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Ministry of Education SINGAPORE

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Dear Parent

Information on 2019 Direct School Admission for Secondary Schools (DSA-Sec)

What is DSA-Sec?

DSA-Sec admits Primary 6 (P6) students to a secondary school based on a diverse range of talents and achievements that may not be demonstrated at the Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE).

Should my child apply for DSA-Sec?

If your child has specific strengths and interests that he/she is passionate about and committed to developing, DSA-Sec can support his/her development.

If your child is successfully allocated to a school through DSA-Sec, he/she will not join the Secondary 1 (S1) Posting process. As he/she has committed to the school, he/she will also not be able to seek for a transfer to another school after the release of the PSLE results.

Alternatively, if your child is not ready to commit, he/she should participate in the S1 Posting process after his/her PSLE results are released, together with the majority of P6 students.

Which school should my child apply to?

Finding a good fit will help your child enjoy learning at an appropriate pace, and enable him/her to benefit from the school's overall programmes. When selecting a DSA-Sec school, consider the following:

- Schools with talent areas that match your child's strengths and interests;
- The pace of learning; and
- The overall range of programmes offered.

Details on the schools' programmes, DSA-Sec selection processes, and timelines are also available at the secondary schools' websites and at their open houses (if applicable).

How does my child apply for DSA-Sec from 2019?

From 2019, you and your child will be able to apply to all DSA-Sec schools using a new online DSA-Sec Portal.¹ The portal will simplify and streamline the DSA application process, making it convenient for all students.

DSA-Sec application is free-of-charge and will be open for four weeks, from **8 May to 4 June 2019**. The DSA-Sec Portal can be accessed using your SingPass. (Only one parent's SingPass is needed to log in.) If you are unable to apply online for your child, you can approach your child's primary school for assistance.

Your child can indicate up to three choices during the application. For each choice, you will need to choose a secondary school and a talent area from that school.

¹ Students interested in School of the Arts (SOTA) or Singapore Sports School (SSP) should continue to apply directly to the school based on the school's application timeline. You may visit their school's website for more information.

Of the three choices, a maximum of two choices can be used to apply to the same school, for two different talent areas of that school. This is to cater for your child’s multiple interests, and allow for a choice of different schools which can develop your child’s strengths and interests. You are encouraged to consider your choices carefully, and manage the time and effort participating in multiple trials and interviews.

What will I need to provide during the application?

To make the application easier for you, you will only need to provide (1) your child’s choice of schools and talent areas and (2) your contact details. An optional field will also allow you to indicate any non-school-based activities and achievements your child may have participated in.

Your child’s primary school information – such as his/her P5 and P6 academic results, Co-curricular Activities (CCA), school-based activities/achievements/awards – will be shared directly by MOE with the secondary schools that he/she applies to. You do not need to submit testimonials and hardcopy documents.

How do schools select students?

The selection process and timeline differs across schools, and across different DSA-Sec categories. Schools may consider students based on his/her talents and achievements, personal qualities, and primary school results. Schools may also conduct interviews, tests, trials or selection camps to identify students with strengths or sound fundamentals and potential in particular talent areas.

What are the possible outcomes of my child’s application?

Your child will be informed of the application outcome by the individual schools by end-August 2019:

Outcomes	What does this mean?	What are my next steps?
Confirmed Offer (CO)	Your child has a place reserved in the DSA-Sec school. To gain admission, he/she still need PSLE results that qualify him/her for a course (i.e. Express, Normal (Academic) or Normal (Technical)) offered by the school.	If your child has a CO or WL, he/she will receive a School Preference Form from his/her primary school in October 2019.
Wait List (WL)	Your child will be given a place in the DSA-Sec school if other students with CO do not take up those offers. To gain admission, he/she still needs PSLE results that qualify him/her for a course offered by the school.	He/she can submit up to three school choices, in order of preference, online or at the primary school. ²
Unsuccessful	Your child has not been given a place in the DSA-Sec school. If your child still wishes to enter the school, he/she can apply through the S1 Posting process using his/her PSLE results.	

Where can I find out more information on DSA-Sec?

Information on important dates and the 2019 DSA-Sec process, can be found on <https://www.moe.gov.sg/admissions/direct-admissions/dsa-sec>. More information on the secondary schools participating in DSA-Sec and the talent areas they select students in, will be available from around April 2019.

Pupil Placement Services Branch
Student Placement and Services Division

² If your child has accepted an offer from Singapore Sports School (SSP), they will contact you separately. You should **NOT** submit the DSA-Sec School Preference, otherwise, your child’s offer from SSP will be void.