

SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT PRESS RELEASE

PUBLICITY DIVISION · MINISTRY OF CULTURE · CITY HALL SINGAPORE 6

Writ.
Records Centre, Singapore.

16 DEC 1978

MC/DEC/20/78 (Education)

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE PLAN - OPTION FOR THE NINE
SELECTED CHINESE-STREAM SECONDARY SCHOOLS

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Option letters issued on 1 Dec 78 to parents of the 1978 PSLE pupils for the various alternatives under the Special Assistance Plan were returned to the schools on 5 Dec 78.

The response from the top 8 per cent Chinese-stream and English-stream 1978 PSLE pupils to join the nine selected schools is very encouraging. Of the 1,056 Chinese-stream pupils invited to join the nine selected schools, 938 or 89 per cent have accepted the offer. Of the 2,050 English-stream pupils invited, 507 or 25 per cent have accepted the offer. They are expected to attend Secondary 1 in these schools when the school term starts on 2 Jan 79.

Two hundred and sixty or 69 per cent of 378 Chinese-stream pupils within the top 8 per cent who previously applied for transfer to English-stream schools have reversed their choice and have instead opted for the nine selected schools.

The Ministry of Education has decided to allow pupils in the primary section of four of the nine selected schools who are well above average in their PSLE performance to be admitted to the secondary section of these four schools. Well above average pupils from other Chinese-stream primary schools will also be allowed to join these nine schools if they so wish. These pupils will be informed of this new option at the same time when they are given their secondary school postings on 22 Dec 78. Both groups of pupils will, however, follow a separate curriculum from that of the top 8 per cent pupils. The curriculum will be biased more towards the English language as the first language.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

13 DECEMBER 1978