



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

Mission: Care. Lead. Inspire. Partner.

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

HS PC 2026 Issue 3

28 June 2026

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We welcome your child/ward back to the new school term! We hope your child/ward spent the time well and was able to rest and recharge during the short break.

1. Celebrations

1.1 Uniformed Group (UG) CCA Unit Awards

We are delighted to announce our UG CCAs' achievements (for year assessed 2025):

- Boys' Brigade – J M Fraser Award with Distinction Award
- Girls' Brigade – Company Silver Award
- Girl Guides – Puan Noor Aishah Award (PNAA) Gold Award
- National Cadet Corps (NCC Land) – Unit Recognition Award (Distinction)
- National Police Cadet Corps (NPCC) – Unit Overall Proficiency Award (Distinction)
- Red Cross Youth – Gold Excellent Unit Award

2. School Structures and Programmes

2.1 Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) Stand-Down

In preparation for the End-of-Year Examination, the last CCA session for Secondary 1 to 3 students in Semester 2 will be on Tuesday, 1 September 2026. CCA sessions will resume after the End-of-Year Examination.

2.2 Blended Learning

The Term 3 Home-Based Learning (HBL) days and dates are as follows:

Term 3 HBL Dates	Wednesday, 1 July Tuesday, 14 July Wednesday, 15 July Thursday, 16 July Monday, 27 July
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- On HBL Days, Secondary 1 to 3 students will follow the school's timetable for the day, including the Recess and Lunch periods which will serve as breaks for the students.

- Secondary 4 & 5 students will attend school as usual from Term 3 onwards with no HBL arrangements. They will need to report for their National Oral Examination in English Language and Mother Tongue Languages from 14 July to 16 July 2026. Students should refer to their entry proof for their specific examination dates and reporting times.
- To engage students in different modes of learning, teachers will leverage digital platforms such as Student Learning Space and Google Classroom. You may refer to this link for the schedule and subject-specific instructions:
<https://www.hougangsec.moe.edu.sg/hbl-and-sil/>

2.3 Timed Practice for Graduating Classes

We will conduct Timed Practice in Term 3 for graduating students. This aims to provide feedback on overall learning and to familiarise students with national examination formats and conditions. For more details, you may refer to the letter sent via Parents Gateway on Tuesday, 26 May 2026.

2.4 National Day Celebrations

The school will be commemorating National Day on Friday, 7 August 2026. Parents/guardians will receive more information via Parents Gateway closer to the date.

2.5 Teachers' Day Celebrations

Teachers' Day will be celebrated in school on Thursday, 3 September 2026. There will be no lessons on that day. Further details about the celebration will be shared closer to the date. As part of the preparations for Teachers' Day, all students will be dismissed at 1:30 pm on Wednesday, 2 September 2026.

3. **Examination Matters**

3.1 School Examination Dates

Examination	Level	Dates
Preliminary	Secondary 4 N(A) and N(T)	12 – 21 August
Preliminary	Secondary 4 Express/ 5N(A)	19 August – 2 September
End-of-Year	Secondary 1, 2 and 3	24 September – 5 October

3.2 National Examination Dates (for graduating students)

Please refer to the table below for the dates of the national examinations. Your child/ward is expected to refer to the individual 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 (Mid-Year)	13 July – 17 July
CL / ML / TL	13 July – 17 July
EL	13 July – 17 July
HCL / HML / HTL	13 July – 17 July
Foreign Languages	22 July – 4 August
CLB / MLB / TLB (Year-End)	23 September (PM)
Listening Comprehension (LC)	
CL / ML / TL	7 July (PM)
CLB / MLB / TLB (Mid-Year)	7 July (PM)
EL	15 October (PM)
CLB / MLB / TLB (Year-End)	15 October (PM)
Practical Examination	
Higher Music / Music Performing	22 September – 25 September
Computing	7 October
Science	30 September – 13 October
Written Examination	
Mid-Year CL / ML / TL	2 June (AM)
Mid-Year CLB / MLB / TLB	2 June (AM)
GCE O-Level Exam	19 October – 10 November

GCE N-Level Examination Dates

Oral Examination	
EL Syll A	13 July – 17 July (PM)
EL Syll T	13 July – 17 July (PM)
CL / ML / TL / BCL / BML / BTL	13 July – 17 July
Listening Comprehension (LC)	
EL Syll A	15 September (PM)
BCL / BML / BTL	15 September (PM)

EL Syll T	16 September (PM)
CL / ML / TL	16 September (PM)
Practical Examination	
Computer Applications	18 September (AM) 24 September (AM)
Written Examination	
GCE N-Level Exam	14 September – 22 September
	5 October – 13 October

- 3.3 Early Dismissal of Students for National Listening Comprehension Examination
The **GCE O-Level Mother Tongue / Mother Tongue Basic Languages Listening Comprehension Examination** will take place in the afternoon of 7 July 2026 via e-broadcast. In view of this national examination, all Secondary 1 to 3 students will be dismissed at 1:00 pm.

The **GCE N-Level English and Mother Tongue Languages Listening Comprehension Examinations** will take place in the afternoons of 15 September and 16 September 2026 via e-broadcast. In view of this national examination, all Secondary 1 to 3 students will be dismissed at 1:00 pm.

The **GCE O-Level English and Mother Tongue Basic Languages Listening Comprehension Examinations** will take place in the afternoon of 15 October 2026 via e-broadcast. In view of this national examination, all Secondary 1 to 3 students will be dismissed at 1:00 pm.

4. Student Well-Being and Pupil Management Matters

4.1 Advisory on Vaping

E-vaporisers and etomidate e-vaporisers pose serious harm 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 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.

The Ministry of Education (MOE) has also stipulated baseline (i.e. minimum) disciplinary measures for schools. We 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.

Approach to Providing Support:

- 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 assembly programmes, 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 the offence recorded.
- 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.

How to Talk to Your Child About Vaping

While the school plays its part in addressing vaping, parents and guardians are equally important in guiding your child. Having open and honest conversations at home can make a real difference. Here are three simple approaches to help you get started:

- **Be Casual:** You can bring up the topic casually, like if you and your child see vaping content on social media, a vape report on the news, or someone vaping.
- **Be Curious:** Ask your child what they know or think about vaping. You might be surprised by how much they already know. Thank them for sharing their thoughts and foster an open dialogue.
- **Be Candid:** Then, share your own feelings about vaping in a simple and open way. For example, you could say, "When I see people vaping, I worry about their health. Vaping has a lot of health risks and it's not worth it. I want to help you figure out what to do if someone offers you a vape."

Parents/guardians are encouraged to have a serious conversation with your child/ward about vaping to prevent it from becoming a lifelong habit. More information about the harms of vaping is available on Parent Hub at <https://go.gov.sg/parent-hub-vaping>. Additional resources from Families for Life can also be found at <https://file.go.gov.sg/parents-guide-vaping.pdf>

4.2 Addressing Hurtful Behaviour

Ministry of Education conducted Focused Group Discussions with students from primary, secondary and Junior Colleges regarding parents' support in hurtful behaviour. Across the board, students articulated the role that they would like parents to play, and these are some of the major themes that came across for parents to consider.

- "We see you as our **trusted adult** - someone we can turn to for **emotional support and advice**."
- "We want you to **partner** our teachers, working together with them to tackle bullying effectively."

- "We value your **guidance**, but we'd like you to **step in directly only when things get really serious.**"
- "We need **space to handle everyday conflicts ourselves** - it helps us build problem-solving skills."

What can parents do when their child encounters a bullying incident?

➤ If your child is bullied

Remain calm to assess the situation and provide emotional support to your child.

Have a conversation with them using **C.H.E.E.R.** as a guide to understand what they are experiencing.

- **C**alm them down. Speak in a gentle tone.
- **H**ear them out. Lend them a listening ear.
- **E**mpathise with and acknowledge their feelings.
- **E**ncourage them to seek help.
- **R**eassure them that you will always be there to support them and listen to their problems.

➤ If your child is the bully

Remain calm and try to find out more from them. You can:

- **Ask questions** to understand what happened.
- Let them know that bullying is unacceptable. **Encourage them to apologise sincerely and make amends** to repair relationships.
- **Monitor** their online activities (if relevant), for e.g., their social media posts
- Reach out for **extra support from school**.

If your child is a bystander

- It is important for them to feel **safe** and **supported**. You can guide your child to take on **upstanding behaviours** and **look out for friends in need**.
- Ask your child whether they want you to **listen**, to **help with more ideas about what to do** or **help them to report the incident**.
- Remind your child **not to like, share, record or repost** the message or media if the act is surfaced online.
- Let your child know that **it is okay if they don't feel safe or confident to stand up to bullying**. Brainstorm with them on **ways they can support the victim**, e.g., go with another friend to report to the teacher.

4.3 Use of iPads (Reminder)

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. Students should follow their teachers' 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 the DMA installed will have to be promptly installed with the DMA.**

4.4 Use of Mobile Phones (Reminder)

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

- Before 7:30am
- After the last period of curriculum time (3:00pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:30pm on Wednesdays and 12:30pm 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 7:30am and to retrieve them after the last period of curriculum time (3:00pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:30pm on Wednesdays and 12:30pm on Fridays). During curriculum time, mobile phones are expected to 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 5:00pm 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 from 7:30am till 5:00pm for five days.

4.5 Punctuality (Reminder)

Students who are late to school on 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 or 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).

4.6 Maintaining Good Behaviour at All Times (Reminder)

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.

4.7 Attire and Grooming (Reminder)

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 are 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. They are 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.

4.8 Using Students' Images/ Recordings for Publications (Reminder)

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

5. Road Safety Matters

- 5.1 To ensure smooth traffic flow and safety of all students, we kindly remind you of the following road safety measures within the school premises:

Drop-off at Main Foyer

When driving into the school to alight your child/ward at the main foyer, please align your vehicle strictly according to the white road markings. This alignment allows two cars to stop side by side, enabling faster clearance and reducing congestion during peak hours. Your cooperation helps us keep traffic moving efficiently and safely.

Exit at Front Gate

Parents/guardians exiting at the front gate must adhere to the directional timings indicated on the road signage. Depending on the time of day, vehicles are permitted to turn either right or left as shown. Please observe these instructions carefully to ensure compliance and avoid traffic conflicts. (Refer to the signage photo provided for clarity.)



No Parking at Main Foyer

Drivers are reminded not to park near the main foyer, where a “No Parking” sign is clearly displayed. Parking in this area obstructs traffic flow and creates safety risks for students. Please respect the signage and avoid stopping or waiting in this zone.

We appreciate your support in following these measures, which are designed to protect our students and provide a smoother experience for all families.

6. Valuing Teachers and Staff

6.1 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 7:30am and 6:00pm. They are not expected to respond to parents/students’ queries during weekends or after 6:00pm 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.

7. Parent Support Group (PSG)

7.1 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.

7.2 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 meetings will be held in school on:

- Saturday, 1 August 2026, from 9:30am to 11:30am and

- Saturday, 7 November 2026, from 9:30am to 11:30am.
- We welcome all interested parents to register at 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:

2.1	Mr Lee Lis King (HOD / PE & CCA)	6372 6658 (Ext: 658)
2.2	Mr Javen Gwee (HOD / ICT & Data Management)	6372 6655 (Ext: 655)
2.3, 3.2, 3.3	Mdm S Chitradevi (HOD / English Language & Literature)	6372 6663 (Ext: 663)
3.1	Ms Cheng Sze Mei Carmen (HOD / Mother Tongue Language)	6372 6664 (Ext: 664)
4	Mr Low Yi En (HOD / Pupil Management)	6372 6659 (Ext. 659)
7	Mrs Tan Wei Jing (SH / Partnership & Outreach)	6372 6668 (Ext: 297)

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

