

Seng Kang Primary School
P4 Subject-based Banding (SBB) Briefing
29 May 2026, Friday, 1100 to 1230

Questions	Answers
<p>Does this mean that students in the same band will be placed in the same class starting from P5/P6? For example, students who are in Band 1 for English will be in one class, those in Band 2 in another class, and so on</p>	<p>P5 and P6 students are not sorted into different classes by subject band. Each class contains a mix of students taking subjects at different levels, and teachers use differentiated instruction to meet the needs of all learners, ensuring every student receives teaching pitched at the right level.</p> <p>However, students taking Foundation subjects are taught separately from those taking Standard subjects, as the content and curriculum differ.</p>
<p>If a student takes either all standard subjects or a mix, will the PSLE exam questions also be different for standard subject students compared to foundation subject students?</p>	<p>Students sit the papers they are registered for, alongside all other students in the same examination venue. This applies subject by subject, regardless of the overall mix. For instance, a student taking Standard English and Mathematics but Foundation Mother Tongue will sit the Standard papers for English and Mathematics, and the Foundation paper for Mother Tongue.</p>
<p>In PSLE, will the questions for foundation students be tailored to their ability level, so that they have a fair chance of scoring well even when taking foundation subjects?</p>	<p>The Foundation papers are designed to assess students at a level that matches the Foundation curriculum they have been taught. The questions are more accessible and aligned to the foundational concepts covered in class, giving students a fair opportunity to demonstrate what they have learnt. Under the Achievement Level (AL) system, students taking Foundation subjects are graded from AL A to AL C.</p>
<p>What if my child takes 5 subjects and performs poorly in one of them? Will it pull down their overall AL grade?</p>	<p>For the PSLE, the overall AL score is based on four subjects: English Language, Mother Tongue Language, Mathematics, and Science. These subjects may be taken at Standard or Foundation level. If a student is taking five subjects, only these four count towards the PSLE score.</p>
<p>Hi, I would like to check whether the SBB recommendation is based solely on my child's End-of-Year (EOY) examination results, or if her mid-year results are also taken into consideration. My child was unable to sit for her Mathematics paper due to illness and has a valid medical certificate (MC). I am concerned that this may affect her SBB placement. Thank you.</p>	<p>The P4 EOY results partly inform the SBB recommendation. Schools also consider overall performance across the year as well as the subject teacher's recommendation. If your child missed a Mathematics EOY examination due to illness and has a valid MC, the school will take this into account when making its recommendation.</p>