

# 2023 Secondary 3 Subject Combination Parents' Briefing

LEADERS OF CHARACTER | SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE



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## OVERVIEW

- 1 Purpose
- 2 Process
- 3 Timeline
- 4 Support

LEADERS OF CHARACTER | SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE



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## 1. Purpose

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### Purpose of Subject Combination Exercise

- All courses offered allow students to **progress to post-secondary education** (e.g. JC/CI, Polytechnic or ITE)
- Every student should get the most appropriate subject combination to develop to the **best of his/her ability, interests and potential**
- Choosing different subjects impacts the **choice of courses in post-secondary institutions**



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## Guiding Principles



### Holistic Development

Balance studies, CCA, friends, family and external activities.



### Interests & Aspirations

Post-secondary



### School Resources

Availability and capacity



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## 2. Process

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## Subject Allocation Process

Students would be allocated based on:

- **Merit** (overall performance across subjects)
- **Vacancy** (for a subject combination)
- **Choice**



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## Subject Allocation Process

- In the event there is a high demand for a certain course, vacancies will be filled **according to the order of merit**.
- Being eligible for a particular course **does not guarantee** that you will be offered the course of your choice.
- Allocation will be based on the **Overall Results** and not just on the End-of-Year Examination results.



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## Weightage of Assessments

| Subject          | Term 1<br>WA1 | Term 2<br>WA2 / MYE | Term 3<br>WA3 | Term 4<br>EYE |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------|
| EL, MTL,<br>Math | 15%           | 25%                 | 15%           | 45%           |
| D&T, FCE         | 30%*          | 70%*                | -             | -             |
| Others           | 15%           | 15%                 | 15%           | 55%           |



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## Number of Subjects

Students will take:

- Total number of subjects: **6 to 8**
- Compulsory subjects + Elective(s)



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## Key Considerations in choosing subjects

- Impact on curriculum **time & joy of learning**
  - ✓ Fewer subjects may increase in curriculum time for EL, Math and Science
  - ✓ Helps students gain confidence and build stronger foundation in core subjects
- Impact on student **performance & well-being**
  - ✓ Allows for more enjoyment in the learning process
  - ✓ Improves their L1R5/EMB3 and increases their chances of getting better courses (e.g. qualify for PFP)



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## Key Considerations in choosing subjects

- Impact on **sustainability**
  - ✓ All courses are for 2 years
  - ✓ Once subjects are allocated and finalised, changing mid-way is not possible.
  - ✓ Help your child select a combination they would be able to cope with and have the potential to do well in



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### 3. Timeline

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### Schedule


| Term / Wk    | Description   |
|--------------|---|
| T2W2         | Education and Career Guidance student briefing                  |
| T2W4         | Self-discovery of interests & strengths (MySkillsFuture portal) |
| T2W5 & W6    | School Leaders talk   |
| T3W9         | Briefing to students on electives                               |
| T4W1         | Briefing for parents  |
| T4W7-8       | Subject Combination Exercise                                    |
| 9 Nov (Wed)  | Release of Subject Choice Results + Start of Appeal             |
| 13 Nov (Sun) | End of Appeal   |
| 21 Nov (Mon) | Release of Subject Choice Appeal Results                        |

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### 4. Support

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### Education and Career Counselling




What subject combination should I choose?



Is JC/Poly/ITE best for me?





Should I apply for EAE/DSA/AE?



I want to prepare for my interview for the admission selection.

ECG Counsellor, Ms Jerlyn, is available at the library's ECG corner on Tuesday and Thursdays from 8am to 5pm. You can book a session by clicking the [https://calendly.com/ecgc\\_msjerlyn/nbss](https://calendly.com/ecgc_msjerlyn/nbss) or contact via telegram by search @ecgc\_jp or [https://t.me/ecgc\\_jp](https://t.me/ecgc_jp)


**NAVAL BASE SECONDARY SCHOOL**



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# Supporting Your Child's ECG Journey

Jerlyn Poh, ECG Counsellor  
Naval Base Secondary School  
Sep 2022

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## Education and Career Guidance

- 1 Discover who you are
- 2 Rise up to the challenges
- 3 Keep learning
- 4 Navigate pathways with confidence
- 5 Make informed decisions and own them
- 6 Be adaptable and resilient

Jerlyn Poh, ECG Counsellor  
*Certified Career Practitioner*  
Naval Base Secondary School on  
Every Tuesday and Thursday

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## Objectives

- 01 Changing World of Work
- 02 Evolving Education Landscape
- 03 Supporting your Child's ECG Journey (Subject Combination Selection)

Source : <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2016/01/the-fourth-industrial-revolution-what-it-means-and-how-to-respond/>  
Credit : Illustration by Storyset

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## Changing of World of Work - What is the 4<sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolution?

Even though we have everyday problems we have to solve.

How this impact our child in school?

Source : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kp2as1eGzI>

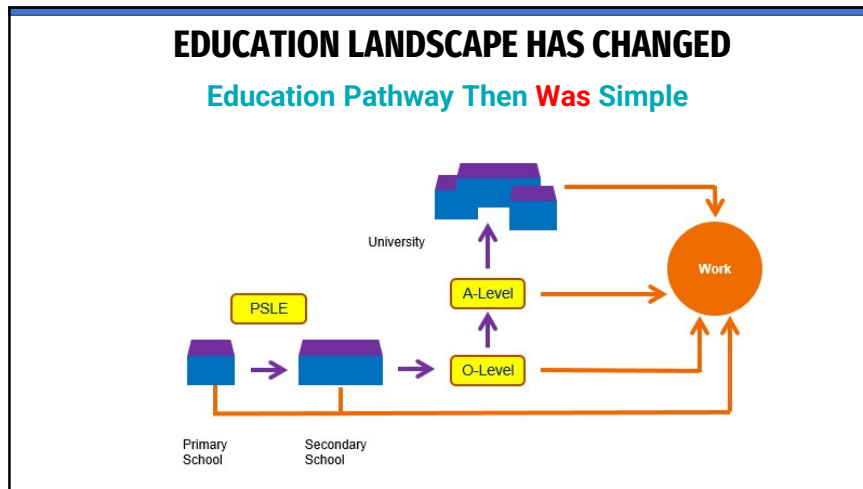
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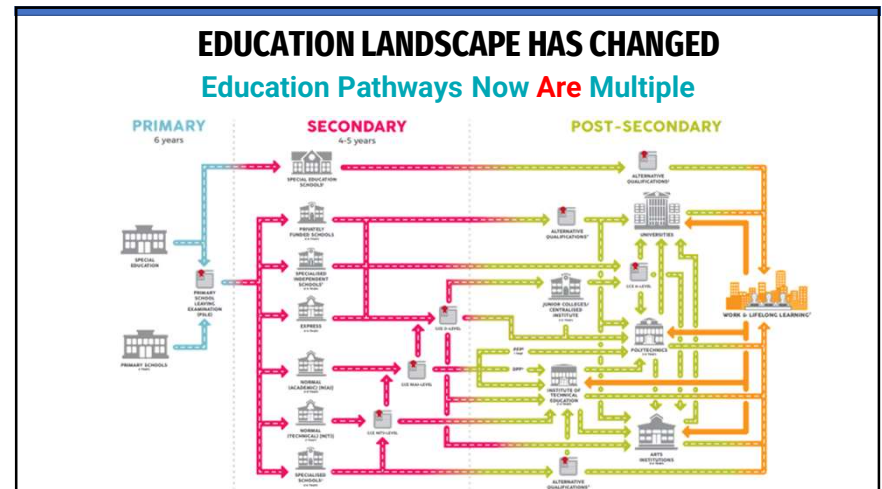
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### Some Changes in the Education Landscape

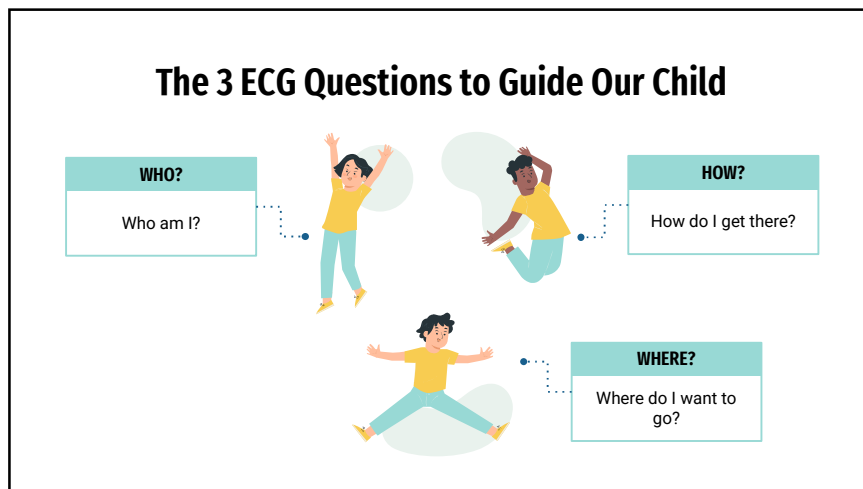
| Revised PSLE Scoring System  | Full Subject-Based Banding  | Post-Secondary Landscape  | IHL Landscape   |
|--|---|---|---|
| New Achievement Levels scoring system<br> | Implementation of Full Subject-Based Banding in all Secondary Schools by 2024 | Expanding CEP <sup>A</sup> offerings by Polytechnics<br><br>New ITE curriculum from 2022; shortened route to Higher Nitec<br><br>Offering of ITE Work-Study Diplomas<br><br>Shorter Polytechnic Diplomas for A-Level Students | Launch of NUS College of Humanities and Sciences in 2020<br><br>Establishing New University of the Arts<br><br>Expanding Aptitude-Based Admissions at Autonomous Universities |

\*IHL : Institute of Higher Learning  
\*CEP : Common Entry Programme

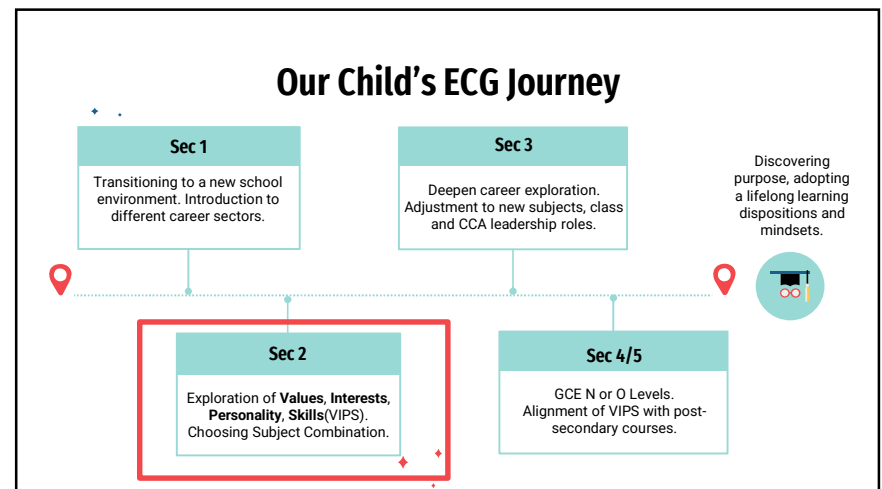
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## Questions Our Child May Have ...


**Subject Combination**

Which Subject Combination should I take?




**I Don't Know**

I don't know what I want to be yet, but I know I love Literature. How now?




**Education Pathways**


Which Education Pathway should I choose?



**Career Aspiration**


Do I know my career aspiration yet?





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## Who am I?



01

**Unique Individual**

02

**Values, Interests, Personality and Strength (VIPS)**


03

**Self Awareness**


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## My SkillsFuture (Student Portal) Know Yourself

[go.gov.sg/mysfsec](https://go.gov.sg/mysfsec)



Discover more about your career interests, skills, work values, and learning styles. These tools are meant to facilitate self-awareness and exploration. You may use them as a guide to plan your education or career. Do speak to your parents, teachers and Education and Career Guidance counsellors if you need further advice.



Credit : Image from go.gov.sg/mysfsec

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## Naval Base Secondary School's Target Setting Exercise

### Self-Mastery Development Plan

Naval Base Secondary School | Academic Target Setting | Secondary Two

**STEP 1: DEVELOP A PERSONAL VISION**  
*In order to develop your personal vision, it is important to first understand yourself. Start with your career interests. With that work before that inform your academic targets? Use the tools in the ECS portal to find out, and record your discoveries and targets below.*

1. Find out about your career interests and document them here.

2. Find out your learning style and record the results here.

3. What are some of the subjects you are interested in, strong in, and interested AND strong in?

4. Look through the job roles based on your career interests and find those of most interest to you. List down the ones you are most interested in. Being the one you are most interested in, this will be the one you will focus on.

**STEP 2: KNOW YOUR CURRENT REALITY**  
*What is your current reality? How have you done in your last assessment?*

Assessment: **WAS**

Overall results (e.g. L1RS, L1RD, L1RE, ELKRD, ELMKRS etc.):

|         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Subject | Subject | Subject | Subject | Subject | Subject | Subject | Subject | Subject | Subject | Subject |
| Target  | Target  | Target  | Target  | Target  | Target  | Target  | Target  | Target  | Target  | Target  |

Subject Target (for **WAS2** only):

|   |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Overall Target (e.g. L1RS, L1RD, L1RE, ELKRD, ELMKRS etc.): |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| Subject Target  | Subject Target | Subject Target | Subject Target | Subject Target | Subject Target | Subject Target | Subject Target | Subject Target | Subject Target |

Assessment: **WAS2 / AS2**

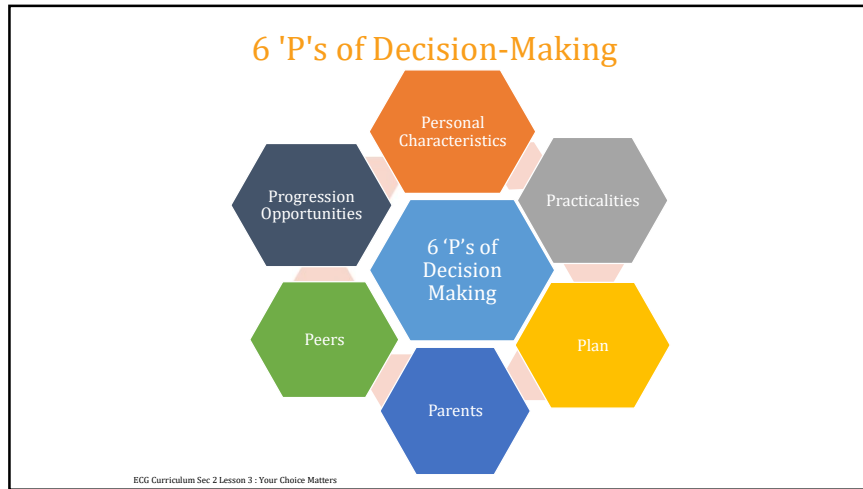
**STEP 3: ESTABLISH PLAN TO CLOSE THE GAP**  
*What are some things you need to do to close the gap between your current reality and your personal vision target? Putting into consideration all the other information you have about yourself including learning style, write down some steps you will be taking to achieve your academic targets, being as specific as possible.*

Plan for achieving personal vision (include plans to acquire relevant skills, e.g. interview skills, aligned to your chosen post-Secondary pathways):

**STEP 4: IMPLEMENT THE PLAN**

**STEP 5: MONITOR AND MAKE ADJUSTMENTS TO**

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### Who am I?

| Support them as they discover their VIPS   | Encourage Reflection on Experiences  | Connect Experiences   |
|--|--|---|
| What is important to you? What motivates you?<br><br>What are the issues you feel strongly about?<br><br><b>What do you enjoy doing?</b><br><br>How would you describe yourself? How do others describe you?<br><br>What are your strengths? What have people praised you for? | What do you do in...?<br><br><b>What do you like / dislike about...?</b><br><br>How do you feel when...?<br><br>What did you learn about...?<br><br>What did you discover about yourself through...? | <b>What have you learned in &lt;Subject&gt; that will be useful for &lt;Jobs you like&gt;?</b><br><br>Is this an ability / skill / interest you want to develop further?<br><br>Would you like to do something like that in your future job? Why? |

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### Where Do I Want to Go?

Designer?  
Physiotherapist?  
Programmer?  
Urban Farmer?

**Which Occupation I am interested to find out more?**

Creating new AI?  
Improve Mental Health?  
Improve Sustainability?  
Distribute Wealth?

**Sense of Purpose / Challenge**

Pure Science/C. Science  
DNT, Art, NFS  
POA, A Math  
EBS\*, Music\*

**Which subjects should I choose?**

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### Where do I want to go – Supporting our child in exploring their VIPS/and choosing Subject Combination\*

| N(T) Level Student   | N(A) Level Students   | O Levels Students  |
|--|---|--|
| Subject 1 to 5 (compulsory)<br>- English<br>- Mother Tongue<br>- Mathematics<br>- Science<br>- Computer Applications | Subject 1, 2, 3 (Compulsory)<br>- English<br>- Mother Tongue<br>- Mathematics   | Subject 1, 2, 3 (compulsory)<br>- English<br>- Mother Tongue<br>- Elementary Mathematics   |
| Subject 6 (to choose 1)<br>• Art<br>• Design & Technology<br>• Music<br>• Nutrition and Food Science                 | Subject 4, 5, 6 (choose 1 each)<br>• Subject 3 Humanities<br>• Subject 5<br>• Sci(Chem/Bio),<br>Sci(Chem/Phy)<br>• Subject 6 POA, Art or D&T or NFS | Subject 4, 5, 6, 7 (choose 1 each)<br>• Subject 4 Humanities<br>• Subject 5 Chem,<br>Sci(Chem/Phy),<br>Sci(Chem/Bio)<br>• Subject 6 Bio or Phy, Pure Geo, POA, Art or NFS<br>• Subject 7 A Math, A Math or POA |

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### Supporting your child in choosing subject combination: Post-Sec Admission Pathways

|                                | ITE EAE +               | JIE 'N' (2-year Nitec/ 3-year Higher Nitec)^ | JIE 'H' DPP (2-year Higher Nitec)^ | PFP (1-year foundation + 3-year Dip)^ | Poly EAE+                  | DSA-JC^              | JAE^                      |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|--|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Who can apply?</b>          | <b>N-Level students</b> |  | <b>N(A)-Level students</b>         |                                       | <b>O-Level students</b>    |                      |                           |
| <b>Aggregate Type/ Remarks</b> | MER                     | ITE Aggregate (4 sub)                        | ELMAB3 ≤ 19 (5 sub)                | ELMAB3 ≤ 12 (5 subjects)              | MER (5 sub)<br>ELR2B2 ≤ 26 | (6 sub)<br>L1R5 ≤ 20 | L1R5 ≤ 20<br>ELR2B2* ≤ 26 |

MER = Minimum Entry Requirement  
 \*ELR2B2 have 4 types – A, B, C, D  
 ^by merit

+Aptitude based selection  
**Min 5 to Max 9 Subjects**

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### Where Do I Want to Go?

| Start exploring areas of interests   | Prompt them to think Beyond  | Let your Child be the Expert   |
|--|--|--|
| Which would be your top 3 aspirations? Why did you choose these?<br><br>Are there others you have in mind?<br><br>Resources:<br>My Skillsfuture World of Work<br><br>On My Way by National Youth Council | What do you want from this career?<br><br>What are the things important to you in a job?<br><br>What would be some other jobs related to this role / industry?<br><br>How can you find more information? | That's a job I don't know much about, could you tell me more what it does?<br><br>How's the job prospect like? Could we find out and discuss more next time?<br><br>What does this course offer? What will you be learning / experiencing? |

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### My SkillsFuture (Student Portal) World of Work

Credit : Image from go.gov.sg/mysfssec


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### How Do I Get There?

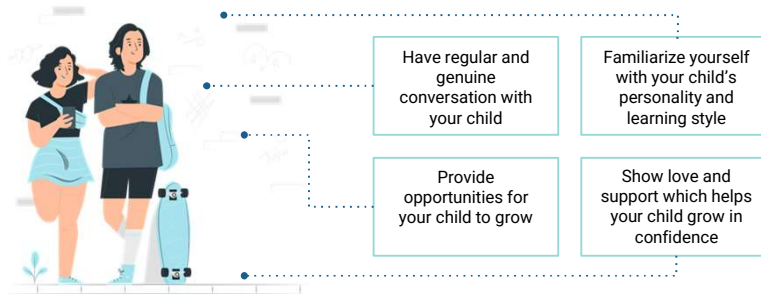
Credit : Illustration by Storyset

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## How do I Get There?

| Get your child to be responsible for their own plan  | Discuss with your child like they are adults   |
|--|--|
| Which courses / qualifications do you think will lead you to this job?<br>Are there any prerequisites subjects / minimum entry requirements to apply to these courses?<br>What steps can you take to work towards your goal?<br>How can you better prepare yourself for this course / job?<br>What are the possible ways/admissions to get to your course? | What 'game plan'/plan do you have in mind to work towards this course/career?<br>Are there ways you can experience what the job is like?<br>Are there practical constraints you may face? Eg. colour appreciation deficiency?<br> |

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## Supporting our Child's Aspirations

Source : 2021 CEG's Parents Seminar

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“  
**As parents, we all want what is best for our children...**  
**Within our own families, we can all spend a bit more time listening to our children's thoughts and feelings.**  
**Let us walk alongside them as they grow and handle their new challenges.**  
 ”

**- Mr Chan Chun Sing, Minister for Education**

Source : <https://www.moe.gov.sg/news/speeches/20210727-ministerial-statement-by-mr-chan-chun-sing-minister-for-education-for-the-parliament-sitting>

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## Need someone to talk to about your Child's Education and Career journey?

Jerlyn Poh  
 Education & Career Counsellor  
 Tuesday and Thursday from 8am to 5pm  
 Classroom 3D or Zoom  
[Jerlyn\\_poh\\_yoke\\_hui@schools.gov.sg](mailto:Jerlyn_poh_yoke_hui@schools.gov.sg)  
 Appt Link - <https://go.gov.sg/nbssmsjerlyn>



Credit : Image from pexels.com

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