



St. Margaret's Secondary School

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am thankful for your support in working alongside us to ensure that school continues to be a safe and conducive environment for learning. As we transit into Phase 3 (Heightened Alert), I would like to share with you some adjustments to the safe management measures that we have made to ensure that schools are safe and conducive for learning.

We look forward to the girls returning to school, reconnecting with their peers and being engaged in school face-to-face again after Full Home-Based Learning (FHBL) and the school holidays.

Staggered Reopening of School

To ease into full resumption of physical schooling in Term 3 Week 2, students will return according to the following schedule:

Date	From Monday, 28 June	From Thursday, 1 July
Levels	Sec 3, Sec 4 & Sec 5	Sec 1 & Sec 2 (FHBL for 28 to 30 June)

Safe Management Measures

We seek your support to note and ensure that your daughter/ward observes the following:

(a) Safe Distancing

- To come directly to school and go straight home after school. She should avoid social gatherings, loitering in public places or mingling in crowds. If she is on HBL, she should remain at home.
- To observe safe distancing of at least 1m.

(b) Personal Hygiene and Social Responsibility

- To carry out the wipe down routines and wash her hands regularly.
- To wear a surgical mask instead of a cloth mask and refrain from sharing food; to avoid talking when mask is down.
- To seek medical attention and be tested if she is feeling unwell (e.g. sore throat, fever or cough). She should also not come to school.
- To inform her Form Teacher and stay at home if there is any household member (6 years and above) who is unwell with flu-like symptoms, on Quarantine Order (QO) or Stay Home Notice (SHN). The household member who is unwell is strongly advised to seek medical treatment promptly.

[Note] If your daughter/ward or your household members are undergoing mandatory testing due to a COVID-19 cluster, the individual will be required to stay at home until the individual's COVID-19 test result is reported to be negative. Please keep the Form Teacher informed on the status.

(c) Trace-Together (TT) Token and Oral Digital Thermometer (ODT)

- To carry her TT token and ODT at all times, and ensure that these are in proper working condition
- Daily temperature-taking exercises will also be conducted.

(d) Recess

Except for the Sec 4 and 5 students, all levels will have recess in class. Students are required to bring their food containers for recess. Reusable containers can be purchased from the canteen stalls at \$2 each.

To play a part in the green initiative, students are reminded to wash and reuse their containers. They are discouraged from throwing their reusable containers away after their meals.

(e) CCAs

CCAs will be suspended in Term 3 Week 1. We will resume eCCAs in Week 2. Face-to-Face or in-person CCAs will be gradually eased in Week 3.

Vaccination Matters

If you have booked the vaccination appointment during school hours for your daughter/ward, please share this information (vaccination appointment) with her Form Teacher so that the school can facilitate her leaving the school premises to be in time for the appointment. If she is unwell from its side effects on the day or the following day from her vaccination, please also inform her Form Teacher.

Students who have had their vaccination will be required to sit out for their PE lessons in the following week. Your daughter/ward should inform the PE teacher of her vaccination.

Changes in Dismissal Time / School Events / Programmes

Starting Term 3, the school will be operating on an 'odd and even week' timetable. There will be some adjustments to the end time of the timetable. There are also some key events that will be celebrated/commemorated in July. The details are found below for your noting please:

(a) Odd and Even-Week Timetable

- From Term 3 2021, we will be running a 2-week timetable. This means that the timetable will differ on odd and even weeks in the school term.
- On Fridays, staggered dismissal will start from 1.55pm instead of 2.25pm.

(b) GCE O-Level Listening Comprehension Examination – Tuesday, 6 July

The GCE O-Level Mother Tongue Listening Comprehension Examination will take place on Tuesday, 6 July from 2.30pm to 5.30pm. To facilitate the preparation for this examination, all students will be dismissed in a staggered manner from 12.50pm onwards.

(c) 179th Speech and Prize-Giving Day and Racial Harmony Day – Friday, 23 July

We will be having our 179th Speech and Prize-Giving Day followed by the Racial Harmony Day Commemoration on Friday, 23 July. Details of the events are as follows:

179th Speech and Prize-Giving Day

Students who have excelled in their academics and/or CCAs will be recognised for their hard work and effort during our 179th Speech and Prize-Giving Day.

Prize-winners from our 2020 batch of graduands will be notified by Monday, 19 July on details of their prizes and how they may collect them.

Racial Harmony Day Commemoration

This year's Racial Harmony Day theme, "Common Spaces, Connected Communities", recognises that due to globalization and recent technological advancements, our students are increasingly exposed to different life experiences and reference points that shape their views on issues of race and religion.

By reflecting on their experiences and engaging in respectful conversations, our students can play a part to protect the common space, strengthen trust and friendships among the communities, and emerge stronger as a more caring, cohesive and resilient nation.

During the commemoration, students will engage in respectful conversations about lesser known festivals and learn about each other's diverse cultures and multicultural communities.

Attire

Students are encouraged to attend school in their ethnic costumes and will be briefed on the proper dress code and decorum as well as programme for the day prior to the event.

Prize-winners for the 179th Speech and Prize-Giving Day are required to be in their school uniform.

Reporting and Dismissal Time

Students will report to school as usual at 7.30am. They will be dismissed from 11.45am onwards in a staggered manner.

Your daughter/ward will be informed of the dismissal time nearer to the date.

(d) Running of Even Week Friday Timetable – Friday, 30 July

To allow for the recovery of curriculum time due to disruption caused by school holidays and events, the school will run the Even Week Friday timetable on Friday, 30 July instead of the Odd Week timetable.

(e) Student Leaders' Commendation Ceremony – Friday, 30 July

To recognise the effort, contributions and achievements of our Student Leaders, the Student Leaders' Commendation Ceremony will be held on Friday, 30 July during the assembly period.

For Sec 1 Students

HBL Days

As part of MOE's efforts to further develop students' ability to be self-directed, passionate and lifelong learners, all secondary schools will be conducting HBL days on a regular basis throughout the school year by end 2022.

HBL days differ from FHBL which is a contingency measure undertaken during special circumstances, such as the COVID-19 pandemic where students do not return to school for a continuous stretch of time. In contrast, HBL days are intended to complement in-school teaching and learning. It will be conducted once every fortnight to enculturate the practice of self-directed learning.

We will be implementing HBL days for our Sec 1 students from Term 3 on even Mondays in the school calendar, commencing in Term 3 Week 4:

Week	Date (Mondays)
T3 Week 4	19 July
T3 Week 6	2 August
T3 Week 8	16 August
T3 Week 10	30 August
T4 Week 2	20 September

Following the pilot, HBL days will be implemented for our remaining levels in 2022. For more information about HBL days, please visit our HBL days' parent resource site at <https://go.gov.sg/smsshbl>.



We continue to be concerned about the social and emotional well-being of each child. Please reach out to the school, the form teacher(s) and/or subject teacher(s) should you need any support in this area.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Linda Lim'.

Ms Linda Lim
Principal