

**Commonwealth Secondary School  
2020 Handout for Parents  
Secondary 4NT**

**Section A    Journeying with my child**

**THINGS YOU CAN DO**

**1.            Be present and take an interest**

*Examples:*    learn about your child's interests (music, movies, games) and the friends they are close to, role-model the qualities you want your child to have; monitoring your child's school/out-of-school activities, helping with homework, working alongside your child, setting limits on TV watching and use of electronic devices, arranging for after-school care, calling them to check when you are not at home, have family meals together (weekday dinners, weekend breakfasts), ask about child's performance in school (ask about specific events, ideas, people) .

**2.            Have high but realistic expectations**

*Examples:*    setting goals and standards that are appropriate for children's age and maturity, recognize and encourage special talents, informing friends and family about successes, role-model excellence (talk about achievements at work, being punctual), question and challenge opinions, emphasize the importance of doing things now rather than later.

**3.            Develop good habits**

*Examples:*    early rising, early sleeping, keeping parents informed of their whereabouts, willingness to try, doing good rather than perfect work, being punctual, keeping calm, doing regular (rather than just-in-time) work, speaking respectfully and politely, taking pride in appearance (proper attire for different events), being open to advice and new experiences, reading and discussing what you watch/see/read about with your child.

**THINGS YOU CAN SAY**

**4.            Praise for effort not just achievement**

*Examples:*    complement hard work, genuine and consistent effort more than achievement, understand that perfection is detrimental to good performance, say "I saw how hard you worked on that project and I'm very proud of your perseverance" rather than "so proud you got an A+ for the project", highlight the value of hard work in achieving success.

**5.            Mean what you say, say what you mean**

*Examples:*    don't promise what you cannot fulfil, if you are angry or disappointed, express it calmly, if you are proud, express it emphatically, threats need to be enforced, keep to agreed time/spending limits, avoid mixed messages, take time to explain your thinking not just your decision.

**6.            Focus on the positives**

*Examples:*    use positive language when giving feedback, say "you can do better" rather than "why did you fail?", avoid attributing lack of performance to luck, past failure is not an indication of future lack of success, give feedback not only when things are done wrongly.

## **THINGS YOU CAN PROVIDE**

### **7. Specific place/tools for study**

*Examples:* a small, permanent space where your child can be quiet and revise, sufficient lighting, basic stationery (pens, highlighters, notebooks), warm drinks or simple snacks when your child is studying/in the midst of examination preparations.

### **8. Family routine**

*Examples:* time for study, regularity in daily proceedings, assigning responsibility for household chores, being firm about bedtime and having meals together.

## **Section B Where can I find out more?**

### **1. Subject Syllabus**

The subject syllabi for the various subjects can be found at <http://www.moe.gov.sg/education/syllabuses/>

### **2. Examination Syllabus**

The examination syllabus for 'N(T)' level 2018 can be found at the following websites:

GCE N(T)-Level: [https://www.seab.gov.sg/home/examinations/gce-n\(t\)-level/n\(t\)-level-syllabuses-examined-for-school-candidates-2020](https://www.seab.gov.sg/home/examinations/gce-n(t)-level/n(t)-level-syllabuses-examined-for-school-candidates-2020)

### **3. Further Studies at the Institute of Technical Education**

The Institute of Technical Education (ITE) is a post-secondary education institution that provides GCE N graduates with a wide range of full-time and traineeship courses. The authentic learning at ITE equips students with the knowledge and confidence to succeed in their careers. ITE offers a wide range of courses to secondary school graduates and working adults, in the areas of Applied & Health Sciences, Business & Services, Design & Media, Electronics & Info-Communications Technology, Engineering and Hospitality. An education from ITE provides graduates with work-ready qualifications leading to job and career advancement opportunities, as well as opportunities for further education and training.

Refer to <https://www.ite.edu.sg/admissions> for more information.

### **4. Mid-Year Examinations**

The Mid-Year Examinations 2020 will be held from 27 April 2020 to 15 May 2020. A Parent's Letter with attached Mid-Year Examination Timetable was sent via Parent's Gateway on 12 February 2020. We have attached in **Annex A the Scope and Format for the Mid-Year Examinations 2020** for your reference. Please use the Scope and Format to help guide your child/ward's revision planning.

**Annex A: Sec 4 NT Mid-Year Examinations Scope and Format**

<b>Subject / Code</b>	<b>English Language/1195</b>
<b>Duration</b>	Paper 1: 1h 15mins Paper 2: 1h 20mins Paper 3: 45mins Paper 4: 20mins
<b>Marks</b>	Paper 1: 60m Paper 2: 80m Paper 3: 20m Paper 4: 40m
<b>Format</b>	<p><u>Paper 1</u> Section A: Functional Tasks Section B: Guided Writing</p> <p><u>Paper 2</u> Section A: Language Use Section B: Reading Comprehension</p> <p><u>Paper 3</u> Listening Comprehension</p> <p><u>Paper 4</u> Part 1: Reading Aloud Part 2: Spoken Interaction</p>
<b>Scope</b>	<p><u>Paper 1</u> Writing skills</p> <p><u>Paper 2</u> Grammar skills Vocabulary skills Reading Comprehension skills</p> <p><u>Paper 3</u> Listening and note-taking skills</p> <p><u>Paper 4</u> Oral communication skills</p>

<b>Subject / Code</b>	<b>Basic Chinese/ 1202</b>
<b>Duration</b>	Paper 1: 50 minutes
<b>Marks</b>	Paper 1: 30 marks, Paper 2: 50 marks, Paper 3: 20 marks
<b>Format</b>	Paper 1: Language Use and Comprehension Paper 2: Oral Paper 3: Listening Comprehension
<b>Scope</b>	Language Skills Comprehension Skills Oral and Listening Skills

<b>Subject / Code</b>	<b>Basic Malay/ 1203</b>
<b>Duration</b>	Paper 1: 50 minutes
<b>Marks</b>	Paper 1: 30 marks, Paper 2: 50 marks, Paper 3: 20 marks
<b>Format</b>	Paper 1: Language Use and Comprehension Paper 2: Oral Paper 3: Listening Comprehension
<b>Scope</b>	Language Skills Comprehension Skills Oral and Listening Skills

<b>Subject / Code</b>	<b>Basic Tamil/ 1204</b>
<b>Duration</b>	Paper 1: 50 minutes
<b>Marks</b>	Paper 1: 30 marks, Paper 2: 50 marks, Paper 3: 20 marks
<b>Format</b>	Paper 1: Language Use and Comprehension Paper 2: Oral Paper 3: Listening Comprehension
<b>Scope</b>	Language Skills Comprehension Skills Oral and Listening Skills

<b>Subject / Code</b>	<b>Mathematics/4046</b>	
<b>Duration</b>	Paper 1: 1.5hrs; Paper 2: 1.5hrs	
<b>Marks</b>	Paper 1: 50 marks; Paper 2: 50 marks	
<b>Format</b>	Each paper will consist of 11–13 short questions carrying 2–4 marks, largely free from context, testing more on fundamental concepts and skills, followed by 2 longer questions carrying 6–8 marks, developed around a context.	
<b>Scope</b>	<p>Paper 1: Candidates are required to answer all questions which will cover topics from the following strands</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number and Algebra</li> <li>• Geometry and Measurement</li> <li>• Real-World Contexts related to Number and Algebra and Geometry and Measurement</li> </ul>	<p>Paper 2: Candidates are required to answer all questions which will cover topics from the following strands</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number and Algebra</li> <li>• Statistics and Probability</li> <li>• Real-World Contexts related to Number and Algebra and Statistics and Probability</li> </ul>

<b>Subject / Code</b>	<b>Computer Applications / 7018</b>		
<b>Duration</b>	Paper 1: 1 hour 15 min Paper 2: 1 hour 30 min Paper 3: 1 hour 30 min		
<b>Marks</b>	Paper 1: 60 marks Paper 2: 70 marks Paper 3: 70 marks		
<b>Format</b>	<p>Paper 1: Section A: 20 MCQ Section B: short-structured questions</p> <p>Paper 2: 3 practical tasks</p> <p>Paper 3: 3 practical tasks</p>		
<b>Scope</b>	<p>Paper 1: Entire syllabus (Sec 1 - 4)</p> <p>Paper 2: MEL, DOP, MMC</p> <p>Paper 3: SST, MEC, DOP</p>		

<b>Subject / Code</b>	<b>Food Studies / 6079/01</b>
<b>Duration</b>	1 Hour 30 minutes
<b>Marks</b>	80 Marks
<b>Format</b>	Section A: 20 marks (short-answer type questions) Section B: 28 marks (data response type questions) Section C: 32 marks (structured type questions)
<b>Scope</b>	Chapter 1: A Balanced Diet Chapter 2: Meal Planning Chapter 3: Convenience Food Chapter 4: Using Flavorings, Herbs and Spices in Cooking Chapter 5: Methods of Cooking: Understanding the basics Chapter 6: Food Preparation Chapter 7: Food Commodities- Cereals and cereal products Chapter 8: Fats and Oils Chapter 9: Meat, Seafood and Animal Products Chapter 10: Fruit and Vegetables Chapter 11: Food Safety Chapter 12: Presentation and Sensory Evaluation of Food

<b>Subject / Code</b>	<b>Art / 6128/2</b>
<b>Duration</b>	3hrs
<b>Marks</b>	100
<b>Format</b>	Preparatory studies board - 60% Final work art piece - 40%
<b>Scope</b>	Students are given topic to explore and they have choose this topic: Wildlife, childhood, recycle and climate change.