some examples of PFP Group 1 courses:

⇅ Poly	⇅ Course Code	⇅ Course Name	⇅ Course Group	For Courses featured in Group 1	Minimum Required Grades
SP	S64	Applied Chemistry	GROUP 1	English Language Syllabus A	3
NYP	C62	Advanced and Digital Manufacturing	GROUP 1	Mathematics Syllabus A / Additional Mathematics	3
NYP	C51	Aeronautical & Aerospace Technology	GROUP 1	One of the following relevant subjects: - Design and Technology - Food and Nutrition - Science (Chemistry, Biology) - Science (Physics, Biology) - Science (Physics, Chemistry)	3
SP	S88	Aeronautical Engineering	GROUP 1		
SP	S90	Aerospace Electronics	GROUP 1		
				Any two other subjects excluding CCA	4



NEW

**What are the requirements for your desired course?**

# Consideration 2: Desired tertiary education & course

## 2-year Higher Nitec route (DPP) with 10-week prep

Courses	College	COP (EMB3)		
		2023	2022	2021
<b>APPLIED SCIENCES</b>				
Chemical Technology	CE-SM	7	7	8
<b>ENGINEERING</b>				
Civil & Structural Engineering Design	CE-SM	9	10	10
Electrical Engineering	CE-SM	14	14	14
	CW-CK	14	14	14
Electronics Engineering	CC-AM	13	13	13
	CE-SM	14	15	15
	CW-CK	14	15	15
Mechanical Engineering	CC-AM	11	11	11
	CE-SM	14	15	14
	CW-CK	14	14	14
Mechatronics Engineering	CC-AM	12	12	12
	CW-CK	13	13	14

Popular courses  
are competitive

**What are your abilities, strengths and weaknesses?**

# Consideration 2: Desired tertiary education & course

## 3-year Higher Nitec Route

3-Year <i>Higher Nitec</i> Courses by School	Course Code	College Code	2023 JIE 'N' ITE Aggregate Point (based on 4 subjects)	Minimum Entry Requirements
<b>ELECTRONICS &amp; INFO-COMM TECHNOLOGY</b>				
AI Applications ⑦	HF3AI	CC-AM CW-CK	4 6	3 GCE 'N' Passes (Grade A-D or Grade 1-5) in Mathematics or Science* and two other subjects <b>Or</b> 2 GCE 'O' Grades (Grade 1-8) in any two subjects  * Mobile Robotics, Smart Electrical Technology, Mechanical Design & Automation, IoT Applications and Mobile Web Applications subjects can be used in lieu of Science for admission to these 3-Year <i>Higher Nitec</i> courses
Business Information Systems ⑦	HF3BI	CE-SM	5	
Cyber & Network Security ⑦	HF3CN	CC-AM CE-SM CW-CK	4 7 6	
Data Engineering ⑦	HF3DE	CW-CK	5	
Electronics Engineering ②⑦	HF3EC	CC-AM CE-SM CW-CK	8 11 10	
Immersive Applications & Game ⑦	HF3IG	CC-AM	2	
IT Applications Development ⑦	HF3IA	CC-AM CE-SM CW-CK	4 7 9	
IT Systems & Networks ⑦	HF3IS	CC-AM CE-SM CW-CK	7 9 11	

3-year Higher Nitec courses are competitive

(8 aggregate points means a grade 3 for each NA subject)

**What are your abilities, strengths and weaknesses?**

# Consideration 3: Subject readiness

## [Content] Humanities



### History

- Impact of World War I
- Rise of authoritarian regimes – case study of Nazi Germany
- World War II in Europe and the Asia–Pacific
- Cold War – origin
- Extension of the Cold War outside Europe – case study of the Vietnam War
- End of the Cold War

### Geography

- Cluster 1: Geography in Everyday life
- Cluster 4: Tectonics
- Topographical Map Reading Skills
- Geographical Data and Techniques

### Literature in English

- Study of a novel (Prose) in the areas of Plot, Character, Theme, Mood and Atmosphere and Style.
- Study of Poetry in the areas of writer's craft, style and effect.
- Study of the construction of sensitive and informed personal responses.

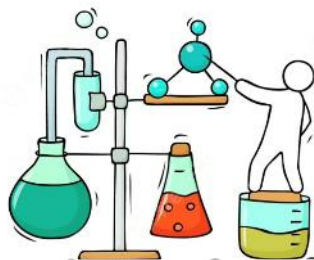
# Consideration 3: Subject readiness

## [Demand] Humanities

	Social Studies, History	Social Studies, Geography	Social Studies, EL Lit
Exam Format	<p><b>Paper 1 (50%, 1 h 45min) - Social Studies</b>            Section A (35m): Source-based case study            Section B (15m): 1 structured-response question</p>		
	<p><b>Paper 2 (50%, 1 h 50min)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Section A (30%)</b> <b>Source-based Case Study</b></li> <li><b>Section B (20%)</b> <b>Essay Questions</b> Answer 2 out of 3 questions.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Paper 2 (50%, 1 h 45min)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Section A (25%)</b> Cluster 1: Geography in Everyday Life [25m]</li> <li><b>Section B (18%)</b> Cluster 4: Tectonics [18m]</li> </ul>	<p><b>Paper 2 (50%, 1 h 40 min)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Section A (25%)</b> <b>Prose</b> - Answer 1 question from a choice 1 PBQ and 2 Essay questions.</li> <li><b>Section B (25%)</b> <b>Unseen Poetry</b> - Answer 1 question from a choice of 2 Unseen poems.</li> </ul>
JC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not a pre-requisite for JC subjects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not a pre-requisite for JC subjects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not a pre-requisite for JC subjects</li> </ul>
Poly (R1/R2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Humanities or Media</li> <li>Business</li> </ul>		

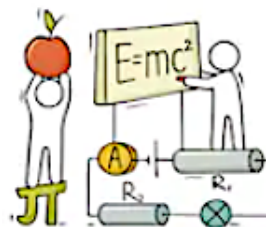
# Consideration 3: Subject readiness

## [Content] Sciences



### Chemistry

- Matter – Structures and Properties
- Chemical Reactions
- Chemistry in a Sustainable World



### Physics

- Measurement
- Newtonian mechanics
- Thermal physics
- Waves
- Electricity & magnetism
- Radioactivity



### Biology

- Cells and The Chemistry of Life
- The Human Body – Maintaining Life
- Living Together – Plants, Animals and Ecosystems
- Continuity of Life

# Consideration 3: Subject readiness

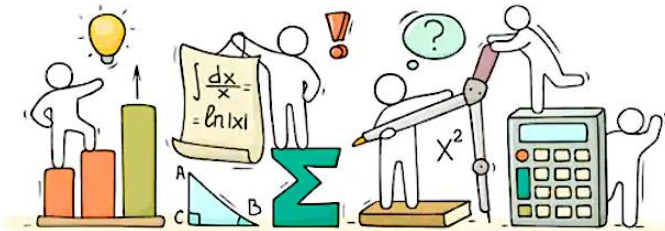
## [Demand] Sciences

	Science (Chemistry / Biology)	Science (Physics / Chemistry)
<b>Exam Format</b>	<b>Total duration: 1h 15 min</b> <b>Paper 3 (20%, 20m) - Multiple Choice (20 Qn)</b> <b>Paper 4 (30%, 30m) - Structured</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Section A (22m)</b></li> <li>• <b>Section B (8m) (2 choose 1)</b></li> </ul>	
	<b>Total duration: 1h 15 min</b> <b>Paper 5 (20%, 20m) - MCQ (20 Qn)</b> <b>Paper 6 (30%, 30m) - Structured</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Section A (22m)</b></li> <li>• <b>Section B (8m) (2 choose 1)</b></li> </ul>	<b>Total duration: 1h 15 min</b> <b>Paper 1 (20%, 20m) - MCQ (20 Qn)</b> <b>Paper 2 (30%, 30m) - Structured</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Section A (22m)</b></li> <li>• <b>Section B (8m) (2 choose 1)</b></li> </ul>
<b>JC</b>	Requirement for H2 Science in place of pure Science for some JCs	
<b>Poly (R1/R2)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engineering (more of physics), Biomedical Sciences (more of biology), other Sciences, Facility Management or IT</li> <li>• Architecture or design</li> </ul>	



# Consideration 3: Subject readiness

## [Content] A Math vs POA



### Additional Mathematics

- Three strands:
  - Algebra
  - Geometry and Trigonometry
  - Calculus
- Requires: Conceptual understanding, skill proficiency, reasoning, communication and connections, thinking skills and heuristics, and applications and modelling

### Principles of Accounts

- Introduction to financial accounting
- Prepare, communicate and use financial information
- Appreciate the need for ethical conduct.
- Develop lifelong skills and values useful in the increasingly complex world of business.
- Develop decision-making skill in evaluating choices using both accounting and non-accounting information

# Consideration 3: Subject readiness

## [Demand] A Math vs POA

	Additional Mathematics	Principles of Accounts
<b>Exam Format</b>	<p><b>Paper 1 (50%, 70m, 1h 45min)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>13 – 15 Qn</li> </ul> <p><b>Paper 2 (50%, 70m, 1h 45min)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8 – 10 Qn</li> </ul>	<p><b>Paper 1 (40%, 40m, 1h):</b> <b>Structured (3 – 4 Qn)</b></p> <p><b>Paper 2 (60%, 60m, 2h):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Answer 4 compulsory structured questions. (60 marks)</li> <li>One question requires the preparation of financial statements for a business for one financial year. (20 marks)</li> <li>A scenario-based question (5 marks) will be part of one of the 3 remaining questions.</li> </ul>
<b>JC</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May be required for H2 Math</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not a pre-requisite for JC subjects</li> </ul>
<b>Poly (R1/R2)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Humanities or Media</li> <li>Business</li> <li>Engineering, Science, Facility Management or IT</li> <li>Architecture or design</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Humanities or Media</li> <li>Business</li> </ul>

# Consideration 3: Subject readiness

## [Content] Coursework Subjects



### Design & Technology

- Design and prototype ideas
- Understand everyday activities and create possibilities to make life better.
- Cultivate creative, critical and reflective thinking
- Develop related dispositions and skills using graphical means and technology

### Nutrition & Food Science

- Lead a healthier lifestyle proactively through proper diet and nutrition.
- Advocate sustainable food consumption by planning and making appropriate food choices.
- Apply principles of culinary science creatively in food preparation and cooking.

### Art

- Awareness and appreciation of the visual arts
- Identify and solve problems creatively in visual and tactile forms
- Use of art elements and design principles, materials and processes
- Cultivate an inquiring mind, a spirit of experimentation and a passion for the visual art

# Consideration 3: Subject readiness

## [Demand] Coursework Subjects

	Design & Technology	Nutrition & Food Science	Art
Exam Format	<p><b>Paper 1 (40%, 60m, 1h30m)</b> Written Paper</p> <p><b>Paper 2 (60%, 20 weeks)</b> Coursework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Involves <b>design journal, mock-up(s), presentation boards</b> and <b>prototype</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Paper 1 (40%, 80m, 1h30m)</b> Written Paper</p> <p><b>Paper 2 (60%, max. 25hrs)</b> Coursework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Involves task analysis, research &amp; development, decision making, planning, execution and evaluation</li> <li>To present in <b>coursework folio</b>, max. 20 pages</li> </ul>	<p><b>Paper 1 (60%)</b> Coursework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comprise finished <b>artwork</b> and not more than five A2 sheets of <b>preparatory studies</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Paper 2 (40%, 3h)</b> Drawing and Painting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paper to be given three weeks before N Level</li> </ul>
JC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not a pre-requisite for JC subjects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not a pre-requisite for JC subjects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May be required for H2 Art</li> </ul>
Poly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Humanities or Media</li> <li>Engineering, Science, Facility Management or IT</li> <li>Architecture or design</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Humanities or Media</li> <li>Engineering, Science, Facility Management or IT</li> <li>Architecture or design</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Humanities or Media</li> <li>Business</li> <li>Architecture or design</li> </ul>

# Summary

## 1. Interest/passion/aspiration

- What do you want to do in future?

## 2. Desired tertiary education & course

- What are your abilities, strengths and weaknesses?
- What are the requirements for your desired course?

## 3. Subject readiness

- Are you interested in the subject?
- What are the demands for the subject?

# Allocation Process



## Promotion Criteria

Promoted to 3N(A)	Laterally transferred to 3Express	Laterally transferred to 3N(T) or Retain at 2N(A)
Grade 5 or better in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● EL and 2 other subj <u>or</u></li> <li>● 4 subjects</li> </ul>	75% or higher in the average for all subjects (To qualify for consideration)	Has not met minimum attainment level

# Allocation Process



- After the End-of-Year Examinations
- A session will be conducted on how to submit your choices

# Allocation Process



1. Placement is determined through
  - meeting the **minimum criteria** for certain subjects
  - **professional assessment** by your teachers, including your attitude, strengths and weakness, results and historical trends
2. Subjects which are over-subscribed will be **awarded to students based on results**
3. Subjects will only be offered if a **reasonable number of students** opted for them and there is **available resources**



# Allocation Process



- Students and parents will be given 3 days to submit an appeal to the school. Appeals should be supported by good reasons.
- **The school's decision after the appeal is final.**
- **No further changes to subject combination after the appeal phase.**

# Schedule of Activities

S/N	Activity	Time
1	Upper Secondary Subject Combination Briefing for students and parents//guardians	March
2	Simulation of Upper Secondary Subject Combination Application • Students submit choices online based on WA results <span style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 2px;">NEW</span>	June holidays [First Week]
3	Actual Upper Secondary Subject Combination Exercise • Briefing conducted for students after end-of-year examinations • Student submit choices online • Subject combinations allocated to students • Students submit appeals [if applicable]	Oct/ Nov

## Ongoing activities:

- Students do online research and discuss with their parents/guardian. If necessary, students can make an appointment to consult ECG counsellor
- Relevant subject teachers clarify student doubts/ share more details about upper secondary elective subjects during the course of their teaching

# Ways to be better prepared



## 1. Identify aspiration and interest early

- Find out your child's aspiration.
- Ask your child to share their experience in class!

## 2. Review academic performance and goals

- Identify your child's academic strengths and weaknesses.
- Guide them to set realistic goals and put in consistent effort.
- Work with our teachers.

## 3. Be more informed

- Research on post-secondary courses together with your child.
- Talk to our teachers, ECG counsellor, family/relatives

# ECG Counselling

Make an appointment with Senior ECG Counsellor Mr Damon Choo\*

- Appt Link:
  - [Go.gov.sg/bmssecg](https://go.gov.sg/bmssecg)
- Contact details:
  - [Choo\\_soon\\_heng@schools.gov.sg](mailto:Choo_soon_heng@schools.gov.sg)
  - 8746 8303 (Whatsapp only)



\*Mr Choo is physically present in BMSS every Monday, Tuesday and on some Fridays

Venue: ECG Room (Beside Block A Level 2 Staffroom)