

P3 & P4 Higher Mother Tongue Languages

- Information Session for Parents
- 16 November 2021
- Princess Elizabeth Primary School

A PRESENTATION BY MINISTRY OF EDUCATION SINGAPORE



Ministry of Education
SINGAPORE

This presentation will cover

- Purpose of Offering Higher Mother Tongue Language (HMTL)
- Selection guidelines
- Key features of P3(wef 2022) & P4(wef 2023) HMTL curriculum
- HMTL Lessons
- Assessment
- Benefits of taking HMTL from P3 and other related issues

What is the 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 2022.

What is P3 and P4 Higher HMTLs?

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

What is the Criteria?

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.**

What is the Criteria?

2

Evidence of **students' performance** throughout the year

Gathered information about students' learning through checkpoints such as on-going assessments or alternative assessments to further provide information on students' learning progress and inclination.

3

Teachers' feedback and observations

To cover a whole range of performance, additional information about student's learning can be gathered from class discussions, class work and homework.

For P4 entry: For P4 entry, schools could consider taking a similar approach in addition to P3 end of year exam results.

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.



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

- 2 additional periods per week after school (Either Monday or Thursday)

HCL

- HCL students purchase only HCL textbooks(课本) and **activity books(活动本)**.
- Need not purchase standard CL textbooks and activity books.
- HCL 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.

HML/HTL

- HML and HTL students to purchase standard ML/TL textbooks and activity books and an additional HML/HTL course book.
- HML/HTL course book 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 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 schools would also indicate your child's progress in HMTL in the Holistic Development Profile.

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, he/she can drop HMTL anytime.

Partnering You

Your child's school 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

Thank You



Ministry of Education
SINGAPORE