

Offering Higher Mother Tongue Languages to P3

- Information Session for Parents
- 24th September 2021
- 1700h to 1800h
- Fuhua Primary School



Scope of Briefing

1. Purpose
2. Focus of P3 & P4 HMTL
3. Key Features
4. Selection Guidelines
5. Key Considerations
6. Notification of Eligibility
7. Partnering you
8. FAQs

1. Purpose of offering HMTL

Higher Mother Tongue Language (HMTL) has been officially offered at P5 and P6 since 1992 for students who showed strong proficiency and interest in Mother Tongue Language (MTL).

To further strengthen the learning of MTL from an early age, primary schools can offer HMTL across the 3 official MTLs from P3 onwards starting Y2022.

2. Focus of P3 and P4 Higher HMTLs

It is designed to enthuse P3 and P4 students who demonstrate the ability, aptitude and interest to develop higher levels of MTL language proficiency and cultural knowledge.

3. Key Features of P3 & P4 HMTL Curriculum

Built on existing MTL curriculum:

Sustain students' interest and deepen their knowledge in their MTL

Enhance Reading and Writing skills

Expose students to age-appropriate literary texts

Literary-based text. Incorporation of age-appropriate literary-based text to provide an enjoyable early experience to ethnic literature.

Exposure to higher-order thinking exercises e.g. Enhance reasoning skills by eliciting students' response during classroom activities and discussions; Construction of new knowledge by making meaningful connections between texts and students' lives.

Creative and fun-filled activities and games to teach language and cultural knowledge. To sustain interest and extend knowledge.



4. Selection Criteria for offering HMTL at P3

1

For P3 entry:

The school will use a set of qualitative descriptors (QDs) based on the P2 Mother Tongue Languages Learning Outcomes to determine students' MTL proficiency. Students offering HMTL at P3 and P4 should **be proficient in their oracy skills** and **demonstrate strong foundation for literary skills**.

4. P2 MTL Learning Outcomes for semesters 1 & 2

Skills	Semester 1	Semester 2
Listening	Listen attentively to short, simple spoken content related to daily life, identify the main idea and some details.	Listen attentively to short, simple spoken content related to daily life, identify the main idea and some details.
Speaking & Spoken Interaction	Speak with correct pronunciation using vocabulary and sentence structures from Primary 2 texts.	Participate in short conversations related to daily life with some guidance.
Reading	Recognise characters taught in Primary 2. (CL)/ Recognise words taught in Primary 2. (ML)/ Recognise letters and words taught in Primary 2. (TL)	Read aloud Primary 2 texts with accuracy and fluency.
Reading	Read aloud Primary 2 texts with accuracy and fluency.	Understand Primary 2 texts and are able to identify details with some guidance.
Writing	Write words, phrases and simple sentence(s) about daily life with guidance. (CL & ML)/ Write words and simple phrases with guidance. (TL)	Write words, phrases and simple sentence(s) about daily life with guidance. (CL & ML)/ Write words and simple phrases with guidance. (TL)

4. Selection Criteria

2

Evidence of students' performance throughout the year

3

Teachers' feedback and observations

5. Key Considerations

- interest and aptitude
- learning load
 - Additional subject – Science
 - CCA
- commitment
 - weekly 1-hour lesson after school
 - 2 year commitment

6. Notification of eligibility to parents

- Eligible students will be informed by 2 Nov 2021
- Parents to exercise option

7. Partnering You

Teachers will:

- Inform you of your child's progress regularly
- Provide ideas and suggestions to support your child's learning, where necessary
- Share strategies to engage your child in MTL learning at home in a fun and meaningful manner

8. Frequently Asked Questions

How would assessment look like for HMTL at P3 and P4 level for my child?

HMTL at P3 and P4 will be reflected as a non-weighted assessment. Non-weighted assessment refers to assessments where the scores will not form part of the computation of a student's overall results in a subject for the year. There will be no changes in the major exams.

The school would also indicate your child's progress in HMTL in the Holistic Development Profile.

How are lessons carried out for HMTL at P3 and P4 level?

**MOE recommends 2 additional periods per week
(additional 2 periods after school)**

For HMTL

For HMTL, the textbook includes literary-based texts which would require two additional periods per week to provide an enjoyable early experience to ethnic literature and cultural knowledge.

How will my child benefit from the offering of HMTL?

Offering of HMTL will encourage your child with strong interest and aptitude in Mother Tongue Languages **to start early and learn MTL to as high a level as he/she can.**

Can my child still offer HMTL at upper primary levels even if he/she did not offer it at P3 and P4 level?

Your child could still offer HMTL at P5 and P6 level when he/she builds stronger proficiency and interest. The offering of HMTL from P3-P5 is a parental option whereas the offering of HMTL at P6 is a school-based decision. You are strongly encouraged to discuss with the school which course best suits the need of your child.

If my child decides to discontinue with HMTL during P3 or P4, will he/she be allowed to drop out?

To truly benefit from the HMTL curriculum at P3, he/she should offer HMTL for at least two years to ascertain his/her ability to cope with it.

If the child really finds difficulty coping, we do encourage parents to approach school for further guidance.

Thank You



Ministry of Education
SINGAPORE