# Subject-Based Banding

for students in the Normal course

## WHY SUBJECT-BASED BANDING (SBB)?

- Every student is unique and possesses different strengths.
- Subject-Based Banding can:
  - a. Nurture students' strengths
  - b. Provide more educational opportunities
  - c. Encourage students to be more engaged in learning
  - d. Allow students to **build a stronger foundation** in subjects that they are good at



### **EXAMPLE: ANGELA FROM 2 Angela**

#### Sec 1 End of Year

- Offered Exp English at PSLE
- Offered Exp Science at Sec 1 mid-year juncture
- Offered Exp History at Sec 1
   End-of-year juncture
- Moving into Sec 2, Angela has 3
   SBB subjects



## Subjects to be taken in Sec 2

N(A)

Math

Express

History

Express

English

Express

Science

# WILL MY DAUGHTER CONTINUE WITH SBB SUBJECTS ALL THE WAY TO SEC 4 OR 5?

- Entry into SBB at Lower Secondary does not automatically guarantee transition to subjects at the more demanding level at Secondary 3.
- Child's performance need to meet the **school's criteria** at the end of Secondary 2 (subject combination criteria applies), and offering of subjects at the more demanding level will depend on minimum class size and school resourcing.

#### JUNCTURES TO TAKE UP SUBJECTS AT THE MORE DEMANDING LEVEL

- via school-based assessment, after Sec 2 year-end examinations, based on:
  - (a) Excellent and consistent performance in the subject;
  - (b) Positive learning attitude to cope with the higher academic demand; and
  - (c) Teachers' recommendations

## 2023 Sec 2 EOY SBB Criteria: EL, MT

Subject	For current SBB students	For non-SBB students (for N(A) students only)
English Language Mother Tongue Language	At least 50% for EOY results (written paper) <sup>1</sup> and overall results in the subject	At least 75% for EOY results (written paper) <sup>1</sup> and overall results in the subject
	<sup>1</sup> written paper in languages includes oral and listening components	

### 2023 Sec 2 EOY SBB Criteria: Science

Subject	For current SBB students	For non-SBB students (for N(A) students only)
Science	At least 50% for EOY results (written paper)	At least 75% for EOY results (written paper)
*Students would be offered Combined Science only	and overall results in the subject	and overall results in the subject

### 2023 Sec 2 EOY SBB Criteria: Math

Subject	For current SBB students	For non-SBB students (for N(A) students only)
Math	At least 50% for EOY results (written paper) and overall results in the subject	

#### **2023 Sec 2 EOY SBB Criteria: Humanities**

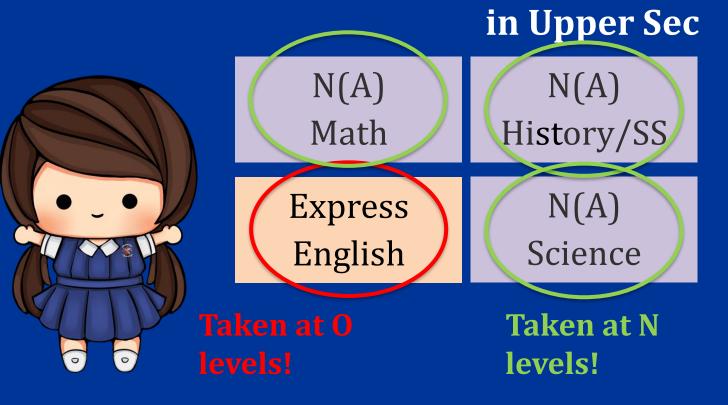
Subject	For current SBB students	For non-SBB students (for N(A) students only)
History Geography Literature  (for 2NA students offered 3E combined Hum/SS only)	a) At least 50% for EOY results    (written paper) and overall    results in the subject  Note: Current SBB students will only be offered the corresponding elective of the humanities SBB subject that they did in Sec 2	<ul> <li>a) At least 75% for EL EOY results (written paper)<sup>1</sup> and overall results in EL (N(A) level) OR</li> <li>b) At least 65% or better in O-Level EL (for students taking SBB EL) AND</li> <li>c) At least 75% for two Humanities (Hist, Geog, or Lit) EOY results (written paper) and overall results</li> <li>¹written paper in EL includes oral and listening components</li> </ul>

### **EXAMPLE: ANGELA FROM 2 Angela**

#### Sec 2 End of Year

 Did not meet criteria to continue with Exp History but met criteria for Exp English and Science

- Decided to take up Exp English
- Chose to take N(A) Science



Subjects to be taken

#### WHAT IF MY DAUGHTER STRUGGLES WITH THE SBB SUBJECT(S)?

- Constant monitoring of students' progress
- Monitoring of students' **socio-emotional and academic needs**
- Provision of **necessary support to students** to help them cope, e.g. bridging lessons will be conducted for all SBB inserts



# WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF TAKING UP SUBJECTS AT A MORE DEMANDING LEVEL?

- To help each student **find fulfilment** in learning and be motivated to excel in what she is good at
- Taking subjects at a more demanding level at Lower Secondary, where possible, builds a stronger foundation for Upper Secondary
- Eligible for grade conversion at the national examinations for desired courses (where applicable)

#### **CONVERSION OF GRADES FOR PFP ADMISSION**

• For N-Level students offering O-Level subjects, their grades will be converted to the N(A)-Level grades for admission to the Polytechnic Foundation Programme (PFP), as shown below.

GCE O-Level Grade	GCE N(A)-Level Grade
A1-B3	1
B4-C6	2
D7	3

Subject to changes

#### **CONVERSION OF GRADES FOR DPP ADMISSION**

• Computation of ITE aggregate points for Normal (Academic) subject grades for merit-based ranking for admission to full-time 3-year *Higher Nitec* and 2-year *Nitec* courses, is tabulated below.

GCE N(A)-Level Grade	ITE Aggregate Points
1, 2	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
U	5

Subject to changes

## FOR FURTHER QUERIES ON SBB

Please contact Ms Balvinder Kaur at: balvinder\_kaur@moe.edu.sg