



2027 Secondary Four Placement Mechanism

Secondary Four Placement Mechanism (2027)

- ▶ Under the existing academic structure, students who wish to pursue mainstream education should normally be allowed to complete their secondary education in the same school to ensure continuity of learning.
- ▶ Secondary Three (S3) leavers who wish to pursue an alternative pathway outside mainstream education are provided with opportunities to pursue full-time courses offered by the Vocational Training Council and the Construction Industry Council.

Admission to Government, Aided and Caput Schools

- ▶ Save for exceptional cases, all government, aided and caput schools should make available sufficient Secondary Four (S4) places to accommodate all their own S3 students and are expected to confirm this arrangement with parents of S3 students at the start of the school year. S3 students studying in these schools will not participate in Central Placement.
- ▶ The exceptional cases refer to individual schools which do not provide sufficient S4 places for all their own S3 students. These schools should admit their own S3 students to fill the S4 places available according to the students' order of merit in the internal assessments in S3. S3 students who cannot obtain S4 places in their own school will be centrally placed to S4 in other schools by the Education Bureau (EDB). For schools which do not provide subsidised S4 places, their S3 students will also be centrally placed to S4 in other schools by EDB – see section on Central Placement below.

Admission to Senior Secondary Schools under Direct Subsidy Scheme

- ▶ Senior Secondary Schools (SSS) under the Direct Subsidy Scheme (DSS) will recruit S4 students on their own. S3 students who wish to pursue studies in SSS under DSS may apply to the schools direct. Students admitted to SSS under DSS will not be arranged S4 places in government, aided and caput schools.
- ▶ Some SSS under DSS may provide S4 places at the Central Placement stage. S3 students participating in Central Placement may choose the SSS under DSS which provide places at this stage.

Admission to Post-S3 Craft Courses

- ▶ Under the existing academic structure, Post-S3 (PS3) craft courses are alternative avenues for S3 leavers to further their studies outside mainstream education.
- ▶ The Vocational Training Council and the Construction Industry Council will recruit students on their own. S3 students who wish to enrol in PS3 craft courses should note the courses offered and the application procedures, and apply to the training bodies direct taking into account their interests and preferences. Students admitted to PS3 craft courses will not be arranged S4 places in government, aided and caput schools.

Central Placement

- ▶ To ensure fairness and full utilisation of S4 places, Central Placement is carried out on a territory-wide basis. In principle, students should not occupy more than one publicly-funded S4 place at the same time.
- ▶ In June 2027, EDB will distribute to each S3 student participating in Central Placement a "Parents' Guidebook for Choice of Schools" and a "Choice of Schools Form". The "Parents' Guidebook for Choice of Schools" will list public sector schools (government, aided and caput schools) and/or SSS under DSS offering S4 places for Central Placement stage. Parents can refer to the Guidebook and make their choices of schools in order of preference on the Choice Form.
- ▶ S3 students participating in Central Placement are arranged S4 places through a computerised procedure, which is based on their order of merit in the internal assessments in S3, scaled by the Secondary School Places Allocation Standard Scores, and the parental choices.

Announcement of Central Placement Results

- ▶ Schools will be informed of the Central Placement results in July 2027. Students arranged S4 places through Central Placement will each be given a Secondary Four Registration Form. These students should report to the school placed for registration on the specified date.



Enquiries

For further information, please contact the School Places Allocation Section of EDB.

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(Path: Home > Education System and Policy >
Primary and Secondary Education > School Places Allocation Systems >
Secondary Four Placement Mechanism)

