

FAQs for Primary 4 Principal's Briefing 2021

Holistic Curriculum:

Learning Journeys

1. Will learning journeys and other outdoor education be resuming soon?

Resumption of Learning Journeys and Outdoor Education depends on the national posture. The school will inform parents in advance should learning journeys be planned for the students.

Differentiated Instruction

1. Moving forward, will we have more differentiated resources dedicated to students with different academic progress?

Our teachers differentiate our resources and teaching according to three broad student traits: readiness, interest and learning profile. We will adopt the differentiation according to students' needs.

Leadership

1. Can the student be a student peer supporter and also a prefect?

As much as possible, a student should not take up both roles as they are roles that require heavy commitment. Rest assured that he/she can still support the peers without taking up the role officially as a Student Peer Supporter.

Swimsafer programme

1. When will the SwimSafer programme resume?

The school has submitted plans to resume the programme for 2020 Primary 3 cohort in Semester 1 of 2021. However, due to a large number of schools vying

for the same pools and limited timeslots, our submitted plan was unsuccessful. We will be providing more details when we get updates.

Assessment and Promotion Matters:

Assessment

1. NCPS is following MOE standard in terms of not focusing too much on academics. But some other primary schools still drill their students academically. Will NCPS students be lagging behind?

Our school still emphasize on the importance of academics. In addition, we also focus on developing our students holistically in the following areas: Cognitive, Leadership, Aesthetics, Moral, Physical and Social.

2. No CAs are risky as we will not be able to gauge student performance and remedy it timely where necessary. CAs will help to reduce the overall weightage on Mid-Year and End-Of-Year examinations, thus reducing excessive pressure on students. Why is there a sudden change and parents are not consulted?
In 2018, MOE shared on the aim of adjusting the school-based assessment structures is to reduce the overemphasis on academic results and to nurture a stronger intrinsic motivation to learn in our students. The removal of mid-year exams will free up to about three weeks of curriculum time for each two-year block (that is, Primary 3 and Primary 4, Primary 5 and Primary 6, Sec 1 and 2, Sec 3 and 4). Schools can use this time to pace out teaching and learning and adopt varied pedagogies to deepen students' learning. Schools will also continue to use non-weighted assessments to support students' learning, inform their learning progress and address learning gaps. Teachers will regularly gather information about students' understanding and content mastery through checkpoints such as reviewing students' homework, class work and review; and provide timely and specific feedback and address any learning gaps that they might have.

3. For Primary 4 examination, can the school allow students to bring back their composition so that parents are able to view, understand and help them in their weak areas?

Yes, the composition scripts will be returned to students.

4. Would the exam results be based on AL such that it closely resembles PSLE result format?

For Primary 4, subjects are awarded from Grades 1 - 4. The reporting of results based on AL will take place from P5 onwards.

Promotion

1. With regards to promotion criteria from Primary 4 to 5, how will the students in each of the 2 broad bands be distributed to the 4 classes? Is it based on academic results?

Allocation of student within 2 broad bands is based on their overall results at the end of P4. Taking Higher Mother Tongue Language will not affect the allocation of bands.

Subject Based Banding

1. Must a child score all band 1 in order to be eligible for higher Chinese in Primary 5?

At the end of Primary 4, we will look at the overall results of the child to recommend a subject combination that is in the best interest of the child. At Primary 4, the parent will get to decide on the preferred choice.

Home-School Partnership:

Homework

1. How can we ensure our children fill up the homework to be done in the student diary? My child does not fill up even when there is homework.

Parents are encouraged to work closely with their subject teachers to ensure that the students take responsibility and are aware of the homework for the day and record them in their student diary. Parents are also encouraged to talk to their children on the value of responsibility.

Learning Devices

1. Will the school partner any vendors for us to get the gadget at a subsidised price?

The school will not be engaging vendors in the purchase of gadgets. Parents can choose the type of device which best suits your child.

Motivation

1. How can teachers improve, encourage and motivate their students to achieve their academic results?

In our school, we believe in having positive Teacher-Student Relationships (TSR). Having a positive TSR helps in the child's academic success and social development. In lessons such as FTGP, Form Teachers will engage each child in a 1 to 1 conversation where they can get to know their students better and in the process guide them to achieve their goals. There will also be opportunities during FTGP for students to learn how to set goals in academic areas and holistic development.

Others:

Traffic

1. Can the school share reasons why the gate is not opened to parents to drop off their child before or after school even though quite a number of schools are able to do so, especially in the morning? This might help with the traffic situation around the neighbourhood.

The school has considered this but for the safety of the children and logistics planning, (e.g. school buses are parked within the school compound for student boarding during dismissal times) this is not a viable option.

2. The road to Gate C is narrow. If cars are to all drop their kids at Gate C, it will cause a huge traffic jam. The traffic controller (parents) in the morning at Gate A is always directing cars to proceed rather than letting the students cross over to the school. This will cause a huge crowd of students gathering together. Can the school look into this?

Thank you for the feedback. An alternative will be for parents to park at nearby/opposite carparks and walk their child to school. We will continue to monitor the situation.

Direct School Admission

1. Please share about direct school admission criteria.

*More information about DSA will be shared when the students move up to Primary 5. You may visit the following DSA website for more information:
<https://www.moe.gov.sg/secondary/dsa>*

Affiliation

1. Is NCPS affiliated to NCHS?

NCPS is not affiliated to NCHS.