

SUBJECT-BASED BANDING (SBB)

For Primary Schools

~ Catering to Your Child's Abilities ~

30 May 2025, Friday

OUTLINE

1. P4 Subject-based Banding

2. Achievement Levels (ALs)

What is Subject-based Banding (Primary)?

- Subject-based banding (at P5 & P6) was introduced as a refinement to the streaming process to help each child realise his potential, based on his readiness.
- It provides greater flexibility for your child by offering him the option of a combination of **standard** and **foundation** subjects, depending on his readiness.

Why Introduce Subject-based Banding?

- To recognise that every child is unique, and has different abilities, aptitudes, capabilities and talents.
- To provide a balanced education that caters to the different abilities of each child so that we can prepare him for life.
- To allow your child to focus on and stretch his potential in the subjects that he is strong in while building up the fundamentals in the subjects that he needs more support in.

How does Subject-based Banding works?

At end of P4

School recommends a subject combination based on P4 examination results. Parents select preferred combination.



At P5, student takes subject combination chosen by parents.

How does Subject-based Banding works?

At the end of P4	You will be recommended to take
Pass all 4 subjects	4 standard subjects
Pass 1 or more subjects	A combination of standard and foundation subjects
Pass all 4 subjects, and did very well for MTL	4 standard subjects + Higher Mother Tongue Language

Subject Combinations offered in SKPS

Your child will be recommended to take

4 Standard subjects (E, MA, S, MT)

3 Standard subjects (E, S, MT) +
1 Foundation subject (FMA)

3 Standard subjects (E, MA, S) +
1 Foundation subject (FMTL)

4 Standard subjects (E, MA, S, MT) +
1 Higher MTL

Eligibility for Higher Mother Tongue (HMT)

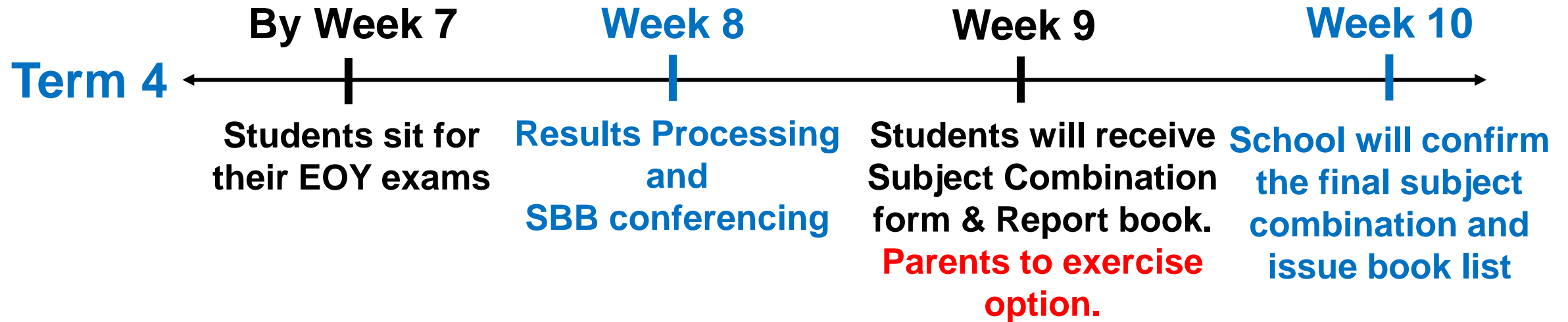
Mother Tongue	English, Mathematics, Science
Band 1 (85 marks & above)	At least Band 2 (Above 70 marks)

- School identifies students and advises parents on whether their child is eligible.
- Students are expected to take HMT for a complete year before they can request to drop the subject.

Considerations for taking Higher Mother Tongue Language (HMTL)

	Higher Mother Tongue Languages
Learning Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 set of Standard MTL books• 1 set of Higher MTL books
Lessons	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1.5 hours• After curriculum hours
Examination	2 examinations: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 for Standard MTL• 1 for Higher MTL (for P5 and P6)

Timeline for Subject-based Banding (SBB)



Subject-based Banding At End of P5

At the end of P5

Student takes a subject combination **determined by the school**

Students who have not met expectations

Switch some subjects to foundation level

Students who have met expectations

Continue with the same subject combination

Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) At End of P6

2. Achievement Levels (ALs) P5 & P6

WHAT ARE ACHIEVEMENT LEVELs (AL)?

- Students with similar scores in each subject are grouped into scoring bands measured in 8 ALs.
- AL bands and mark ranges are set based on the learning objectives of the curriculum and mirror the way we learn.
- Student's AL reflects their own level of achievement.

AL	RAW MARK RANGE
1	≥ 90
2	85 – 89
3	80 – 84
4	75 – 79
5	65 – 74
6	45 – 64
7	20 – 44
8	< 20

GRADING OF FOUNDATION SUBJECT GRADES

- Foundation subject grades are graded in scoring bands from AL A to C.

FOUNDATION LEVEL AL	FOUNDATION RAW MARK RANGE	EQUIVALENT STANDARD LEVEL AL
A	75 – 100	6
B	30 – 74	7
C	< 30	8

THANK YOU!

