



# PUNGGOL SECONDARY SCHOOL 培道中学

51 Edgefield Plains, Singapore 828870 Tel: 6489 7851 Fax: 6489 7859

Website: [www.punggolsec.moe.edu.sg](http://www.punggolsec.moe.edu.sg)

29 May 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

## Arrangement at the end of the Circuit Breaker to Progressively bring Students Back to School

With the end of the Circuit Breaker period on 1 June 2020, we will progressively bring students back to school from 2 June 2020 (Term 3), in a careful and safe manner.

For a start, **students from Secondary 4 and 5 will attend school daily from Mondays to Fridays. Students from Secondary 1 to 3 will rotate weekly between Home-Based Learning (HBL) and returning to school for lessons.** Please refer to the table below for the weekly rotation schedule.

Week	In-School	HBL
T3W1 (2–5 Jun)	Secondary 1, 2, 4 & 5	Secondary 3
T3W2 (8–12 Jun)	Secondary 3, 4 & 5	Secondary 1, 2
T3W3 (15-19 Jun)	Secondary 1, 2, 4 & 5	Secondary 3
T3W4 (22-26 Jun)	Secondary 3, 4 & 5	Secondary 1, 2

For these four weeks, the school will adopt a special timetable:

- Lessons on odd weeks might be different from that on even weeks
- For the week that students would be having HBL, lessons would be mostly asynchronous. This means that students would not be able to have live lessons with their teachers. This is because teachers are in school and have lessons with the students in school.
- For the Lower Sec students, students would have more D&T or FCE and PE lessons during the weeks they are in school. This is because they missed out on important face-to-face time during the Circuit Breaker period. For the Sec 2 students in particular, this additional face-time for the coursework subjects will be important for them to assess their capability to take on these subjects at upper secondary.
- For the graduating students, we have adjusted the curriculum time so that we have extended timetable for various subjects in the afternoon. Subject teachers will let students know whether they will attend the extended timetable lessons.

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From Term 3 Week 5, we will work towards bringing all students back to school daily, if the situation permits. MOE will monitor the situation closely and we will inform all parents in due course.

The school will ensure that safe management measures are in place to keep our students safe:

- Daily temperature-taking with additional visual and question screening will continue to be carried out for all students and staff. In addition, students and staff who are unwell, or who have adult household members on home quarantine / Stay Home Notice or have flu-like symptoms such as fever and cough, will be required to stay away from school.
- Schools will clean high-touch surfaces more frequently and disinfect the premises daily.
- Students and staff are required to wear their masks or face shields.
- Students will practise frequent hand-washing throughout the school day and practice wipe down of tables and shared equipment after use.
- Intermingling across classes and levels will be minimised.
- There will be fixed exam-style seating in classrooms and spaced seating in canteens or alternative venues.
- Schools will also stagger arrival, dismissal and recess timings to reduce congestion.

We seek your help that **should there be any household member who has been issued Home Quarantine Order (HQO), Stay-Home Notice (SHN) or have flu-like symptoms, please alert your child/ward's Form Teachers as soon as possible.**

To ensure that our students remain active and keep healthy, we will resume **Physical Education (PE)** lessons when they return to school, with strict adherence to safe management measures. During PE lessons, students and PE teachers will not be required to wear masks when engaged in strenuous physical activities such as running and workouts. Given that students may not be sufficiently prepared physically, the **National Physical Fitness Award (NAPFA)** this year will be cancelled.

For the **upcoming examination for GCE O-Level mid-year Mother Tongue Language (MTL) examinations** on 18 to 19 June 2020, we will also put in place the necessary safe management measures. Candidates will be required to wear masks or face shields during these examinations. To reduce the risk of possible transmission, students on Home Quarantine Order, Stay-Home Notice and Leave of Absence will not be allowed to sit for these examinations. In addition, those who are on medical leave or unwell with flu-like symptoms (such as fever or coughing) will not be allowed to sit for the examinations. They will take the year-end examinations instead.

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All **National School Games** competitions for 2020 will be cancelled, as there is insufficient time to complete the season within the school calendar. In addition, students would not be adequately prepared for the competitions due to lack of training.

Our teachers will continue to monitor the progress of your child and be in regular contact with you and your child to provide support during this transition. MOE will continue to closely monitor the COVID-19 situation. We urge you to rely on official sources of information and not to circulate any unconfirmed information. If you have any further queries, please contact the school at [punggol\\_ss@moe.edu.sg](mailto:punggol_ss@moe.edu.sg) or 64897851.

Thank you and keep safe!

Yours sincerely,

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Mrs Angeline Huang  
Principal

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## Frequently Asked Questions

### *Q: Will MOE eventually allow all students to return to school?*

There are two phases for the resumption of classes in school. In Phase 1, i.e. 2 Jun to 26 Jun, students from graduating cohort will attend school from Mondays to Fridays. To reduce the number of students in school at any one time for better physical distancing, students from other cohorts will rotate weekly between HBL and returning to school for lessons.

From Term 3 Week 5, we will work towards bringing all students back to school daily, if the situation permits. MOE will monitor the situation closely and we will inform all parents in due course.

### *Q: What are the precautions that the school will take?*

The school will ensure that safe management measures are in place to keep our students safe:

- Daily temperature-taking with additional visual and question screening will continue to be carried out for all students and staff. In addition, students and staff who are unwell, or who have adult household members on home quarantine / Stay Home Notice or have flu-like symptoms such as fever and cough, will be required to stay away from school.
- Schools will clean high-touch surfaces more frequently and disinfect the premises daily.
- Students and staff are required to wear their masks or face shields.
- Students will practise frequent hand-washing throughout the school day and practice wipe down of tables and shared equipment after use.
- Intermingling across classes and levels will be minimised.
- There will be fixed exam-style seating in classrooms and spaced seating in canteens or alternative venues.
- Schools will also stagger arrival, dismissal and recess timings to reduce congestion.

### *Q: Is the wearing of a face mask compulsory?*

Students may wear a face mask or face shield when in school, for their own protection and that of others. Students may purchase face mask and face shield from the school bookshop.

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*Q: I do not feel safe to send my child to school. May I voluntarily take my child out of school? Can he do HBL instead?*

The school will implement safe management measures to minimize risk to our students and staff.

Unless there are specific concerns arising from medical conditions, school attendance cannot be voluntary when school re-opens after the holidays. This is because it is likely that COVID-19 will stay for some time and it will be challenging for students to stay at home for so long. Additionally, keeping students at home does not guarantee them being safe from COVID-19.

*Q: For the upcoming HBL lessons, will teachers also conduct face-to-face lessons as they did during Full HBL?*

For the weeks when students have HBL, while the timetable indicates specific periods for lessons, students do not need to strictly follow the timing as lessons would all be ready in SLS. Lessons during the HBL weeks will be mostly asynchronous i.e. students will not be seeing their teachers. This is because many teachers will be physically teaching the levels present in school.

*Q: With the alternate week arrangement, will teachers be able to provide hardcopy materials for students to refer to during HBL? Do students need to bring their books and files back and fro school and home?*

Teachers will inform students of the materials needed during the HBL weeks ahead of time so that students can prepare accordingly.

*Q: Given that the mid-year exams were cancelled, what will be the weighting for remaining Weighted Assessments (WAs) and the end-of-year examination?*

When students come back to school for lessons, teachers will assess their understanding of the materials taught during FHBL and HBL so that gaps, if any, can be addressed in a timely manner.

We will observe the situation after Term 3 Week 4 so that students' preparation of WAs is not significantly impacted and that WAs would be fair to students.

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