



6 January 2023

Dear Parents/Guardian

Information on Secondary 1 Common Curriculum Subjects (with Coursework)

Greetings and good wishes to you.

Your child/ward will take Common Curriculum subjects in their mixed form classes as part of the Secondary 1 academic syllabus. The Common Curriculum subjects that are graded include Art, Design & Technology (D&T), Food & Consumer Education (FCE) and Music. This letter aims to provide a brief background about each subject and the types of assessment involved.

1. Art

Art at the lower secondary level is designed to foster students' sense of identity, culture and place in society. In addition, it aims to build the students' capacity to critically discern and process visual information, and communicate effectively. Art expands imagination and creativity and the teachers in the Art department is committed towards guiding your child/ward throughout their Art learning journey in OPSS. Art is assessed through in-class assignments, a cohort project and an ongoing coursework called the Art Journal. All these components are compulsory as they give students a well-rounded foundation in Art. Information on Art assessment is appended below.

S/N	Examinable Component	Objectives of Assessment	Additional Information	Percentage of total Art Marks
1.	In-class weighted assessment for Term 1	Project 1: Jack & Jill Art activities where students develop technical skills in: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collage work• Photography• Videography	Students will explore the reasons behind how characters are created. Students will then re-create their own version of Jack & Jill.	15%





2.	In-class weighted assessment for Term 2	Project 2: Who am I? Art activities where students develop technical skills in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research process • Figure drawing • Designing of wayang kulit 	Students will design and create a wayang kulit character that represents themselves.	15%
3.	In-class weighted assessment for Term 3	Project 3: Representing 3D forms Art activities where students develop technical skills in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perspective drawing 	Students will draw a composition of personal objects in perspective.	15%
4.	Art Journal (Term 4)	Art Journal A collection of process works completed for Projects 3 & 4 to show the students' Art learning progression in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project 3: Understanding and applying perspective drawing and photography work. • Project 4 – Understanding of colour theory, tints and shades. • Project 4 – Design of Cohort painting project. 	Throughout the year, students will be guided by their Art teachers to compile process works from Projects 3 & 4 to show their progression of learning in the form of a visual journey.	55%
5.	Cohort Project	Project 4: Cohort Project Every year, Secondary 1 students will design and paint an art piece which will be displayed in the school as part of the Cohort Project. Only the design aspect of the project will be marked and included as part of the Art Journal (Project 4) assessment.	The Cohort Project will start in Term 3 where students will be given the opportunity to apply all Art skills learnt in Sec 1.	N/A

2. Design & Technology (D&T)

Your child/ward will be taking Design & Technology (D&T) in Semester 2. The subject is designed to support the development of cognitive skills and abilities in the field of design.

Students will learn mainly through design-and-make projects guided by a design process. The design process entails identifying design needs from real-world experiences, generating and developing ideas, and realizing the design solution supported by research work. Such projects



will involve experiential learning where students will learn to use basic tools to build the solutions they have designed. Therefore, it is mandatory for students to put on the blue apron during the building process for safety and hygiene purposes.

Students will be graded holistically through theoretical and practical lessons. There is no year-end written examination for D&T. They will embark on a project called the coursework to further enhance their understanding of the subject. The coursework, conducted throughout Semester 2, is a graded assessment that contributes to your child's/ward's overall assessment. The assessment details are appended below.

Overall Design & Technology Education Assessment	
Theoretical Assessment	Coursework and Practical Assessment
20%	80%

3. Food & Consumer Education (FCE)

Your child/ward will be taking Food & Consumer Education (*FCE*) in Semester 1. The subject is designed to empower students to be health-conscious and discerning consumers by equipping them with the knowledge about diet and health, and be informed of the benefits of nutritious food and a well-balanced meal.

Students will also be equipped with food management skills where they will be taught culinary techniques to be self-sufficient in planning and preparing healthy meals for themselves and their family. Lessons on culinary skills will be conducted in the Food Laboratory and students are expected to put on their white apron and Chef's hat on during such lessons for safety and hygiene purposes. In addition, students will go through basic financial literacy lessons such as resource management and budgeting.

There is no year-end written examination for FCE. Students will be graded holistically through theoretical and practical assessments. They will also embark on a project called the coursework to further enhance their understanding of the subject. The coursework is a graded



assessment which contributes to your child's/ward's overall assessment for FCE which has been appended below.

Overall Food and Consumer Education Assessment	
Theoretical and Practical Assessment	Coursework Assessment
30%	70%

4. Music

With an array of musical activities and performance opportunities, the OPSS music unit is committed to providing quality music education for students. It is the school's hope that every student cultivates a life-long enjoyment and involvement in music, and this is achieved through the Advanced Music Programme (AMP) and the Lower Secondary Music Programme (LSMP).

The AMP is a school-based optional programme that students can apply to join. AMP lessons are conducted by Music teachers after curriculum hours through a blended learning approach. This programme is highly recommended for students interested in pursuing Music at a higher level such as Music at the O-level or NT-level. While applicants need not have a music background, they must demonstrate a high level of interest in music and have a commitment to being part of the programme. Since the AMP is a non-compulsory programme, regular school activities such as CCA/remediation classes will take precedence over the AMP.

Successful applicants of the AMP will be exposed to a deeper level of music learning and will have the opportunity to experience live music and be given the platform to showcase their talents during school events such as Teacher's Day. Students are able to apply for the AMP at the start of Semester 2, 2023.

The LSMP is a compulsory national music syllabus that aims to enable students to acquire and apply musical skills, knowledge and understanding through listening, creating, and performing. Through this rigorous music programme, the school hopes to develop students in the ability of creative expression and communication, as well as to understand and appreciate music in local and global cultures.



LSMP is assessed through in-class assignments, participation, reflections and both individual and ensemble performances. All these components are compulsory to provide students with well-rounded learning foundation in Music. Information on LSMP assessment is appended below.

S/N	Objectives of Assessment	Additional Information	Percentage of total music Marks
1.	<p>Semester 1: Ukulele Performance Students will be equipped to listen, create, and perform through these tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practice/Perform a minimum of 6 chords Individual Performance Group Performance Demonstrate Ukulele Strumming Techniques Chords Sight Reading Reflective Thinking 	<p>Reflection at start and end of semester collated.</p> <p>Summative and Formative performance assessments to encourage creativity and confidence.</p> <p>Students are required to bring their own ukulele.</p>	50%
2.	<p>Semester 2: Keyboard Skills Students will be equipped to listen, create, and perform through these tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practice/Perform a minimum of 4 chords with both hands Individual Performance Group Performance Chords Sight Reading Reflective Thinking 	<p>Reflection at the start and end of semester will be collated.</p>	50%
3.	<p>Sec 1 Music Showcase Sec 1s are encouraged to volunteer to perform for the Sec1 Music Showcase at the end of the year.</p> <p>Students have the autonomy to sing, rap, play an instrument in front of a live audience</p>	<p>No prior music background is necessary.</p>	Not graded



Orchid *P*ark Secondary School

10 Yishun Street 81 Singapore 768454 Tel: 67598547 Fax: 67588770 Email: opss@moe.edu.sg



With these learning objectives in mind, we would like to work closely with you and seek your support to ensure that your child/ward is present for every Common Curriculum lesson. If you wish to find out more about the subject or your child's/ward's progress, you may contact his/her Common Curriculum subject teacher during school hours.

Thank you.

Onward & Perservere

Empowered Learners ● Compassionate Leaders ● Future-Ready Orchidians

