
PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS TO PRIMARY 6 PARENTS/GUARDIANS

I FEBRUARY 2019



AGENDA

- School's Mission, Vision and Values
- The Radin Mas Experience
- Learn for Life Initiatives at Primary 6
- Examinations at Primary 6

RADIN MAS VISION

A school where all work hard, play hard and make a mark



RADIN MAS VISION



Work Hard

- Holistic Development (Academic & Non Academic)
- Self-Directed Learners
- To always push themselves
- Grit/Resilience



Play Hard

- Positive school experiences.
- Combination of both structured play and unstructured play
- Build positive ties
- Develop passion, interest and talents



Make A Mark

- Discovering passion, interests and talents.
- Internalising the school values.
- Strong sense of advocacy.
- A spirit of dare and continuous learning.

RADIN MAS MISSION

TO DEVELOP EACH
CHILD
HOLISTICALLY,
EQUIPPING HIM
WITH THE
COMPETENCIES
FOR THE FUTURE



21ST CENTURY COMPETENCIES AND DOE



KEY SKILLS/VALUES NEEDED

Creativity

Critical Thinking &
Problem Solving

Dare, Grit &
Adventure

Interconnectedness

Working well with
people &
developing empathy

OUR VALUES

- Respect For Self And Others
- Always Be Gracious
- Desire For Learning
- Ignite Creativity And Innovation
- Never Give Up
- Maximize Potential
- Aim For Excellence
- Stand Up For Integrity



THE RADIN MAS EXPERIENCE ACROSS 6 YEARS

Developing our students as Confident Learners, Self-Directed Leaders, Active Contributors and Concerned Citizens

Sharpening Minds

- Authentic Learning
- Academic Programmes
- Design Thinking and Making
- Applied Learning (Computational Thinking)
- Multi-Disciplinary Project Work
- Talent Development Plans

Growing Character

- Growing Resilience, Independence and Teamwork (G.R.I.T through our CAMPs for All programme)
- CCAs
- Values Based Education
- Positive Education

Broadening Horizons
but Staying Rooted

- Overseas Trips
- Appreciation of Global Issues
- National Education
- Strong Sense of Advocacy and Leadership through VIAs

Anchored in the School's Mission, Vision And Values and also to imbue Joy of Learning, Entrepreneurial Dare and Singapore Spirit

LEARN FOR LIFE

- A value, an attitude and a skill
- Inculcating greater joy of learning
- Reducing the over-emphasis of academic results
- Nurturing lifelong learners with stronger intrinsic motivation to learn

'Learn for Life' is a value, an attitude and a skill that our students need to possess, and it is fundamental in ensuring that education remains an uplifting force in society. ...As [our education system] becomes more complex, we need to be clear-eyed that in this matured system, there are trade-offs within the system, and we must take sufficient bold steps to rebalance those trade-offs when needed.

-Minister Ong Ye Kung, MOE WPS 2018

LEARN FOR LIFE INITIATIVES AT PRIMARY 6:

Radin Mas Current Practices.

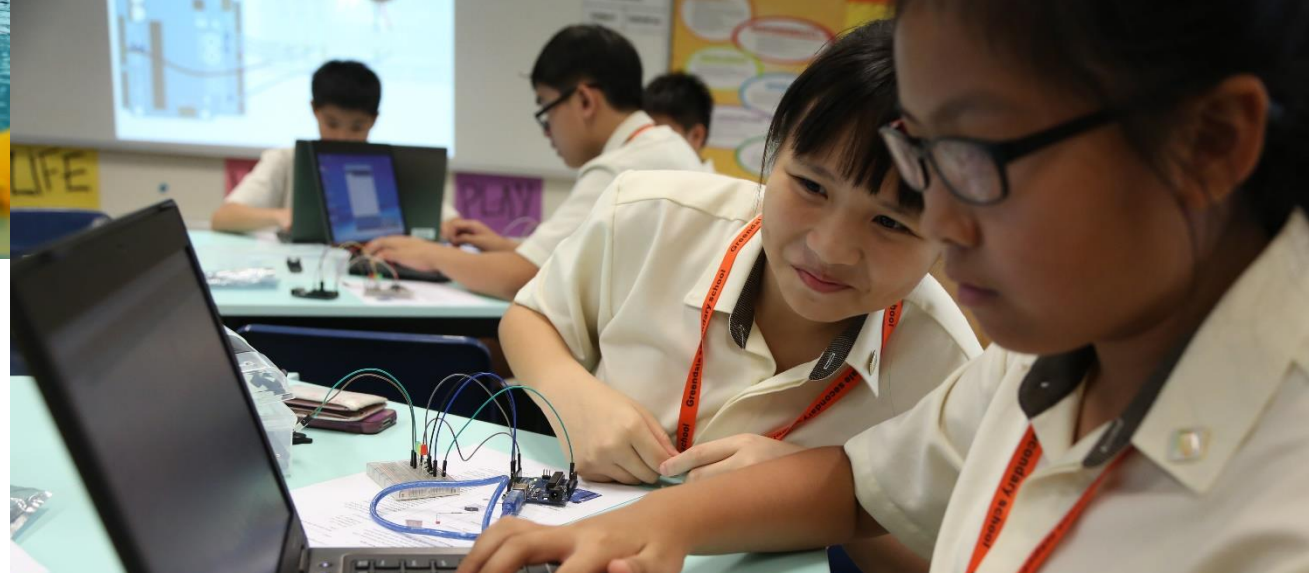
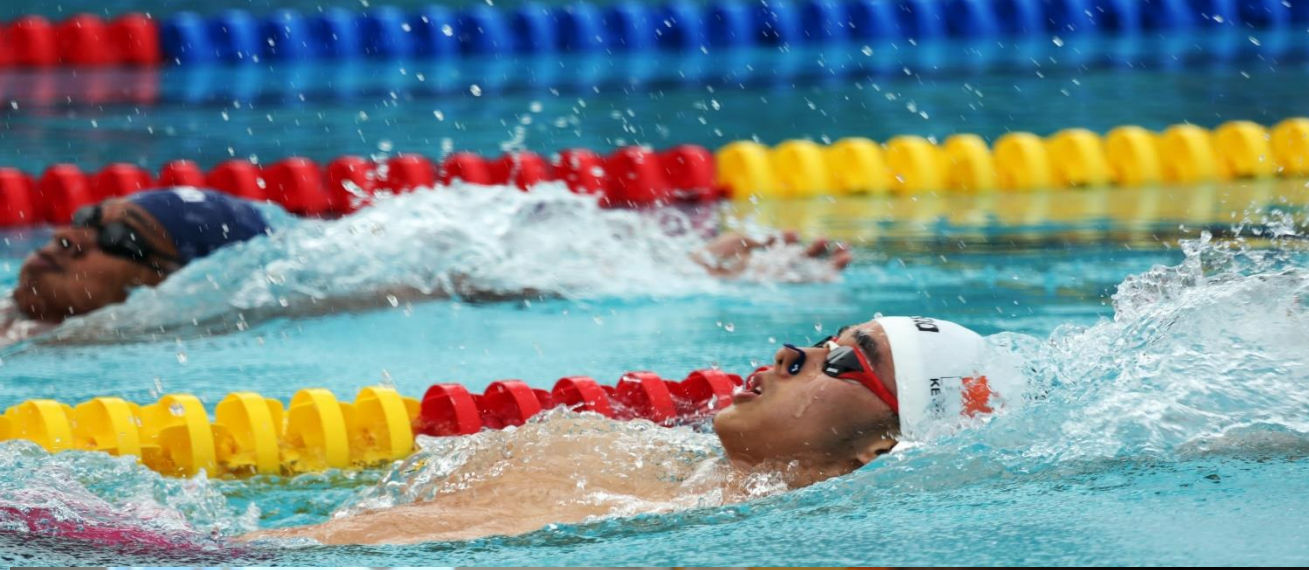
- Removal of class and level positions.
- Removal of min, max and mean marks.

Further Refinements:

- Removing underline for failed marks.
- Marks will be presented as whole numbers.

EXAMINATION POLICIES

- Pupils who are not well **will NOT be allowed** to sit for the examination even if they turn up in school. Parents will be asked to take them home.
- The school will consider the examination results of pupils who sit for their written examination papers while on Medical Leave null and void.
- There will be no re-tests for pupils who are absent from any written component(s)/ paper(s) during the examination.
- A copy of the examination paper(s) missed (except Oral & Listening Comprehension Papers) will be given to them for reference/ practice at home



Direct School Admission for Secondary Schools (DSA-Sec)

Entering a secondary school



PSLE/S1 Posting Process

- Based on a student's **PSLE score**
- **Most students enter secondary schools this way**



DSA-Sec

- Based on a diverse range of **talents and achievements in specific academic subjects or non-academic areas, beyond what the PSLE recognises**
- Allows students to **access school programmes to develop their talents**

Changes to the DSA-Sec

2017 DSA-Sec
(2017 P6 Cohort)

2018 DSA-Sec
(2018 P6 Cohort)

2019 DSA-Sec
(2019 P6 Cohort)

Moving to an improved DSA

More choices and opportunities for students

Schools may offer DSA-Sec in more areas

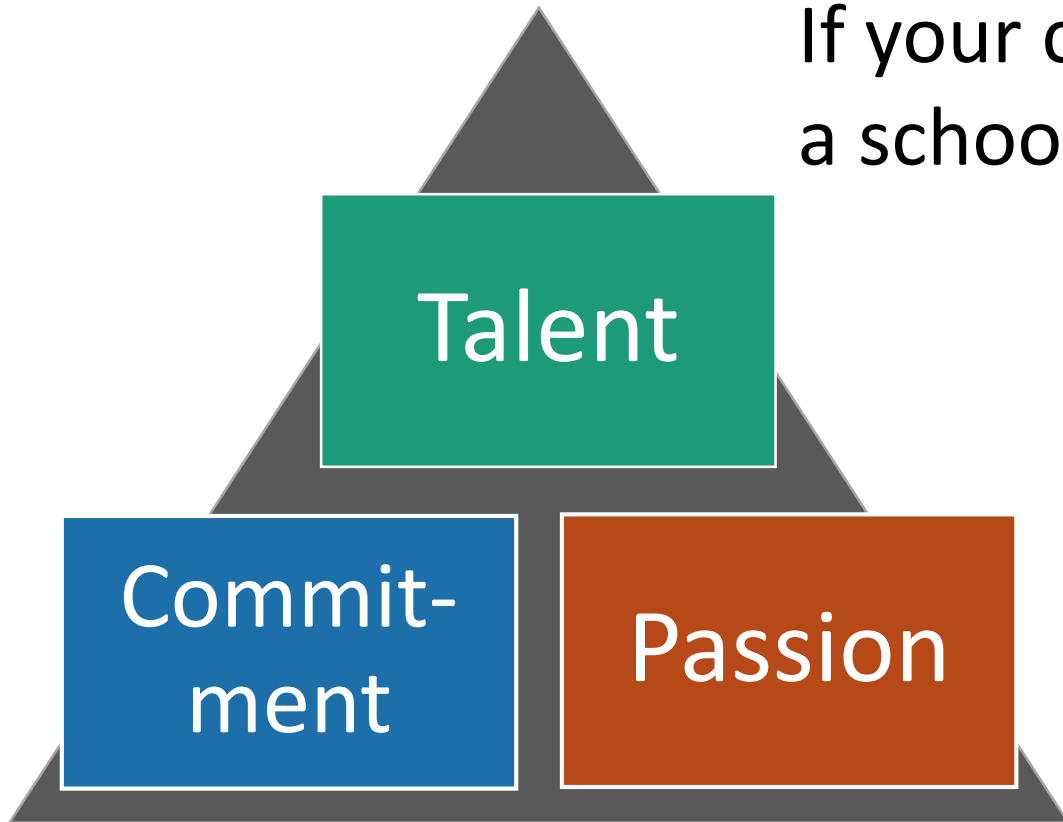
Schools may stop using general academic ability tests to select students

All schools allowed to take in up to 20% of S1 non-IP intake through DSA-Sec

All schools to stop using general academic ability tests to select students

Online portal for DSA-Sec application
Students can apply online, through a single form

Is the DSA-Sec right for my child?



If your child has specific **talents** which a school offers the DSA-Sec in

And is **passionate** about and **committed** to developing his/her strengths and interests

DSA-Sec can support his/her development in that talent area.

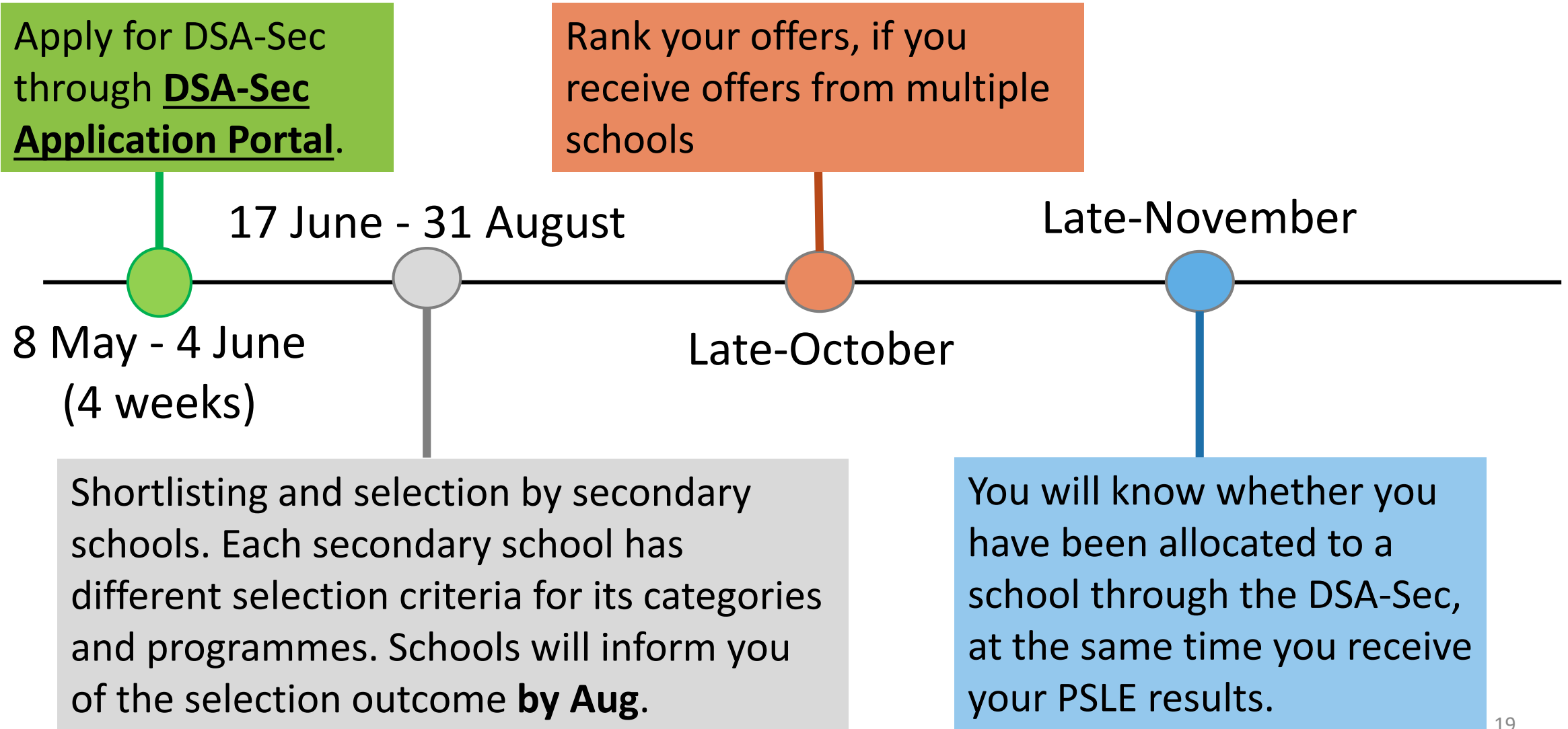
Which school should my child apply to?

- Look for a school with **programmes that match your child's strengths and interests**
 - Schools are looking out for students whose interests and talents they can develop further.
 - Learn more about the secondary school's **pace of learning** and overall range of programmes
- **Get the latest information** about what each school offers by:
 - Visiting schools' websites
 - Attending schools' Open Houses to also experience their environments and cultures
 - Visiting the MOE's DSA-Sec website (will be updated around April 2019)

A new DSA-Sec Application Portal

- To encourage students to tap on the expanded DSA opportunities, the DSA-Sec application process will be simplified
- From the **2019 DSA-Sec**, students will be able to apply for DSA through a centralised **DSA-Sec Application Portal**, using a common application form.
- The portal will simplify and streamline the DSA application process, making it convenient for all students.

What is the timeline for 2019 DSA-Sec?



Features of the DSA-Sec Portal

1. Centralised online applications

- Applications will be centralised across all participating secondary schools
- The form will be **easy to fill** – you only have to key in contact details and your school and talent choices
Optional: The portal will also allow you to indicate any non-school-based achievements and activities related to the talent areas you applied for.
- You **do not need to submit testimonials or hardcopy documents** to the secondary school during application.

2. Application using Singpass

- Parents can access the Portal via their SingPass login. Only one parent's SingPass login is required.
- Parents who are unable to access their SingPass can approach the primary school for assistance.

3. No application fees

- No fees charged for DSA-Sec application and selection.
- We encourage all students who are passionate about and committed to developing particular talents to apply, regardless of family backgrounds.

Features of the DSA-Sec Portal

4. Making choices in the DSA-Sec portal

- Through the portal, you can easily identify schools that offer programmes for your child's talent area.
- You can indicate up to three choices. For each choice, you will need to choose a secondary school and a talent area from that school.
- The order of the choices does not matter during application.
- Of the three choices, up to two choices may be used to apply to the same school, for two different talent areas of that school. This is to cater to your child's multiple interests, and allow your child to choose different schools which can develop his/her strengths and interests.
- You and your child are encouraged to **consider your choices carefully**, and manage the time and effort participating in multiple trials and interviews.

Note. Students can apply separately to School of the Arts and Singapore Sports School, on top of the DSA-Sec choices made through the DSA-Sec Portal.

Examples of Possible Choice Combinations

EXAMPLE 1	Talent(s)	School(s)	Your child can apply to <u>up to three different schools</u> , with no restrictions on the talent areas.
	Choir	School A	
	Choir	School B	
	Choir	School C	
EXAMPLE 2	Talent(s)	School(s)	If your child chooses two areas in one school, he/she can apply to two different schools only ,
	Choir	School A	
	String Orchestra	School A	
	Choir	School B	
EXAMPLE 3 (Not allowed)	Talent(s)	School(s)	Your child cannot use all three choices on one school. He/she can leave the third choice blank or choose another school.
	Choir	School A	
	String Orchestra	School A	
	Mathematics	School A	

What are schools looking for?

- Schools have updated their selection practices, which are based on a common set of student-centric principles, with more emphasis on looking for sound fundamentals and potential in particular talent areas.
- The DSA-Sec selection process remains objective and talent-specific.

What are schools looking for?

- The selection process differs across schools, and across different DSA-Sec categories.
- Generally, schools are looking for candidates with:

Talent, passion, commitment

- Schools may look at **achievements** and **participation** (e.g. in Junior Sports Academy).
- Schools may also conduct tests, trials or selection camps to identify students with **strengths, or sound fundamentals and potential**, in particular areas.

Strong personal qualities

- Schools may look at CCA records and VIA participation.
- Schools may also conduct interviews.

Good academic fit

- Schools may look at primary school results to ensure students can benefit from the school's pace of learning.

Students, be sincere, be genuine, and be yourself – if you are a good fit for the school, it will show.

What are the possible DSA-Sec outcomes?

- **Confirmed Offer (CO)** → Your child has a place reserved in the school, as long as his/her PSLE results qualify him/her for a course the school offers (i.e. Express, Normal (Academic) or Normal (Technical)).
- **Wait List (WL)** → Your child will be given a place in the school if other students with Confirmed Offers do not take up those offers, and if his/her PSLE results qualify him/her for a course the school offers. Allocation will be based on students' rank on the school's Wait List.
- **Unsuccessful** → Your child has not been given a place in the school. If your child still wishes to enter the schools he/she applied for, he/she can apply through the S1 Posting process using his/her PSLE results.

How are DSA-Sec places allocated?

Example: Confirmed Offer vs Wait List

Hani is given Confirmed Offer by Courage Secondary. Hani selected Courage Secondary as her 2nd choice.

Victor is offered a Wait List by Courage Secondary. Victor selected Courage Secondary as his 1st choice.

Who will be considered for a place in Courage Secondary first?

Hani will be considered for a DSA-Sec place in Courage Secondary before Victor, as she has a Confirmed Offer.

If my child have a DSA-Sec Confirmed Offer, does it mean that his/her PSLE results will not matter?

- Your child's PSLE results will still be **used to determine the secondary school course he/she is eligible** for (i.e. Express, Normal (Academic), Normal (Technical))
- Even if he/she has a Confirmed Offer, he/she **must qualify for a course offered by the school** to be admitted to the DSA-Sec school.

Example: Leo has a Confirmed Offer from Courage Secondary, which offers the Express Course only. However, Leo's PSLE results qualify him for the Normal (Academic) course. Hence, Leo will not be able to go to Courage Secondary through DSA-Sec. If he is not allocated a place in another DSA-Sec school whose CO/WL offer he had accepted at the School Preference stage, he will participate in the S1 Posting.

Where can I find more information on the 2019 DSA-Sec?

- Check the [MOE DSA-Sec website](#) for important dates and timelines, and for information on how DSA-Sec will be conducted.
- The updated 2019 DSA-Sec information will be published around April 2019.
- The MOE DSA-Sec website also contains information on DSA categories and secondary schools offering them.

YOUR COOPERATION IS NEEDED IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

- Encourage our children to have good learning attitudes. Be involved if the school informs you of your child' s behaviorial issues.
- Do be proactive in our children' s learning. Develop a routine for our children including a proper diet and sleeping patterns.
- Remediation for our children in the June holidays.
- Do encourage our children to finish their school homework ahead of their tuition homework.
- Do discourage our children from excessive use of mobile devices and games.

CONCLUSION

Wishing you and your child a wonderful year filled with joy and growth ahead!

