

Supporting your child's Education & Career Guidance (ECG) Journey

POST-SECONDARY PATHWAYS AND SUBJECT COMBINATIONS



By Ms Belinda Teo

ECG COUNSELLOR

Overview of today's sharing

①

Key considerations in choosing subject combination using the ECG frame

②

Tips and resources for parents to support your child's ECG journey

Common questions from students

Should I choose subjects that I like or I am good at?

How do I choose when I do not know my career aspirations yet?

What are the subjects required to achieve my career aspirations?



Which educational pathway is better for me?

3 ECG Questions

1) DISCOVERING PURPOSE (WHO AM I?)

The more you know about yourself, the better your decisions will be

2) EXPLORING OPPORTUNITIES (WHERE DO I WANT TO GO?)

Explore the many education and career opportunities open to you

3) STAYING RELEVANT (HOW DO I GET THERE?)

You can continue to develop yourself by staying adaptable and resilient



Education & Career Guidance

Who Am I? (Discovering Purpose)

- What are some things/issues they feel strongly about or care about?
- What activities and subjects do they enjoy more or enjoy less, and why?
- What strengths and skills do they enjoy using or wish to develop further?
- What are the important things they look for in a career?

Reflect on student development experiences:

- CCA
- Camps
- Competitions
- VIA
- Learning Journeys



The more you know about yourself, the better your decisions will be

CHOOSING SUBJECTS FOR SECONDARY 3: “PUT INTEREST BEFORE POPULARITY”

Mdm Lee Lin Yee, Divisional Director at MOE’s Educational Technology Division, ex-Head of MOE Sciences Branch

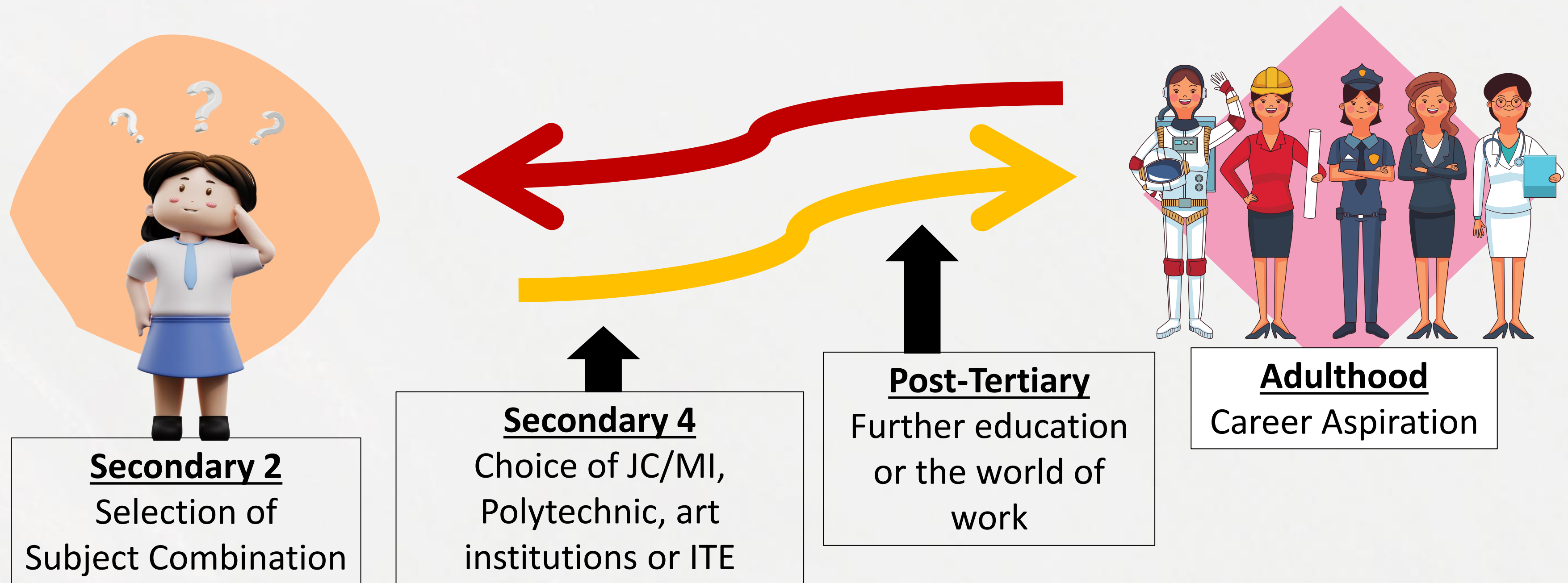
Pursuing a course or subject combination because of its perceived clout may also backfire. “These ideas of prestige do not mean much if a student has no fancy for those subjects,” Mdm Lee stresses; students are better off picking subjects that align with their interests – they are more likely to succeed not just in those subjects and courses, but also in their careers thereafter.

“We have designed the curriculum such that students who offer Combined Science can still move on to take H2 Science at the A-Levels.” Students need to offer three H2 subjects and one H1 subject at the A-Level exams to advance to university (H1 subjects have about half the content of H2 subjects).

If students have certain careers in mind, they may browse polytechnic and university websites and look for the course criteria: Not many polytechnic courses insist on a particular Pure Science subject for admission either, she advises.

Where do I want to go? (Exploring Opportunities)

There are many multiple pathways to achieve your aspirations and diverse opportunities to explore and learn throughout life.



Overview of Post-Sec Pathways

	INSTITUTE OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION		ARTS INSTITUTION		POLYTECHNIC		JC / MI	
STUDENTS TAKING AT LEAST	3-YR HIGHER NITEC	2-YR HIGHER NITEC	NAFA FOUNDATION PROGRAMME	ARTS INSTITUTIONS	POLY FOUNDATION PROGRAMME	POLY YEAR 1	MILLENNIA INSTITUTE	JUNIOR COLLEGE
5 G3 SUBJECTS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4 G3 SUBJECTS + 1 G2 SUBJECT	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
5 G2 SUBJECTS	✓	✓	✓		✓			
4 G1 SUBJECTS	✓	✓*						

**Students who offer 4 G1 subjects will join Yr 1 of Higher Nitec, they may be offered accelerated pathway if they meet academic requirements during their year 1 sem 1 exam.*



Scan to find out more above the eligibility criteria of the various pathways.

<https://go.gov.sg/pathways-nov2025>

More on the Post-Secondary Education Institutions

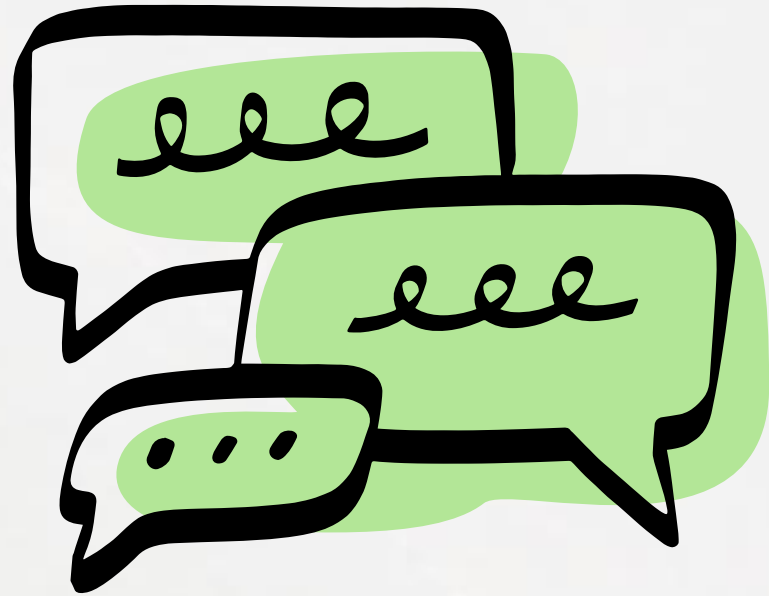
ARTS INSTITUTION	POLYTECHNIC	INSTITUTE OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION	JC / MI / IB SCHOOLS
Hands-on and practice-based learning experience in various fields of study		Graduate with Higher Nitec and join world of work or pursue ITE / Poly Diploma	Prepares students for the A-Level examinations or the International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma
Graduate with diploma and join world of work or further studies at University			Upon graduation, progress to university

— How do I get there?

Consider the *practicalities*:

- ☐ What is the criteria for your child's desired subject combination?
- ☐ With the subject combination in mind, how will the overall workload be like?
- ☐ How can your child work towards his/her goal?

How can you support your child?



Have a two-way
conversation with
your child

Listen and find
out the
“whys” behind
your child’s
preferences.

Understand
child’s values,
interests,
personality,
strengths,
aspirations

Encourage child to
explore
opportunities, remain
open-minded and
adaptable.

Conversation Points

Who am I?

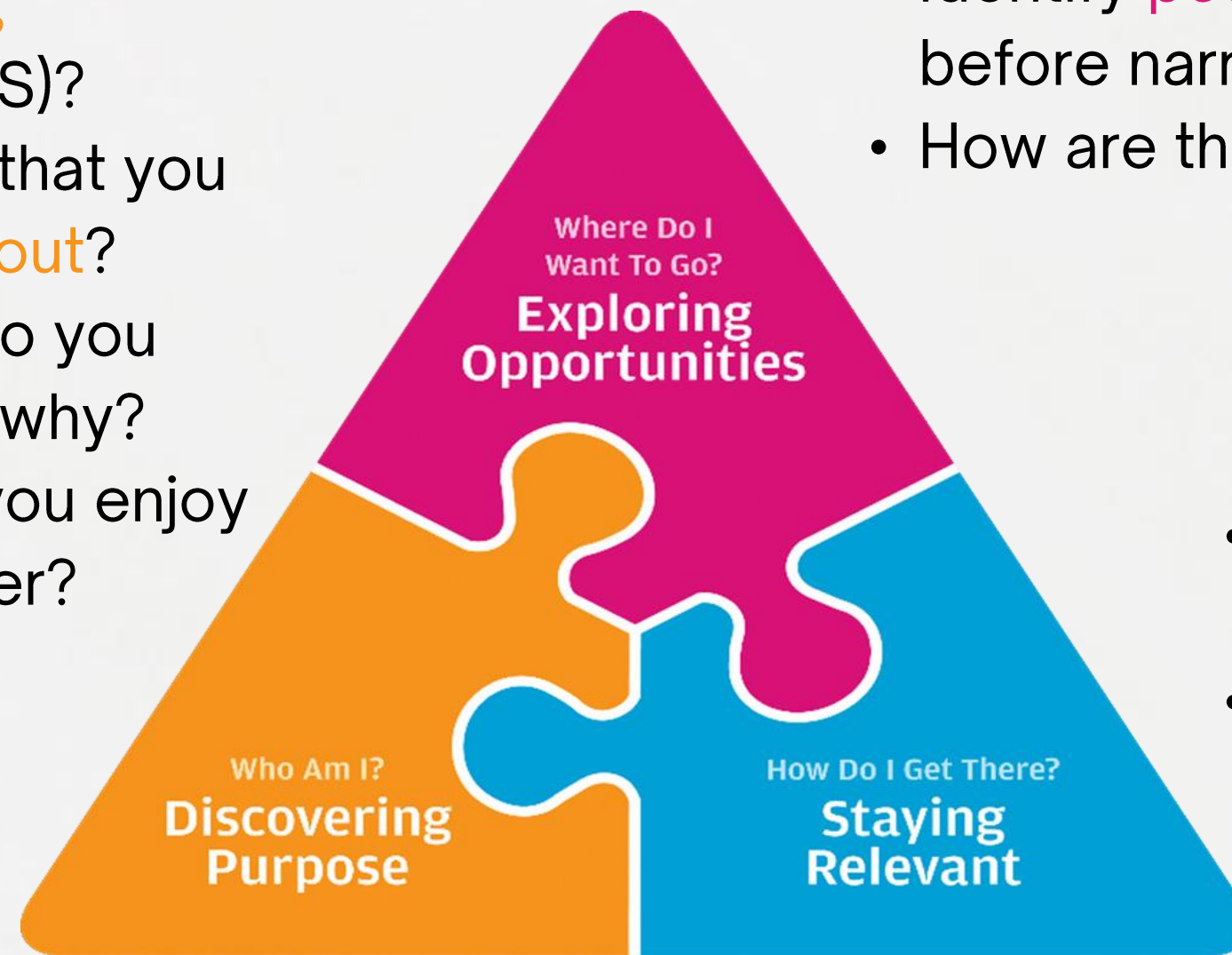
- What are my **values, interests, personality and strengths** (VIPs)?
- What are some things/issues that you **feel strongly about or care about**?
- What **activities and subjects** do you enjoy more or enjoy less, and why?
- What **strengths and skills** do you enjoy using or wish to develop further?

Where do I want to go?

- What are my **aspirations**?
- Identify **possible courses/careers** before narrowing down options
- How are they **aligned to my VIPs**?

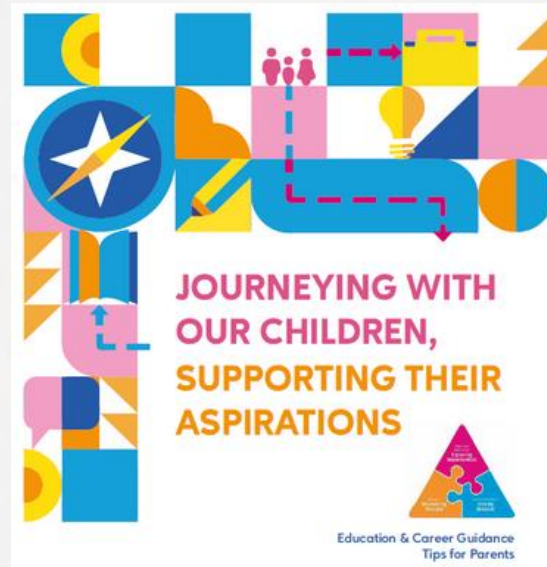
How do I get there?

- What **goals** can I set to achieve my first choice?
- What if I can't get my first choice? What are my **Plan B and C**?



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Useful Resources



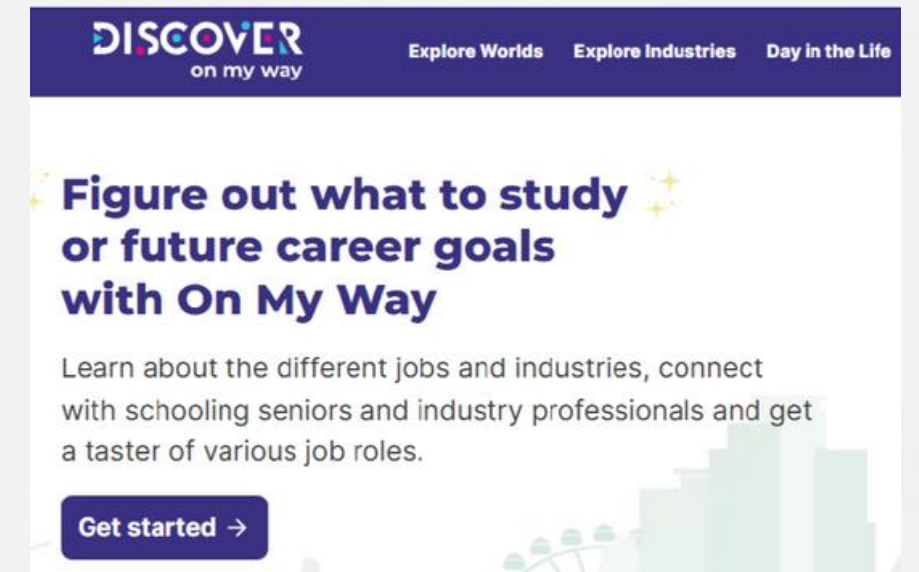
This parent resource contains tips and advice on ECG and suggests how parents can support their children throughout their key education stages.

<https://go.gov.sg/tips-for-parents>



Leverage the Education Guide and profiling tools in the MySkillsFuture portal to help your children plan their next step forward after their secondary education.

<https://go.gov.sg/mysfsec>



Learn more about the different jobs and industries.

<https://discover.nyc.gov.sg/>



Useful Resources

MYSKILLSFUTURE STUDENT PORTAL – Tools to understand your personality, strengths and work values



go.gov.sg/mysfsec

More information about changes in the education landscape

Full-Subject Based Banding Microsite



<https://go.gov.sg/fullsbb-website>

EDTALKS - What you need to know about Full SBB



<https://go.gov.sg/edtalksfsbb>

Book a consultation with ECG Counsellor

Ms Belinda Teo

When: Wednesday & Thursday, 8:00am – 5:00pm

Where: Level 2, Guidance@Fairfield

Scan QR code to book appointment or go to

<https://go.gov.sg/book-ecg-fmss>

