



## HAIG GIRLS' SCHOOL

### Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for P1 2024 students

Dear Parents / Guardians,

We have prepared a set of FAQs for your reference as we understand your concerns in preparing your child when she enters HGS next year.

We hope that this set of FAQs will help you in easing your child's transition to Primary 1. More information and tips on supporting your child can also be found in the Orientation slides and Orientation Handbook which are also uploaded on HGS school website.

#### 1. School Schedule

*When is the first day of school?*

*What time does school start?*

*What time does school end?*

*What time is recess and snack break?*

The first day of school will commence on 2 Jan 2024 (Tuesday). As only Primary 1 students will report to school that day, we will have a special induction programme for our P1 students and parents. School will start at 7.30am. More details will be shared by the end of December.

Primary 2 - 6 students will be coming to school on 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2024 (Wednesday). School will start at 7.30am and ends at 1.30pm from Mondays to Thursdays and 7.30am to 1.00pm on Fridays. More information can be found in the Orientation Handbook.

Any changes will be shared with you and your child in the school notifications sent in late December before the start of the school term on 2 Jan 2024.

*Will there be a termly calendar of events and programmes shared with parents?*

The school will share the calendar of events with parents through PG before each term commences.

## 2. School Attire & General Appearance

*When can students wear PE attire?*

*Must students wear white shoes?*

Students must wear the prescribed HGS school blouse and pinafore with white socks and shoes.

For PE lessons or games, students may wear the PE attire: PE T-shirt and brown shorts.

They need not wear the pinafore on days when they have PE.

Modifications to the uniform are not allowed.

It is recommended that our parents purchase at least 3 - 4 sets of PE attire as our students will have PE lessons at least thrice weekly.

On other days, they are to wear their white blouse and pinafore although the school may allow our lower primary girls to wear their PE attire for the whole week when the weather is very warm.

*Can my child wear smart watches with GPS function?*

Yes, your child may wear smart watches with GPS functions but the functions of these watches for capturing, storing, displaying and/or transmitting visual, audio or verbal information should be disabled when they are in school.

Parents are also reminded not to equip your young child with expensive gadgets which they may easily misplaced. Watches should be plain, simple and small enough not to pose an inconvenience for the child during PE or PAL lessons.

## 3. Recess and Canteen Matters

*What type of food do you sell in the canteen stalls?*

*Do you have halal and vegetarian food?*

Our canteen sells a range of food – rice, noodles and snacks. We have halal and non-halal stalls. Currently we do not have vegetarian stalls, although some stalls may offer food choices suitable for vegetarians. There is a stall selling packet drinks and drinks vending machines in the canteen. However, we encourage all our students to bring their own water bottles. More information on the type of food sold in our canteen has been shared in the Orientation Handbook as well as the Orientation slides.

*Can students buy food during snack break?*

As the school allocates only 10min for the snack break, there will be insufficient time for students to purchase food. Students are advised to bring food from home or buy food during recess for snack break. Snack break is from Monday to Thursday, 12.00pm to 12.10pm. There is no snack break on Friday.

*How much money should I give my child?*

While we do not dictate how much to give your child, \$3-4 is sufficient for your child to buy food from the stalls and drink from their water bottle. In the first week, our teachers will guide your child in purchasing food from the stalls. We will also assign P5 buddies to support your child during the first two weeks of school.

Alternatively, you may consider the POSB watch which students can simply scan and pay for the food or stationery. More information on the POSB watch will be shared with you through the email / notification from the Parent's Gateway app.

#### **4. Class Allocation and Form Teachers**

*How many classes are there in Primary 1?*

*What is the number of students per class?*

There are 6 classes in Primary 1. Each class has 30 - 32 students.

*Will I know which class my daughter is assigned to?*

*Will I know my child's form teacher this year?*

We will inform all parents through Parents Gateway of your child's class by end November. Once you know the information, please remember to write your child's class on the identity tag.

Your child will meet her form teachers on the first day of school. There are at least 2 form teachers in each class.

Form teachers will introduce themselves and share with you how you can contact them through a personal letter sent via Parents Gateway in the first week of school. You will also be informed of your child's subject teachers and their email addresses for ease of contact.

In the meantime, you may contact Mdm Tng Shoo Ling, Year Head at [tng\\_shoo\\_ling@moe.edu.sg](mailto:tng_shoo_ling@moe.edu.sg) or email the school at [haiggirlssch@moe.edu.sg](mailto:haiggirlssch@moe.edu.sg) for any concerns or queries.

## 5. Transition into School

*How will students be supported in their transition from kindergarten to primary school?*

There are at least 2 form teachers in each class. Our form teachers will be guiding our P1 students on the routines and slowly integrating them into our school. We will not be starting our curriculum immediately as our priority is for our P1 students to assimilate themselves into our school environment, get to know our teachers and their peers. We will have activities for them to get to know their peers and share with them on the different things to expect in primary 1.

We will have a buddy program where a Primary 5 student will be paired with and tasked to take care of a Primary 1 Haig girl in the first 2 weeks of school.

If you still have concerns for your child, please contact Mdm Tng Shoo Ling, Year Head at [tng\\_shoo\\_ling@moe.edu.sg](mailto:tng_shoo_ling@moe.edu.sg) for further clarification.

## 6. First Week of School

*Where will my child assemble in the morning on the second day of school, 3<sup>rd</sup> January (Wednesday)?*

*How will the girls be guided into school on the 3<sup>rd</sup> January and during dismissal?*

We will have teachers and student leaders to direct our P1 students to assemble in the school hall or foyer from the school gates. Likewise, teachers will ensure an orderly dismissal of the students at the gates, class by class where parents may wait to pick up your child.

For students going home by school bus, teachers will ensure that they get on the right bus.

We seek parents' understanding that parents can only drop your child at Gates 2 or 4 in the morning. If you are driving, you may enter through gate 1 and drop your child at the foyer. Parents will not be able to walk around the school campus.

*Can I fetch and drop off my child at different gates on different days?*

It might be confusing for the child and difficult for the form teachers to ensure that your child reports to the different gates on different days for drop off and pick-up. To ensure the safety of your child, please arrange for **one** drop off and pick-up point.

*Will I be able to enter the school for the first day to see my daughter settle in school?*

For the safety of our students, only 2 adults will be allowed to accompany your child to help them better adjust to the new environment only on the first day of school. More details will be sent to you by late December.

## **7. Curriculum Matters**

*What are the subjects taught in P1?*

*Do you offer Higher Chinese/ Higher Malay/ Higher Tamil?*

ALL Primary 1 students will learn the following subjects:

- English Language
- Mother Tongue Language (MTL)
- Mathematics
- Art
- Music
- Physical Education
- Social Studies
- Character and Citizenship Education
- Programme for Active Learning (PAL)

Higher Mother Tongue will only be offered to students at P5 and P6 levels, if they do well in Mother Tongue.

Science will be taught from Primary 3 onwards.

*When will I know the outcome for my application to offer a non-Tamil Indian*

*Language (NTIL) or a non-native Mother Tongue (MT) Language?*

*When can I buy MT books?*

MOE will take time to process the applications. You are likely to hear from the school about the outcome of your application after mid December or just before the school term starts.

You may have to purchase other books first and get the MT books only when you receive the outcome of your application.

For students offering NTIL, your NTIL teachers will make arrangements for purchase of books and resources during the first week of school.

*What books do I need to prepare for my child on the first and subsequent days of school?*

Please refer to the P1 2023 Orientation Handbook and in our school website for more details.

Where will the classes of NTIL students be held?

Hindi - Conducted within school premises and during curriculum hours

Gujarati - Conducted within school premises on Saturdays

Others - Conducted outside of school premises and hours. Find out more information from the [Board for the Teaching and Testing of South Asian Languages'](#) website.

*Is it necessary for my child to own a laptop?*

All students will have access to our nationwide e-learning platform – the Student Learning Space (SLS). Teachers will guide our girls to access the SLS and our students may have to access the online platforms at home. This is to deepen students' learning and encourage self-directed learning.

Parents may consider allowing their daughters to utilise their family devices – computers, laptops or iPads. There is no need to provide a personal laptop for your child at Primary 1.

*Are there any Co-Curricular Activities (CCA) for P1 students?*

*Are there after-school enrichment programmes for P1 students?*

Co-Curricular Activities (CCAs) will only be offered to P3-P6 students.

We encourage our parents to allow our P1 girls to settle down in school, at least for Term 1, and not to schedule after-school programs. Our girls need time to adjust to primary schools.

## **8. Information on Vendor services: bookshop, uniform, school bus and student care services**

### School Bookshop

Vendor: Pacific Bookstores Pte Ltd

Website: <https://www.pacificbookstores.com/#>

The online purchase of textbooks will launch from 10 November to 15 December 2023.

You can opt for home delivery and delivery charges apply. If you prefer to collect your orders from the school bookshop, please note the following:

- The bookshop will pre-pack your order
- Only 1 parent/guardian is to accompany your child/ward to school on the appointed collection date/ time.

The school bookshop will also be opened for walk-in purchase on the dates listed in the P1 Booklist.

For any enquiry, please contact the school bookshop at 6348 0869.

### School Uniform

Vendor: Asencio Pte Ltd

Website: <https://www.asencio.com.sg>

For online purchase, you can opt for home delivery and delivery charges apply. If you prefer to collect your orders from the school, please note the following:

- The uniform vendor will pre-pack your order
- Only 1 parent/guardian is to accompany your child/ward to school on the appointed collection date/ time.

The school uniform vendor will also be available for walk-in purchase on the dates listed the P1 Booklist.

To help you select the right size when ordering, please refer to the email or PG for the sizing chart and price list.

### School Bus Service

Sinbus (S) Transport Service is our appointed school bus vendor. For further enquiries, you may contact the school bus vendor at 9673 3654.

### School-based Student Care Centre (SCC) service

Parents/guardians would have indicated your interest in signing up your daughter/ward in our school-based Student Care Centre via an online link sent by email to all P1 parents on Thursday, 7 Sep 2023.

Students who are Singapore Citizens or Singapore Permanent Residents and from family backgrounds with greater need of support will be given priority. This would ensure that no child who needs help is left without support.

Parents will be notified by end November if your child is successful/unsuccessful in securing a place in the SCC. Details of the cost and programme will be provided when your child/ward is admitted to the SCC.