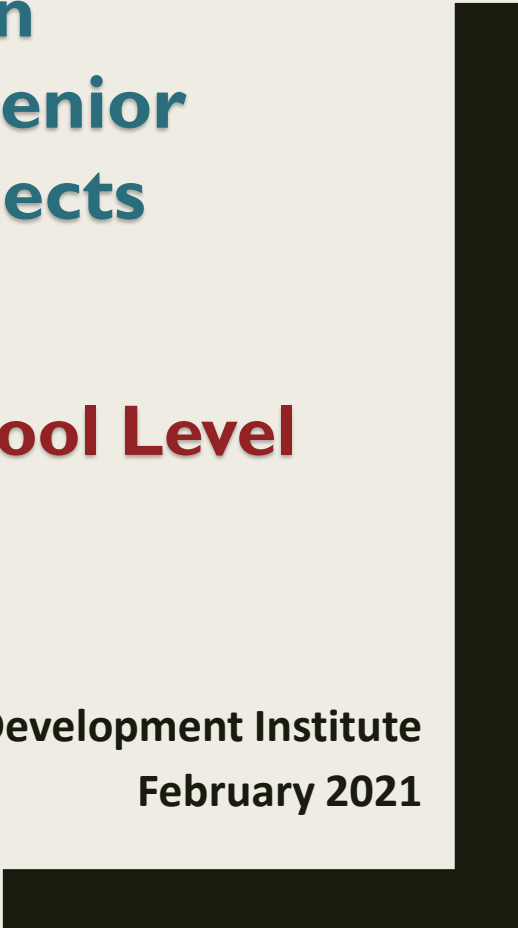




**Briefing Session on  
Optimising the Four Senior  
Secondary Core Subjects**

**Scenario on  
Curriculum Planning at School Level**

**Curriculum Development Institute  
February 2021**



# School Background

- District: Sha Tin
- Student Gender: Co-ed
- Banding: Band 1
- Medium of Instruction: EMI
- Class Structure: 4 classes for each level

| Class Structure (2020/21): | S1 | S2 | S3 | S4 | S5 | S6 | Total |
|----------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------|
| No. of Class:              | 4  | 4  | 4  | 4  | 4  | 4  | 24    |

# Extra S1 class in 2021/22 (i.e. 5 S1 classes)

- All SS students take 3 electives. About 20 students take M1/M2 and few S5 students take Applied Learning (Mode 1 on Saturdays).  
\* M1/M2 preparation class in S4 & students study M1/M2 in S5
- Total number of teachers in the school: 52

# School Background

S4 class streaming by elective X1 in 2018/19 s.y.

|    | 4A                             | 4B  | 4C   | 4D   |
|----|--------------------------------|-----|------|------|
| X1 | C.HIST                         | BIO | CHEM | ECON |
| X2 | PHY / CHEM / BIO / CLIT / ICT  |     |      |      |
| X3 | BAFS / ECON / VA / GEOG / HIST |     |      |      |

S4 class streaming by elective X1 in 2019/20 & 2020/21 s.y.

|    | 4A                               | 4B  | 4C   | 4D   |
|----|----------------------------------|-----|------|------|
| X1 | BAFS                             | BIO | CHEM | ECON |
| X2 | PHY / HIST / BIO / CLIT / ICT    |     |      |      |
| X3 | C.HIST / ECON / VA / GEOG / CHEM |     |      |      |

11 electives

Some students who are keen interest in science can take P, K, B & M1/M2

# Current Timetabling Arrangements

| Subject          | No of lessons/cycle | %    |
|------------------|---------------------|------|
| Chinese Language | 8 – 7 – 8           | 15.2 |
| English Language | 8                   | 15.9 |
| Mathematics      | 7 – 6 – 6           | 12.6 |
| Liberal Studies  | 5.5 – 6 – 6         | 11.6 |
| M1/M2            | 2                   | 4    |
| X1               | 5.5 – 6 – 6         | 11.6 |
| X2               | 5.5 – 6 – 6         | 11.6 |
| X3               | 5.5 – 6 – 6         | 11.6 |
| PE/OLE           | 3                   | 6    |

2020/21 – 2022/23  
Subject-period  
Allocation

Notes:

- (i) 6-day cycle, 8 periods per day, 40 mins per period; reading period on some Wednesday mornings (25 mins)
- (ii) RAC in reading periods
- (iii) M1/M2 are conducted after school (i.e. 9th period)
- (iv) For S6, one Chinese Enhancement lesson is conducted after school (i.e. 9th period)

PE(2) & CT Period for OLE(1)

# Timetable by Class 4A in 2020/21 s.y.

|              | Day 1                | Day 2       | Day 3              | Day 4 | Day 5 | Day 6     |
|--------------|----------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------|-------|-----------|
| Lesson       | Class Teacher Period |             |                    |       |       |           |
| 1            | CHIN                 | X3          | CHIN               | BAFS  | ENG   | MATH      |
| 2            | CHIN                 | X3          | CHIN               | BAFS  | ENG   | X2        |
| 3            | CHIN                 | MATH        | MATH               | X3    | ENG   | X2        |
| Recess       |                      |             |                    |       |       |           |
| 4            | X2                   | PE          | ENG                | ENG   | MATH  | LS        |
| 5            | X2                   | PE          | ENG                | ENG   | MATH  | LS        |
| Lunch        |                      |             |                    |       |       |           |
| 6            | BAFS                 | BAFS        | X2: T1<br>/ X3 :T2 | X2    | BAFS  | C/T (OLE) |
| 7            | ENG                  | BAFS<br>/LS | LS                 | CHIN  | CHIN  | X3        |
| 8            | MATH                 | LS          | LS                 | MATH  | CHIN  | X3        |
| After School | M1/M2                |             |                    | M1/M2 |       |           |

# Issues of Concern Identified

- Insufficient lesson time allocated to elective subjects, OLE/WPD/AE and RAC
- M1 & M2 lessons delivered after school
- Block-timetabling is needed for parallel lessons in E, C and M

For group teaching & continuous assessment in M,  
SRA & core skill training in E & C

# Adapted Timetable

(through optimising the 4 core subjects)

| Subject           | No of lessons/cycle | %    |
|-------------------|---------------------|------|
| Chinese Language  | 7                   | 14.6 |
| English Language  | 7 – 7 – 8           | 15.3 |
| Mathematics       | 6                   | 12.5 |
| Liberal Studies   | 3                   | 6.2  |
| M1/M2/Enhancement | 2                   | 4.2  |
| X1                | 6                   | 12.5 |
| X2                | 6                   | 12.5 |
| X3                | 6                   | 12.5 |
| PE/OLE/AE/RAC     | 5 – 5 – 4           | 9.7  |

## 2021/22 – 2023/24 Subject-period Allocation

Notes:

- (i) There are additional lessons in OLE/WPD/AE and RAC.
- (ii) M1/M2 are conducted within the normal school timetable and NO after-school lessons are needed
- (iii) Students NOT taking M1/M2 would attend 6 enhancement lessons (Chi, Eng and Maths)

Regular RAC lesson in S4,5  
& 2 OLE/WPD/AE lessons

# Proposed Timetable by Class 4A in 2021/22 s.y.

|              | Day 1                | Day 2 | Day 3           | Day 4 | Day 5 | Day 6          |
|--------------|----------------------|-------|-----------------|-------|-------|----------------|
| Lesson       | Class Teacher Period |       |                 |       |       |                |
| 1            | CHIN                 | X3    | CHIN            | BAFS  | ENG   | RAC            |
| 2            | CHIN                 | X3    | CHIN            | BAFS  | ENG   | X2             |
| 3            | X3                   | MATH  | MATH            | X3    | X3    | X2             |
| Recess       |                      |       |                 |       |       |                |
| 4            | X2                   | PE    | ENG             | ENG   | MATH  | LS             |
| 5            | X2                   | PE    | ENG             | ENG   | MATH  | LS             |
| Lunch        |                      |       |                 |       |       |                |
| 6            | BAFS                 | BAFS  | X2              | X2    | BAFS  | X3             |
| 7            | ENG                  | BAFS  | M1/M2/<br>CHIN* | CHIN  | CHIN  | OLE<br>/WPD/AE |
| 8            | MATH                 | LS    | M1/M2/<br>ENG*  | MATH  | CHIN  | OLE<br>/WPD/AE |
| After School |                      |       |                 |       |       |                |

Block-TT lessons in C & E in Day 1 & 4

Enhancement classes // M1/M2 lessons S4 (C,E) S5 (E,M) S6 (C,M)



# Comparison of current and adapted S4 to S6 Curriculum

| Level / Subject                       | Current     |              | Adapted    |              |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Eng                                   | 24          | 15.9%        | 22         | 15.3%        |
| Chi                                   | 23          | 15.2%        | 21         | 14.6%        |
| Maths                                 | 19          | 12.6%        | 18         | 12.5%        |
| LS                                    | 17.5        | 11.6%        | 9          | 6.2%         |
| <b>Sub-total of 4 Core</b>            | <b>83.5</b> | <b>55.3%</b> | <b>70</b>  | <b>48.6%</b> |
| <b>M1/M2/Enhancement</b>              | <b>6#</b>   | <b>4.0%</b>  | <b>6*</b>  | <b>4.2%</b>  |
| <b>3 Electives (3X)</b>               | <b>52.5</b> | <b>34.8%</b> | <b>54</b>  | <b>37.5%</b> |
| <b>PE/OLE/WPD/AE/RAC</b>              | <b>9</b>    | <b>6.0%</b>  | <b>14</b>  | <b>9.7%</b>  |
| <b>Total No. of periods per cycle</b> | <b>151</b>  | <b>100%</b>  | <b>144</b> | <b>100%</b>  |

% incl. Block-TT lessons in E,C for SRA  
 < 50%

(i) Students would attend M1/M2 lessons after school (#)

(ii) In 2021/22 - 2023/24 s.y. timetable, students NOT taking M1/M2 would attend 2 English , 2 Chinese and 2 Mathematics enhancement lessons (\*).

# Rationale for planning parameters

- **More OLE/WPD/AE lessons** – all-round personal development
- **More RAC lessons** – authentic contexts provided by non-language KLAs
- **More Electives lessons** – more in-depth and interactive learning
- **M1/M2 in regular timetable** – better learning atmosphere
- **No more after-school lessons** – more students' participation in ECA/SRA/STEM-related activities
- **Block-timetabling** – better arrangement of parallel lessons in E, C and M for measures to cater for LD & to facilitate students' learning

# Impact on student learning

- **Creating space** - more students' participation in ECA/SRA/STEM-related activities after school
- **Catering for Learning Diversity** – enhancement classes in E, C and M arranged in parallel with M1/M2 lessons
- **Facilitating L & T** - more Electives lessons
- **Reinforcing WPD** - more WPD lessons
- **Enhancing VE and LPE** - more OLE lessons
- **Strengthening STEM Education and RAC** - more STEM-related activities after school and regular RAC lessons

# Issues of Manpower Planning

Impact on Manpower in school:

- There are only 3 LS teachers in school. Besides teaching LS, they are qualified to teach other subjects, and conduct OLE/WPD lessons if necessary. Hence, the trimmed curricula of LS has no significant impact on the teaching loads of LS teachers.
- Mathematics, English and Chinese language teachers can take up the enhancement classes in SS levels. They may conduct OLE/RAC lessons if necessary.
- Therefore, there is no significant impact on the teaching loads of teachers.

# Issues of Manpower Planning

S4 classes in 2021/22 s.y.

| Subject               | Change in no. of teaching periods / cycle | Planning in teaching load / Duty allocation   |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| <b>LS</b>             | 5.5x4 -> 3x4 (-10 periods)                | LS teacher A (S1*/Chin/8), * extra S1 class<br>LS teacher B(S1*/PTH/2), *extra S1 class<br>LS teacher C (LS only)                         |
| <b>E</b>              | 8x4 -> 7x4 (-4 periods)                   | E teachers (S4/Enhancement/4)   |
| <b>C</b>              | 8x4 -> 7x4 (-4 periods)                   | C teachers (S4/Enhancement/4)   |
| <b>M</b>              | 7x4 -> 6x4 (-4 periods)                   | M teachers (S4/OLE/4)   |
| <b>OLE/WPD/AE/RAC</b> | 3x4 -> 5x4 (+8 periods)                   | Teacher librarian/Language teachers of reading committee<br>(S4/RAC/4)<br>Class teacher/advisor/Music/VA teacher<br>(S4/OLE, WPD or AE/4) |

# Issues of Manpower Planning

S5 classes in 2022/23 s.y.

| Subject        | Change in no. of teaching periods / cycle | Planning in teaching load / Duty allocation   |
|----------------|---|---|
| LS             | 6x4 -> 3x4 (-12 periods)                  | LS teacher A (LS & S1 Chin)<br>LS teacher B(JS/PTH#/12), #PTH teacher retired<br>LS teacher C (LS only)                             |
| E              | 8x4 -> 7x4 (-4 periods)                   | E teachers (S5/Enhancement/4)   |
| C              | No change                                 | -   |
| M              | No change                                 | M teachers (S5/Enhancement^/4)<br>^release teaching workload in IS/CL (-4)  |
| OLE/WPD/AE/RAC | 3x4 -> 5x4 (+8 periods)                   | Teacher librarian/Language teachers of reading committee (S5/RAC/4)<br>Class teacher/advisor/Music/VA teacher (S5/OLE, WPD or AE/4) |

# Issues of Manpower Planning

S6 classes in 2023/24 s.y.

| Subject | Change in no. of teaching periods / cycle | Planning in teaching load / Duty allocation   |
|---------|---|---|
| LS      | 6x4 -> 3x4 (-12 periods)                  | LS teacher A (LS & S1 Chin)<br>LS teacher B retired in 2023/24 s.y.<br>LS teacher C (LS only) |
| E       | No change                                 | -   |
| C       | 8x4 -> 7x4 (-4 periods)                   | C teachers (S6/Enhancement/4)   |
| M       | No change                                 | M teachers (S6/Enhancement <sup>^</sup> /4)<br>^release teaching workload in IS/CL (-4)       |
| OLE/WPD | 3x4 -> 4x4 (+4 periods)                   | Class teacher/advisor (S6/OLE or WPD/4)   |

# Issues to be resolved by school

Impact on Block-timetabling in school:

- Parallel lessons in E,C and M are arranged for
  1. *Teaching and assessment to cater for LD*  
*e.g. S4 Math lessons, 4 classes into 5 groups, Adjust teaching content and progress in each group, Continuous assessment*
  2. *Enhancement of the core skills of the language subjects*  
*e.g. S4 English lessons, AB block & CD block, Debating skill training, Inter-class debating contest*
  3. *Self-directed learning*  
*e.g. S5 Enhancement classes in Math, Tiered exercises on FT & NFT, Complete learning tasks, Enhance self motivation*
  4. *Subject-related activities*  
*e.g. S5 Chinese lessons, AC block & BD block, Drama appreciation and review, Script writing, Radio drama*



*Thank You*