



*Vision: Nurturing Empowered, Future-Ready Hougeans of Character and Purpose*

*Mission: Care. Lead. Inspire. Partner.*

*Values: GratITUDE, Respect, Empathy, Adaptability, Trustworthiness.*

## **HS PC 2025 Term 4**

**September**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We welcome your child/ward back to the new school term! We hope you and your family have had a restful break to recharge and spend quality time together.

As we begin the final term, please be mindful that this period includes important examinations. We encourage you to keep a close eye on your child's/ward's well-being during this time, ensuring he/she maintains a healthy balance between study and rest. Please make sure your child/ward receives adequate sleep and feels mentally and emotionally prepared for the challenges ahead. Should you notice any concerns about your child's/ward's well-being or if he/she needs additional support, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. Our school counsellor is available to meet with students who may benefit from extra guidance during this period.

Here are the key programmes and activities to note for Term 4.

### **1. School Structures and Programmes**

#### **1.1 No Home-Based Learning (HBL) Days in Term 4**

There will be no HBL days in Term 4. All Secondary 1, 2, 3 and 4/5 students will attend school on all school days.

#### **1.2 Secondary 4 and 5 Study Break**

In preparation for the national examinations, study break for Secondary 4N(A) and 4N(T) students will commence on Monday, 29 September 2025.

For Secondary 4E5N students, their study break will commence on Monday, 6 October 2025.

#### **1.3 Marking Days for Secondary 1 to 3**

Marking Days for Secondary 1 to 3 will be on Monday, 13 October 2025 and Tuesday, 14 October 2025. Secondary 1 to 3 students need not report to school on these two days.

#### **1.4 Inspire@HS Series 3**

Inspire@HS for Secondary 1 to 3 students will take place over three days, from Tuesday, 21 October 2025 to Thursday, 23 October 2025. Parents/guardians will receive detailed information about the programmes via Parents Gateway closer to the dates.

#### **1.5 Parents-Teachers Meet (PTM) for Secondary 1 to 3**

The end-of-year PTM will take place on Friday, 24 October 2025. More information will be sent via Parents Gateway closer to the date.

- 1.6 2026 Subject Combination Exercise for Secondary 2  
2026 Subject combination Exercise for Secondary 2 students will take place from Friday, 24 October 2025 to Tuesday, 28 October 2025. Parents/guardians will receive more information via Parents Gateway closer to the dates.

- 1.7 Resumption of CCA for Secondary 1 to 3  
To allow students sufficient time to prepare for their upcoming End-of-Year Examinations, all CCAs have been stood down since Tuesday, 2 September 2025. CCAs will resume after the examinations, on Friday, 17 October 2025.

Selected CCAs may have training sessions, camps, or preparations for the upcoming School Open House during the school holidays. Please refer to the respective CCA teachers' notifications, which will be shared via Parents Gateway.

- 1.8 2026 Secondary 3 Camp  
The Secondary 3 Camp next year will be held from Monday, 5 January 2026 to Wednesday, 7 January 2026 during the GREAT Start Week. The camp aims to deepen class spirit and camaraderie amongst students and with their Character Coaches. We will conduct a briefing to the Secondary 2 students in October 2025 to prepare them for the camp. More information will be sent via Parents Gateway in due course.

## 2. Examination Matters

### 2.1 School Examination Dates

Examination	Level	Dates
End-of-Year	Secondary 1, 2 and 3	1 – 10 October 2025

- 2.2 National Examination Dates (for graduating students)  
Please refer to the table below for the dates which the national examinations will be held. Your child/ward is expected to refer to the entry proof for details of his/her own examination. Please refer to the SEAB website for details of the national examination schedules. (<https://www.seab.gov.sg/>)

### GCE O-Level Examination Dates

Oral Examination	
CLB / MLB / TLB (Year-End)	24 September 2025 (PM)
Listening Comprehension (LC)	
English Language	8 October 2025 (PM)
CLB / MLB / TLB (Year-End)	8 October 2025 (PM)
Practical Examination	
Higher Music / Music Performing	23 September – 26 September 2025
Computing	8 October 2025 (AM)
Science	1 October – 14 October 2025

Written Examination	
GCE O-Level Exam	16 October – 10 November 2025

### **GCE N-Level Examination Dates**

Listening Comprehension (LC)	
English Language Syll A	16 September 2025 (PM)
BCL / BML / BTL	16 September 2025 (PM)
English Language Syll T	17 September 2025 (PM)
CL / ML / TL	17 September 2025 (PM)
Practical Examination	
Computer Applications	19 September 2025 (AM) 25 September 2025 (AM)
Written Examination	
GCE N-Level Exam	15 September – 23 September 2025
	6 October – 14 October 2025

- 2.3 Early Dismissal of Students for National Listening Comprehension Examination  
The **GCE N-Level English Language and Mother Tongue Languages Listening Comprehension Examinations** will take place in the afternoons of Tuesday, 16 September 2025 and Wednesday, 17 September 2025 via e-broadcast. In view of this, all Secondary 1 to 3 students will be dismissed at **1.00 pm**.

### **3. Student Well-Being and Pupil Management Matters**

- 3.1 Advisory on Vaping (updated, please read)  
E-vaporisers and Etomidate e-vaporisers pose serious harms to users and are illegal in Singapore. Under the Tobacco (Control of Advertisements and Sale) Act, the possession, use or purchase of e-vaporisers carries a maximum fine of \$2,000. It is also an offence to import, distribute, sell, or offer for sale e-vaporisers and their components.

The Government has announced that there will be stronger enforcement and stricter penalties against vaping from Monday, 1 September 2025. This includes the classification of Etomidate as a Class C drug which will allow for stronger enforcement measures, penalties and rehabilitation programmes. This will include prosecution and a fine of up to \$10,000 and/or imprisonment of up to two years for Etomidate abusers.

Ministry of Education (MOE) has also stipulated baseline (i.e., minimum) disciplinary measures for schools. We have briefed our students on the stronger nationwide enforcement and penalties against vaping and would like to share with you our school's approach to this important issue.

#### Our School-Based Disciplinary Measures:

- Our school's disciplinary measures for vaping are aligned to MOE's stipulated baselines and would include internal and external suspension and caning (for boys). These school-based consequences are in addition to national penalties (fines) and rehabilitation programmes.
- For students caught vaping, the school will mete out the disciplinary measures, adjust the conduct grade, and take educative and rehabilitative measures.

#### Our Support Approach:

- All students caught vaping for the first time will receive mandatory counselling from our School Counsellor.
- Students who voluntarily seek help will not face disciplinary actions.
- We will engage parents/guardians directly and work together throughout any intervention.

#### Prevention Efforts:

- The school will continue our anti-vaping education efforts through assemblies, lessons, and peer support initiatives to help students understand the serious health and legal risks of vaping.

#### Support to Quit Vaping:

- Those who voluntarily seek help will not face any penalties nor have an offence record.
- However, if the individual is separately caught for vaping, penalties under the various laws will be meted out and there will be an offence record.
- If you have concerns about your child/ward or need support, please contact the school directly.

Parents/guardians have an important part to play in your child/ward's education. There are resources and relevant information that parents/guardians can access on Parent Hub. Parents/guardians are encouraged to have a serious conversation with your child/ward about vaping to prevent it from becoming a life-long habit. More information about the harms of vaping is available on Parent Hub at <https://go.gov.sg/parent-hub-vaping>.

### 3.2 iPads

iPads may be used during curriculum time for learning purposes. During classroom lessons where iPads are not required for learning, they should be put away and not accessed. Students should follow teacher's instructions on "screens up" and "screens down". If iPads are used inappropriately during curriculum time, disciplinary actions will be meted out accordingly. **iPads brought to school for use must be installed with MOE's Device Management Application (DMA). Any iPad found without DMA installed will be promptly installed with DMA.**

The following reminders were previously communicated in our past termly letters. We are reiterating these important points for your attention.

### 3.3 Usage of Mobile Phone

For effective teaching and learning to take place, we need to set boundaries for our students. Mobile phones may be used only during these timings:

- Mobile phones may be used only before 7.30 am and
- after the last period of curriculum time (3.00 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2.30 pm on Wednesdays and 12.30 pm on Fridays).

We would like to emphasise that students are not allowed to use their mobile phones during recess. Students are to store their phones in their personal lockers before 7.30 am and to retrieve it after the last period of curriculum time (3.00 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2.30 pm on Wednesdays and 12.30 pm on Fridays). During curriculum time, mobile phones are to always be out of sight. This includes during the change-over of lessons and while students are walking along the corridor.

Phone use is also prohibited during CCA and Structured Consultation Time.

If the mobile device policy is violated, the mobile phone will be confiscated immediately and kept under lock and key in the General Office. For the first and second offence (for the year), the phone will be confiscated up till 5.00 pm on that day. For the third offence and above (for the year), the phone will be confiscated and kept under lock and key in the General Office every day at 7.30 am till 5.00 pm for five days.

### 3.4 Punctuality

Students who are late for school for two or more occasions are required to serve detention after school on the same day, during which, they will engage in self-study, reading and/or Corrective Work Order. All students required to serve detention must do so on the actual date of offence regardless of involvement in competitions, tuition classes, remedial sessions and CCAs. Recalcitrant students who do not respond positively to the school's intervention measures may face other disciplinary actions such as in-school/home suspension or caning (for boys).

### 3.5 Maintaining Good Behaviour at All Times

The school places great emphasis on inculcating good habits in our students, such as the prudent use of time. As such, we would like to emphasise that students are not to loiter and misbehave in the neighbourhood after school. We urge you to strongly advise your child/ward to behave appropriately at all times especially while he/she is in school uniform.

### 3.6 Attire and Grooming

The school's grooming and attire policy is aimed at educating Hougeans to look smart and presentable at all times. Having proper attire and grooming is an outward expression of students' readiness to learn. It is also important as it signifies the pride that students have for themselves and the school. To achieve the above intent, grooming and attire checks are carried out periodically throughout the year.

If the students' grooming and attire is not appropriate, a grace period of 2 days will be given for rectification with a follow-up check. Students who fail the follow-up check will be sent home to have the grooming issue/s rectified, and parents/guardians will be informed.

Students are to wear the full school uniform with school tie on Mondays when they report to school. On days where there are PE lessons, students are required to report to school in their school shirt/blouse, Polo t-shirt, PE T-shirt or CCA T-shirt with pants/skorts (not allowed to report to school in PE shorts). If they wish to, students can choose to wear their PE shorts under their pants/skorts instead. They are allowed to wear PE attire only during PE lessons.

### 3.7 CCA T-shirt

Students are encouraged to wear their approved CCA T-shirts on Tuesdays with school pants/skorts if they have no PE lessons. Students who have PE on that day will change into their CCA T-shirts during recess, lunch break or after 3.00 pm.

Students are to wear full school uniform/school Polo-T on days with internal and national examinations.

3.8 Using Students' Images/ Recordings for Publications

The school will be using students' images and/or recordings for school publications. Should parents/guardians have any concerns, kindly inform the school through your child/ward's Character Coaches.

**4. Valuing Teachers**

4.1 Communication with Teachers

In line with the Ministry of Education's Five-Day Work Week, parents/guardians are encouraged to respect teachers' personal time and space. Teachers can be contacted during weekdays between 7.30 am and 6.00 pm. They are not expected to respond to parents'/students' queries during weekends or after 6.00 pm on weekdays except for emergencies. We seek your understanding and support on this.

All teachers' email addresses are available on the school's website for your convenience. Parents/Guardians can also contact the General Office (Tel: 6385 1990) for further assistance.

**5. Parent Support Group (PSG)**

5.1 Volunteering as a Parent Support Group Member

We continue to encourage parents of Hougang Secondary School to volunteer as PSG members. You may find out more in the 'Partners' section of the school website or email the PSG Executive Committee at [hss.psg@gmail.com](mailto:hss.psg@gmail.com).

5.2 School Leaders-Parent Support Group Meetings

We warmly invite parents to join our School Leaders-Parent Support Group meetings, where parents can engage in meaningful dialogue with our School Leaders. The upcoming meeting will be held in school on:

- Saturday, 8 November 2025, from 9.30 am to 11.30 am.

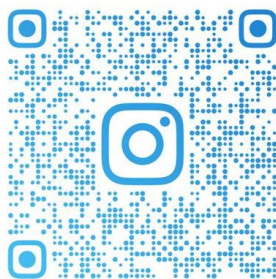
We welcome all interested parents to register at [hss.psg@gmail.com](mailto:hss.psg@gmail.com) at least two weeks before each meeting date. We look forward to your participation.

## Contact of Key Personnel

Should you have queries on the matters listed in this newsletter, please contact the following Key Personnel in-charge:

Items	Key Personnel (Designation)	Telephone
1.6	Ms Tracy Huang (HOD / Mathematics [Covering])	6372 6668 (Ext: 207)
1.7, 1.8	Mr Lee Lis King (HOD / PE & CCA)	6372 6658 (Ext: 658)
2	Mdm S Chitradevi (HOD / English Language & Literature)	6372 6663 (Ext: 663)
3	Mr Low Yi En (HOD / Pupil Management)	6372 6652 (Ext: 652)
5	Mrs Tan Wei Jing (SH / Partnership & Outreach)	6372 6668 (Ext: 237)

**Do scan the QR code below to access our Instagram page and follow us to get regular updates on school activities!**



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