



Our Reference: PHS /2020/T2/007

3 May 2020

Dear parents / guardians

Term 2 of this academic year has been a very different one from previous years because of the precautionary measures that have been put in place to contain Covid-19. We thank God that PHS staff and students have been kept safe from Covid-19 and we continue to seek His protection. We have been on Full Home-Based Learning (FHBL) since the third week of this term on 8 Apr 2020 and last week MOE had announced that the school holidays will be brought forward to commence on 5 May 2020.

In this letter, we will like to provide greater clarity on the adjustments that MOE and our school would be making in the light of these changes.

Student Progress and Feedback

No Weighted Assessments or Mid-year Examinations were carried out in Term 2 as we were mainly on FHBL. During this period, teachers marked assignments and gave feedback to students via online platform. Teachers also kept records and tracked submission of assignments. For students who fell behind in their submission, teachers enlisted the assistance of parents/guardians to ensure that assignments were done and promptly submitted. Having assessed the students' assignments during the FHBL period, teachers will continue to provide feedback, reinforce learning and address gaps, while moving on to new contents or skills when Term 3 begins.

Redistribution of Assessment Marks

With the cancellation of the Mid-Year Examination (MYE) for Secondary Two and Weighted Assessment 2 (WA 2) for Secondary One and Three as school shifted to FHBL, we will ensure that assessment weightings correspond to the demand of assessment tasks. Moving forwards, we will be redistributing the weightings of marks for Term 2 across Terms 1, 3 and 4. The assessment weighting distribution adjustments can be found in the following tables:

Secondary One & Three

	T1	T2	T3	T4	Total
Original Assessment Weightings	WA 1 – 15%	WA 2 – 15%	WA 3 – 15%	EOY – 55%	100%
Revised Assessment Weightings	WA 1 – 15%	---	WA 2 – 20%	EOY – 55%	190%

¹ The final marks will be scaled proportionately from 90 to 100%.

Secondary Two

	T1	T2	T3	T4	Total
Original Assessment Weightings	WA 1 – 15%	MYE – 25%	WA 3 – 15%	EOY – 45%	100%
Revised Assessment Weightings	WA 1 – 15%	---	WA 2 – 20%	EOY – 55%	190%

¹ The final marks will be scaled proportionately from 90 to 100%.

Holistic Development Profile Slip

We believe that it is important and helpful to give feedback to students and parents/guardians on how well they have mastered the contents and skills covered in Term 2. School will update parents on their child's/ward's learning progress through qualitative feedback toward providing more holistic information on the learning gaps during FHBL that students can work on. Teachers will be using the following rubric to provide feedback in their respective subjects. There will be no numerical score as the Weighted Assessments and Mid-Year Examinations have been removed.

Level of Learning Progress	Description
Exceeding Standards of Subject Mastery for HBL	Demonstrates complete understanding of the topic(s) / subject. All requirements of tasks are met.
Meeting Standards of Subject Mastery for HBL	Demonstrates considerable understanding of the topic(s) / subject. Most requirements of tasks are met
Approaching Standards of Subject Mastery for HBL	Demonstrates little / partial understanding of the topic(s) / subject. Some requirements of tasks are met.
Not Approaching Standards of Subject Mastery for HBL	Demonstrates no understanding of the topic(s) / subject. No response / Tasks not attempted

The Holistic Development Profile Slip will be issued in the second week of Term 3. The feedback serves to inform on the performance of the students in terms of aptitude and attitude pertaining to the subjects. The intent is to encourage the students to do even better. With the information, students can be more focused and targeted in their efforts to improve and close their learning gaps.

Updates on National Examinations

Singapore Examination and Assessment Board (SEAB) has rescheduled the Mid-Year Mother Tongue (MTL) Written Examinations and Listening Comprehension as follows:

Subject Examined	Original Date	Rescheduled Date
O-Level MTL (Papers 1 and 2)	1 June 2020, 8am	18 June 2020 (Thursday), 2pm
O-Level MTL B (Papers 1 and 2)	2 June 2020, 8am	19 June 2020 (Friday), 2.30pm
O-Level MTL and MTL B Listening Comprehension	21 July 2020	27 July 2020 (Monday), 2.30pm

The Higher MTL Oral Examinations are also rescheduled as follows:

Subject Examined	Rescheduled period
Higher Chinese Oral Examination	28 July – 4 August 2020
Higher Malay and Tamil Oral Examination	28 July – 30 July 2020

[Note: On 18 June and 27 July 2020, the school will arrange staggered dismissals from 12 noon.]

For students taking coursework subjects, we have sent letters to explain the adjustments made by MOE to better support students.

School-Based Assessment Schedule for Graduating Students

To prepare graduating students for the national examinations, we have adjusted our school-based (EL and MTL) assessment schedule. Details on assessment that will be conducted in the month of June are as follows:

Course	Subject	Paper	Date	Time
Sec 4 Sec 5	Mother Tongue Languages (O-Level)	Paper 1 Paper 2	5 June (Friday)	During curriculum hours
Sec 4 NT Sec 4 NA	English Language	Paper 4 (Oral)	9 June (Tuesday)	
Sec 4 EXP Sec 5 NA	English Language	Paper 4 (Oral)	23 June (Tuesday) 24 June (Wednesday)	
Sec 4 Sec 5	Mother Tongue Languages	Paper 4 (Oral)	25 June (Thursday) 26 June (Friday)	

Sec 4N Preliminary Examination

In view of the mid-term break from 18 July to 26 July, the Sec 4N School Preliminary examination will now be scheduled from 27 July to 5 August.

Support for Graduating Students during the School Holiday Period

In Weeks 3 and 4 of the May school holidays, our graduating students will be allowed to return to school according to a planned time-table. In planning the time-table, we have factored into consideration the need to maintain safe-distancing while meeting the needs of students:

- Offering coursework subjects (e.g. Art, D&T, F&N) that need to use school's

facilities and under teacher supervision

- Offering subjects with practical sessions that require school facilities and under teacher's supervision (e.g. Science, CPA)
- Who show significant learning gaps and need additional support and remediation (e.g. students taking Foundation subjects)
- Who are sitting the mid-year National MTL exams

For students who show significant learning gaps and may need additional support and remediation, teachers may either plan to meet them in school or online to address their concerns.

The time-table for graduating students will be confirmed and disseminated to students in Week 2 of the holidays as the COVID-19 situation is still evolving and the school's plans are subjected to measures and policies taken at the national level.

(²We will be limiting the number of students returning for lessons at any one time as we will spread students across the venues so that they are a safe distance apart during lessons)

Support for Students' Well-being

Throughout the holidays, school will continue to engage students with greater needs and provide care for those whose parents/guardians are working in essential services and are unable to secure alternative care arrangements.

We will continue to provide support to you and your child/ward if you observe that your child/ward seems to be struggling with challenges that can range from academic, friendship and relationship. Our counsellors will be available to support your child/ward. Please do not hesitate to establish contact with his/her form teachers and make known your concern.

Students who have borrowed Internet Dongles and Computing Devices may continue to hold on to them throughout the May holidays so that they are able to do their revision and any holiday homework assigned by their teachers.

Every learner is precious to us and we want to put our best foot forward to support his/her growth and development.

Update on Campus

During the Circuit Breaker period, all landscape, renovation and project works have been suspended. Only minimal basic facility management services will be attended to by our term contractors. Our school operations team will ensure that school facilities such as classrooms, canteen, laboratories and workshops are ready for use when school re-opens.

We look back on Term 2 with thanks and wish to express our appreciation to all parents for your support and understanding throughout this period to ensure that learning continued under FHBL as the nation stood united to contain Covid-19. We will press on in our partnership to provide your child with a meaningful and purposely learning experience at PHS.

Together we stand with Singapore
Stay Home, Stay Safe!

Yours faithfully,

Victor Owyong
Principal