

Subject-Based Banding (SBB)

**Applicable for only
Normal (Academic/Technical)**

Information for Parents



Serangoon Garden Secondary School
Established in 1959

Perseverance. Respect. Integrity. Diligence. Empathy

What is Subject-Based Banding (SBB)?

- Every student is unique and possesses different strengths. Taking subjects at a higher academic level can help students nurture their strengths and give them more opportunities throughout their educational journey, so that they are more engaged in learning.
- Previously, students in N(A) and N(T) courses can take higher-level subjects starting from Secondary 3. With SBB, your child can start doing so from the start of Secondary 1, to build a stronger foundation in subjects that they are good at.



What are the possible benefits of taking higher-level subjects?

- Some students (and parents) have shared that SBB allows the students to challenge themselves, and to have more options for Sec 3 subject combinations and post-secondary courses.
- A strong foundation in literacy, numeracy and reasoning, would ensure students are better prepared for various post-secondary progression pathways (e.g. to ITE and Polytechnic).



Eligibility Criteria and Opting into SBB

- N(A) and N(T) students will be eligible for SBB based on the following criteria:

	PSLE Standard Grade	PSLE Foundation Grade	Option to offer subject at
N(A)	AL5 or better	-	Express
N(T)	AL5 or better	-	Express/ N(A)
	AL6 or better	ALA	N(A)

- Each student should take no more than 3 higher-level subjects so as to ensure that he/she can cope with the overall academic demands.
- Parents/Guardians of eligible 1NA and 1NT students will be notified via Parents Gateway (PG) or email for those not on board PG. Parents can accept the offer by giving consent via PG or return the signed form via email by **Friday, 23 December 2022**.
- For enquiries, please contact Mr Ko Tong Hai (HOD/Knowledge Management) at 62889227.



Other Opportunities to Take Higher-Level Subjects

- Beyond the start of Sec 1, students who do well in school-based examinations may be considered to take higher-level subjects if found suitable to do so by our school.
- Eligible N(A) and N(T) students will receive an application form after the Sec 1 mid-year or year-end examinations
- Our school will provide support through bridging programmes for these new SBB students.



What if my child struggles with the higher-level subject?

- Students are encouraged to continue with the higher-level subjects until the end of Sec 2, as students do need time to adjust to the higher academic demands.
- Our school will monitor students' progress in the higher-level subjects as well as overall progress in all subjects.
- Our school is mindful of students' socio-emotional and academic needs and will endeavour to provide the necessary support to students to help them cope.



Thank you



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