Peirce Secondary School

SECONDARY 2 SUBJECT OPTIONS EXERCISE (SSOE) 2025

INFORMATION BOOKLET
for
Secondary 3 Balanced and Mastery Pathways (2026)
For students offering mostly G2 subjects

GENERAL INFORMATION

This booklet provides information on the various elective subjects available for students offering mostly G2 subjects in 2026. It enables parents to make informed choices about their children's subject options for Sec 3 based on academic inclinations, strengths, interests and aptitudes.

1. Subject Options Exercise is conducted after the release of the year-end examination results.
2. Students will be provided an opportunity to indicate their interest of subject combination in Term 2.
3. Students will be briefed on the finalised subject combinations in Term 4.
4. Students will be allocated their subject combinations based on their Sec 2 Overall results.

Instructions on filling up of Subject Options Exercise Form

1. The students will each receive a hardcopy option form to plan for their selection.
2. The students will be given a link to "All Ears" Form, which they need to login using their NRIC number.
3. The students are to rank the order (first to third choice) from a given list of subject combinations.
4. Multiple submissions are allowed. Only the last submission will be captured by the system.
5. Parents whose child is **eligible for G3 subject(s)** will receive offer letter(s) via Parents Gateway.

Submission of Option Forms and Release of Subject Options Exercise Results

1. Parents are advised to carefully consider their child's choices of subject combinations and complete the option form.
2. Results of the Subjects Options Exercise will be released within a few weeks of the exercise.
3. Parents will be able to view their child's allocated subjects via a link to "All Ears" Form, which will require their child to login in using his/her NRIC.
4. Appeals
    - All appeals will be considered **only after** the Subject Options Exercise has been completed and the results, released.
    - These appeals must then be **made via** a link given in "All Ears" Form when they view the results.
    - Appeals will only be considered if they do not contradict the established school policy on subject options.
    - The appeals will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
    - The results of the appeals will only be confirmed and made known to applicants at the end of November. Applicants may check the outcomes of their appeals via the "All Ears" Form.
    - The school's decision will be final, and no further appeals can be made.

School Policy on Subject Options

1. The school reserves the right to decide on the final subject combination offered.
2. Students who offer mostly G2 subjects can choose to take up 6 or 7 subjects.
3. Compulsory subjects for all students are:
    a. English Language,
    b. Mathematics,
    c. Mother Tongue language,
    d. Combined Humanities (Social Studies + Geography or History),
    e. Science

Subjects Offered	Subject Pre-Requisites
ENGLISH LANGUAGE	
English Language (EL) at G2	Nil
English Language (EL) at G3	At least a Grade 2 in Sec 2 G2 EL or C6 in Sec 2 G3 EL
MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGE	
Mother Tongue Language (MTL) at G2	Nil
Mother Tongue Language (MTL) at G3	At least a Grade 2 in Sec 2 G2 MTL or C6 in Sec 2 G3 MTL
SCIENCES (Choose one)	
Science (Physics/ Chemistry) at G2	Nil
Science (Chemistry/ Biology) at G2	Nil
Science (Physics/ Chemistry) at G3	At least a Grade 2 in Sec 2 G2 Science or C6 in Sec 2 G3 Science
Science (Chemistry/ Biology) at G3	At least a Grade 2 in Sec 2 G2 Science or C6 in Sec 2 G3 Science
HUMANITIES (Choose one)	
Humanities (Social Studies/Geography) at G2	Nil
Humanities (Social Studies/History) at G2	Nil
Humanities (Social Studies/Geography) at G3	At least a C6 in Sec 2 G3 Geography *OR* At least a Grade 2 in Sec 2 G2 Geography & Grade 2 in G2 EL or C6 in Sec 2 G3 EL
Humanities (Social Studies/History) at G3	At least a C6 in Sec 2 G3 History *OR* At least a Grade 2 in Sec 2 G2 History & Grade 2 in G2 EL or C6 in Sec 2 G3 EL
MATHEMATICS	
Mathematics at G2	Nil
Mathematics at G3	At least a Grade 2 in Sec 2 G2 Mathematics or C6 in Sec 2 G3 Mathematics
ELECTIVES	
Additional Mathematics at G2	At least a C5 in Sec 2 G3 Mathematics or Grade 2 in Sec 2 G2 Mathematics Students who opt to offer Additional Mathematics at G2 must also offer Mathematics at G3
Principles of Accounts at G2	Nil
Art at G3	At least "Competent" (mark range 60-69) in Sec 2 Art (Maximum Class Size: 20)
Nutrition & Food Science at G3	Nil (Maximum Class Size: 20)
Design & Technology (D&T) at G3	At least "Competent" (mark range 60-69) in Sec 2 D&T (Maximum Class Size: 20)

4. The students will be allocated their subject combinations based on the following:
   a. **Subject criteria for specific subjects (Based on the subject's overall results)**
   b. If demand is greater than the number of vacancies, priority will be given based on the following (listed in order of importance):
      i. **Order of Choice (First choice will be looked at first)**
      ii. **Order of Merit (Subject-specific)**
      iii. **Order of Merit (Overall average for all subjects)**
5. Subject Options Committee will accommodate students' requests whenever possible, taking into account students' suitability as well as the need for sufficient demand.
6. Students who are not given any of their preferred subject combinations or do not meet the pre-requisites for any combinations will be allocated subjects based on their strengths.

G2 Subject Combination Options Summary 2026

Subject 1	Subject 2	Subject 3	Subject 4	Subject 5	Subject 6
EL	MT	Maths	**Choose one** SS / Geo SS / His	**Choose one** Science (Phy / Chem) Science (Chem / Bio)	**Choose one** A Maths POA D&T NFS Art

Note

1. Students in the Balanced Pathway will offer 6 subjects.
2. Subject combination options are subject to adjustment(s).

Legend

1. EL – English Language
2. MT – Mother Tongue
3. SS – Social Studies
4. Geo – Geography
5. His – History
6. Phy – Physics
7. Chem – Chemistry
8. Bio – Biology
9. A Maths – Additional Mathematics
10. D&T – Design and Technology
11. NFS – Nutrition and Food Science
12. POA – Principles of Accounts

SUBJECT-SPECIFIC INFORMATION

SCIENCES

Brief Description
All students are required to study at least one Science subject. There are 3 basic branches of Science:

1. *Physics* – Physics is concerned with the underlying principles of the natural world, and deals with the elementary constituents of the universe, that is, all classes of matter and energy, their interactions, as well as the analysis of systems which are best understood in terms of their fundamental principles.
2. *Chemistry* – Chemistry deals with the composition and statistical properties of matter and structures, as well as their transformations and interactions to become materials encountered in everyday life. The physical properties of materials are generally determined by their structure at the atomic scale, which in turn is dictated by the properties and energies of the interactions.
3. *Biology* – Biology, essentially the study of Life, is concerned with the characteristics, classification, and behaviours of organisms, how species come into existence, and the interactions they have with each other and with the environment. All concepts in biology are subject to the same laws that other branches of science obey, such as the laws of thermodynamics and conservation of mass.

Students may opt to do:
- Either Science (Physics/ Chemistry) or Science (Chemistry/ Biology)

Science (Physics/ Chemistry)
Science (Chemistry/ Biology)

Examination Requirements
'N' Level Examination for Combined Science comprises:
- Paper 1 : Multiple-choice (Physics)
- Paper 2 : Structured (Physics)
- Paper 3 : Multiple-choice (Chemistry)
- Paper 4 : Structured (Chemistry)
- Paper 5 : Multiple-choice (Biology)
- Paper 6: Structured (Biology)

Students taking Science (Physics/ Chemistry) will take Papers 1, 2, 3 and 4; students taking Science (Chemistry/ Biology) will take Papers 3, 4, 5, and 6.

Science subjects at the secondary level provides open up many options for students in their next phase of education.

Students who have studied Physics, either as part of Combined Science or as a Pure Science subject, will be well-positioned to pursue STEM-related courses at the tertiary level.

Students with a background in Biology will have a distinct advantage if they choose to pursue biology- or pharmaceutical-related courses in the future.

Chemistry serves as a prerequisite for Life Sciences or medicine-related degree programmes in the university. Additionally, it is essential for many applied sciences and engineering courses.

HUMANITIES

(A compulsory subject in the GCE examinations)

All pupils have to choose one of the following elective components in combination with **Social Studies**.

The two elective components available are:

Geography Elective

Geography Elective is offered as an elective component of Humanities. It is read alongside the compulsory component, Social Studies.

Brief Description

The Geography Elective involves the study of both Physical and Human Geography. Pupils will learn about the world's human and physical features and the relationships between people, places and the earth. It shows how the world is connected and how the occurrence of one event in one place affects a person's life in another place. It is a study of the surface of the earth, human activities and how we can sustainably manage the environment.

Pupils will learn:

- the features and formation of landforms in the physical landscape
- the relationships between people and their environment
- the development and management of the physical and human environments
- case studies of different physical-human relationships
- Geographical skills in the context of the physical and human environments.

For pupils who…

have a keen interest in seeking an understanding of the surroundings and happenings and the inter-relationships between people and the environment.

Post-Secondary Options

Students can continue to pursue the subject in greater depth as an 'A' Level subject. Pupils seeking admission to Junior Colleges (JCs) will need to include the Humanities grade in their L1R5 aggregate computation. For application to Humanities, Media or Business-related polytechnic courses, Humanities counts as one of the relevant subjects in the computing of the ELR2B2 aggregate.

History Elective

History Elective is offered as an elective component of Humanities. It is read alongside the compulsory component, Social Studies.

Brief Description

The History syllabus provides students with an appreciation of the complexities of international relations. It highlights the importance of understanding and interpreting history in all its complexity – its people, events, issues, periods, turning points, themes and sources. The syllabus also equips students with the necessary skills to make reasoned and informed decisions.

Pupils will learn:

- World War I and the immediate aftermath
- Peacemaking and the rise of authoritarian regimes
- War in Europe and War in Asia Pacific
- The outbreak and escalation of the Cold War and the end of Cold War

For pupils who …

- have an interest in current affairs
- are interested in how human actions and political events shape our world
- are able to carry out independent research and learning

Post-Secondary Options

Students can continue to pursue the subject in greater depth as an 'A' Level subject. Pupils seeking admission to Junior Colleges (JCs) will need to include the Humanities grade in their L1R4 aggregate computation. For application to Humanities, Media or Business Courses in Polytechnic, Humanities counts as one of the relevant subjects in the computing of the ELR2B2 aggregate for Business-related courses.

ELECTIVES

Additional Mathematics

Brief Description

The Additional Mathematics syllabus consists of 3 sections:

a. Algebra – This is an important branch of Mathematics that has strong links with all other branches of mathematics. It will provide students with the language and tools to represent abstract ideas, relationships and patterns using concise symbols.

b. Geometry and Trigonometry – Geometry deals with points, lines (curves) and angles, as well as their relationships and links. The learning of Geometry helps students develop the spatial visualisation skills, which complement and support the mathematical skills from other branches of Mathematics. Trigonometry supports the learning of Geometry and is important in the study of periodic behaviour, phenomena and models that they may encounter in higher learning.

c. Calculus – Calculus is an important branch of Mathematics and deals with the concept of change. It is used in many fields of study including the physical sciences, computer science, economics, business, engineering and medicine. It deals with abstract concepts and processes involving infinitesimal quantities and changes and limiting operations. As such, this section demands a strong foundation in Algebra and Geometry from the student.

Prerequisites

Students who have scored **at least an Overall Grade 2 in Sec 2 G2 Mathematics or C5 in Sec 2 G3 Mathematics** can consider opting for Additional Mathematics. In addition, a hardworking attitude and much perseverance is needed because Additional Mathematics requires regular work and much practice to master. The student must be very strong in Algebra to excel in the subject.

For those who are interested to pursue Additional Mathematics at 'N' level, they must also take Mathematics at 'O' Level.

Post-Secondary Options

The syllabus will prepare you adequately for 'A' Level H2 Mathematics, which builds on a strong foundation in algebraic manipulation and mathematical reasoning skills. In addition, many courses in the polytechnics also require students to have a strong foundation in Mathematics. While students with Additional Mathematics background may cope with these diploma courses better, most of these courses do not require Additional Mathematics as a prerequisite.

Design and Technology

Brief Description

Design and Technology (D&T) at the upper secondary level emphasises designing that involves research, reasoned application of knowledge and skills in areas of design and technology. Students will then combine the knowledge and skills acquired in the realisation of their Design Project.

The subject requires students to apply appropriate knowledge of materials, processes and technological areas in creating a design solution. It also provides students with opportunities to relate D&T to other subjects and apply their understanding from Science, Mathematics and Art, etc. Skills like creativity, innovation, communication, critical thinking, collaboration and problem solving will also be taught through purposeful design tasks in the curriculum. These skills are applicable in other subject areas.

In D&T coursework, students engage in the design process. They capture their thought processes in a Design Journal, documenting how they arrive at the design solution, progressing through conceptualisation, development and realisation. Students will also need to demonstrate their competency in graphical communication, sensitive use of materials and appropriate constructional methods through the submission of A Design Journal, Presentation Boards and an Artefact for their final design proposal.

For pupils who …

- like to doodle, have strong inclination in designing and solving everyday problems. Pupils doing this subject must have good self-discipline and perseverance to work through the essential processes of researching, discovering, creating and evaluating.

Examination Requirements

'O' Level Examination

Coursework (60%):	1 Artefact, 2 Presentation Boards & 1 Design Journal.
Theory (40%):	A 2-hour written paper consisting of 2 sections.

Post-Secondary Options

D&T provides foundational knowledge for students opting for Engineering or design-related Courses. It is accepted as one of the relevant subjects for application to Science-based courses, Technology courses and Design courses in the local polytechnics.

Nutrition and Food Science

Brief Description

At lower secondary, pupils study Food and Consumer Education (FCE), in which they learn basic facts about food, nutrients and food science. At upper secondary, they learn in greater depth about food science and nutrition.

In Nutrition and Food Science (NFS), pupils learn the basics of food chemistry, human digestion and absorption of food. Acquiring these basics will enable them to study food and nutrition from a scientific point of view, equipping them with the understanding of what foods are essential to health and what happens to food during processing.

The coursework component in the subject involves application of knowledge to analyse, research and develop on a given task. Pupils plan and execute the task, after which they need to review the processes involved. Pupils are also developed in their ability to plan, execute, record, interpret findings and draw logical conclusions from experimental work.

For pupils who …

- have an interest in nutrition and health problems associated with diet
- enjoy testing and experimenting with food
- are able to carry out independent research learning

Examination Requirements

'O' Level Examination

Coursework (60%):	An assignment given at the beginning of the examination year to be completed by July of the same year. This will include conducting a Food Investigation and doing a practical examination.
Theory (40%):	A 2-hour written paper consisting of three sections.

Post-Secondary Options

Pupils seeking admission to Junior Colleges (JCs) or Millennia Institute (MI) can include the Nutrition and Food Science (NFS) grade for their L1R4 aggregate computation respectively. For application to polytechnic courses such as Sports and Exercise Science, Applied Food Science and Health Sciences, NFS counts as a relevant subject in the computing of ELR2B2.

Art

Brief Description

The study of Art expands pupils' imagination, enhances creativity and develops adaptability. It builds pupils' capacity to critically discern and process visual information, and communicate effectively, and fosters students' sense of identity, culture, and place in society.

The subject content is structured around the domains of Perceiving, Communication and Appreciation. This framework provides the focus for the teaching and learning of Art.

At the lower secondary levels, the art learning experiences involve pupils in documenting, curating, reflecting and (re)presenting their artwork. These include the use of daily sketch book for day-to-day generation of ideas, virtual gallery to present selected work, artist statements/annotations to reflect and connect with the artwork and oral presentation to discuss their artwork.

At the upper secondary levels, pupils experience the learning of art through:

i) Building portfolios
ii) Art Journalling
iii) Art conversation

For pupils who …

- have a keen interest in Design, Fine Art, Digital and time-based media
- are self-directed and reflective of their artistic growth
- are thrilled to experiment with different art media and techniques

Examination Requirements

'O' Level Examination

Paper 1 : Visual Response (50%)

2 hr 15 min
Section A : Visual Analysis – Analyse and discuss an unseen visual stimulus
Section B : Exploratory Sketching – Provide sketches with annotations showing their concept for the visual response

Paper 2 : Portfolio (50%)

To be completed in 30 hours within 12 weeks
Part A : Selection of Visual Materials – Maximum of 15 screens illustrating artistic exploration and processes which include at least 3 art forms and media.
Part B : Commentary – an articulation of personal artistic growth based on 2 works, in not more than 800 words

Post-Secondary Options

Students can choose to do Art as one of their 'A' Level subjects in some of the Junior Colleges. Art also counts as one of the relevant subjects for polytechnic courses such as Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Interior Design. Students could also choose to further develop their passion in arts with Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA) or with LASALLE-SIA College of the Arts.

Principles of Accounts

Brief Description

The subject aims to develop an understanding of the principles and concepts of accounting and their applications in a variety of business situations. Candidates will acquire basic knowledge in double entry and develop the ability to prepare, present, analyse and interpret financial statements.

The syllabus is organised into **six** sections:

(i) role of accounting, which is to provide information for monitoring and decision making by different users;
(ii) double entry system of book-keeping which comprises the accounting equation, source documents, books of prime entry, the cash book, the general journal, the ledger and the trial balance;
(iii) accounting procedures regarding capital and revenue expenditure, depreciation, adjustments to ledger accounts, correction of errors and control accounts;
(iv) fundamentals of preparing the final accounts i.e. Trading Account, Profit and Loss Account, Balance Sheet and the operation of partnerships;
(v) preparation of final accounts for sole traders and partnerships, including the use of incomplete records; and
(vi) analysis and interpretation of final accounts involving ratios.

Examination Requirements

'N' Level Examination

Paper 1	**3 to 4 compulsory structured questions (40 marks)**	1 hour	40
Paper 2	**4 structured questions (60 marks)** • One question requires the preparation of financial statements for a business for one financial year. (20 marks) • A scenario-based question (5 marks) will be part of one of the 3 remaining questions.	2 hours	60

Paper 2 Section A will have one question on the preparation of final accounts, which carries 20 marks.

Post-Secondary Options

Pupils seeking admission to Junior Colleges (JCs) or Millennia Institute (MI) can use Principles of Accounts grade in the computation of L1R4 respectively. For application to polytechnic courses classified as non-Science and Technology, Principles of Accounts counts as a relevant subject in computing of ELR2B2.