

Frequently Asked Questions on Admission to Greendale Secondary via the DSA Exercise

Q1. What is the Direct Schools Admission (Secondary) Exercise?

The Direct School Admission (DSA) Exercise provides students with the opportunity to seek admission to a secondary school, based on a diverse range of specific academic and non-academic achievements and talents that they can demonstrate beyond the Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE).

For more details on the 2021 DSA-Sec Exercise and flowchart of stages, please refer to the MOE web page on DSA: <https://www.moe.gov.sg/dsa-sec>

Q2. What are the different talent areas through which my child can seek admission into Greendale Secondary School via the DSA-Sec Exercise?

The school's Applied Learning Programme (ALP) is centred on **Design, Technology and Engineering** whilst our Learning for Life Programme (LLP) is in the area of **Outdoor Adventure Education**. In line with our school vision of nurturing Learners, Thinkers and Leaders, we also place great importance on developing Servant **Leadership** in our students. Interested P6 students can apply for DSA through the above 3 talent areas. For more information, please refer to: <https://greendalesec.moe.edu.sg/greendale-xperience/direct-school-admission/>

Q3. How many talent areas can my child apply for?

Applicants may indicate up to 3 choices, with a maximum of 2 choices for the same school under 2 different talent areas. They are advised to be selective in the number of talent areas applied for, based on a careful consideration of his/her strengths, passions and overall readiness to benefit from our school's curriculum. This is so that he/she will not have too many interviews and/or selection activities to attend.

Q4. How do I submit an application for Greendale Secondary School under the DSA-Sec Exercise?

All applications for DSA-Sec are to be submitted through the centralised DSA-Sec portal <https://go.gov.sg/apply-dsa-sec>. There is no need to submit any supporting documents during application. Your child's primary school records (e.g. P5 and P6 academic results, CCA, school-based activities, achievements or awards) will be automatically shared with the school. The application is free-of-charge.

Q5. Without general academic tests, how will the school ensure that chosen DSA students can cope with the demands of both their academic studies and their chosen area of development?

Schools will continue to use various sources of information e.g. primary school results, interviews, etc. to assess a student's overall ability to cope with its academic and non-academic programmes before making a DSA offer. Schools participating in DSA are committed to developing students to their fullest potential in both their studies and areas of talent. This includes providing the necessary learning support needed to ensure all students, whether admitted via DSA or via PSLE results, can cope with the academic programme.

Parents and students are encouraged to choose schools wisely based on the student's aptitudes and strengths, bearing in mind the schools' academic and non-academic requirements, and the programmes available to develop the area of talent.

Q6. Does the DSA mean that my child is expected to be good in everything?

DSA seeks to broaden our recognition of talents and achievements beyond academic grades. It presents an opportunity for students with such talents to be directly admitted into a school that can further hone their aptitudes and interests.

However, the DSA is not a pathway that suits every student. Parents and students should carefully consider the student's strengths and interests, and the ability of the school to develop the student's specific talent, before determining if DSA is an appropriate pathway.

Q7. How will my child be notified of their selection outcome?

Students who receive at least one DSA-Sec offer will receive email and SMS notification via Postman.gov.sg on the School Preference Submission in mid-Oct 2021.

Both parents are required to login to the DSA-Sec Portal using their Singpass to submit up to three school preferences. If parents are unable to submit online, they can approach their child's primary school for assistance to submit the school preferences on their behalf.

Q8. My child's DSA-Sec application was unsuccessful or did not participate in the DSA-Sec Exercise. Would he/she still be able to apply to Greendale Secondary School?

In addition to the DSA-Sec Exercise, students who are keen on our school can also seek admission through the Secondary 1 Posting Exercise upon release of their PSLE results, by opting for Greendale Secondary School as their choice.

Q9. My child was successfully admitted to Greendale Secondary School via the DSA-Sec Exercise. Is he/she allowed to participate in the Secondary 1 Posting Exercise and/or transfer into another Secondary school?

In line with MOE policy, students successfully allocated to their DSA-Sec schools will not be allowed to participate in the annual Secondary 1 Posting Exercise to opt for secondary schools. They are also not allowed to transfer to another school after the release of the PSLE results.

Students successfully allocated to Greendale Secondary School are expected to honour their commitment to the school, and participate in the activities they are selected for from Sec 1-4.

Q10. What do applicants currently not studying in MOE schools need to take note of?

Applicants who are currently not in mainstream primary schools and Returning Singaporeans (SC/SPR) who are currently not studying in MOE primary schools will need to first apply for a registration number (RGxxxxxx) before they can apply for DSA through the DSA-Sec portal. Applications for a registration number should be submitted via an online form on the MOE DSA website. Applications from this group of applicants will only be considered if they have obtained a registration number from MOE.

All international students must also take part in the **Admissions Exercise for International Students (AEIS)** if they wish to seek admission to a mainstream school. International Students who wish to participate in the DSA-Sec Exercise can apply to the respective DSA-Sec schools first before taking the AEIS. For further information, please refer to the AEIS website: <https://www.moe.gov.sg/international-students/aeis>.

Q11. If my child chooses to be considered for posting only after the release of the PSLE results, will he/she be deprived of a place in Greendale Secondary School by others who were admitted through the DSA-Sec Exercise?

The DSA-Sec Exercise is to allow recognition of a more diverse range of student achievements and talents for admission to schools. Admission is still based on merit, with more flexibility given to schools to admit some of their students based on a broader set of criteria other than just PSLE results. As only a certain percentage of places are given for the DSA-Sec Exercise, a large majority of students will continue to be admitted based on their PSLE results.

Q12. My child is eligible for a course option based on his/her PSLE results. Will he/she be able to exercise the course option if his/her DSA-Sec application is successful?

Some students may be eligible for a course option (i.e. Express/Normal (Academic) option or Normal (Academic)/Normal (Technical) option, based on their PSLE results. If they are allocated via DSA-Sec to a school which offers both courses, they are allowed to select their preferred course during the S1 School Preference period.

Those who do not select any course option will be allocated the more academically-demanding course offered by the school.

Q13. My child was successfully posted to the school's Normal (Academic) / Normal (Technical) course. Will he/she subsequently be able to transfer into the Express / Normal (Academic) course?

At the end of Secondary 1 or 2, students who meet the criteria and are deemed suitable may be invited by the school to consider lateral transfer.