



DIRECT SCHOOL ADMISSION TO VICTORIA SCHOOL (2018)

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

A) DIRECT SCHOOL ADMISSION

1. What is the Direct School Admission?

The Direct School Admission – Secondary (DSA-Sec) Exercise is an admission exercise to allow participating schools to select some Primary Six (P6) students for admission to Secondary One based on their achievements and talents before the Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) results are released.

The objective of the DSA-Sec Exercise is to promote holistic education by giving participating schools greater flexibility in selecting students while holding on to the key principles of transparency and meritocracy. For students, the DSA-Sec Exercise provides them the opportunity to demonstrate a more diverse range of achievements and talents in seeking admission to secondary schools.

2. I am a returning Singaporean who is not studying in a MOE school. What should I do if I am interested to apply for the DSA-Sec Exercise?

Applicants who are currently not studying in MOE mainstream primary schools, including Returning Singaporeans (Citizens or PRs) and International Students, are required to obtain a **Registration Number** (RGxxxxxx) from the MOE Customer Service Centre (MOE Building, 1 Buona Vista Drive, Singapore 138675), before applying for DSA.

3. When can I register at MOE Customer Service Centre (CSC) to collect a registration number?

You may approach MOE CSC to obtain a registration number upon the start of the Direct Admission Exercise from 7 May 2018.

4. I am an international student and is not studying in a MOE School. Do I need to take any test when I register for the Direct School Admission – Secondary (DSA-Sec) Exercise?

International Students (IS) without Dependant's Pass, Immigration Exemption Order and whose parents are not Singapore Citizens (SC) or Singapore Permanent Residents (SPR) are to take part and pass the **Admissions Exercise for International Students (AEIS)** before they are considered for DSA-Sec allocation. International Students who do not meet the AEIS requirement will not be considered for DSA-Sec allocation. For more information on AEIS, please visit the AEIS website: <https://www.moe.gov.sg/admissions/internationalstudents/admissions-exercise>

5. Can I apply for DSA admission to more than one school?

Yes, you can apply for DSA admission to more than one school, but you will eventually have to make an option for the school you wish to be considered for. Students may wish to be selective about the number of schools they apply to, based on careful consideration of their own strengths and which secondary schools best cater to their needs, so that they would not have too many tests, trials or interviews to attend.

6. Can I apply for Direct School Admission to any government or aided schools?

Not all secondary schools are participating in the Direct School Admission - Secondary (DSA-Sec) Exercise. You can get the latest information about what each school offers by:

- Visiting the MOE's DSA website (will be updated by early May 2018):
<https://www.moe.gov.sg/admissions/direct-admissions/dsa-sec/overview>
- Visiting school websites
- Attending schools' Open Houses

7. How much flexibility is given to schools to select their students under the DSA?

In general, schools can decide on their admission criteria, as long as they are merit-based and transparent. Primary school students must achieve Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) results that would enable them to be eligible for admission to the course being offered by the school.

For admission into the O Level or Integrated Programme in VS, students must qualify for the Express course.

8. When will I know the results of my DSA application to the various schools?

You should receive a note from the school that you applied to informing you of the outcome of your DSA application by 31 August 2018. The letter will state if you have been given a Confirmed Offer, or been put on the Waiting List, or that you are unsuccessful.

If you have been placed on the Waiting List or given a Confirmed Offer by at least one school, you will receive a School Preference Form in late October after your Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE). You may choose up to three schools during the Exercise School Preference Stage.

9. When must I decide which DSA offer to accept?

In late October (date to be confirmed by MOE), all applicants with a Confirmed Offer (CO), or who are on the DSA Waiting List (WL) of a school, will be issued a School Preference Form by MOE through their primary schools. Applicants will have to indicate their DSA choices, in order of preference, via the DSA-Sec Internet System or through their respective primary schools.

Students may only indicate schools which are listed in their School Preference Forms as these are the schools which have placed them either on the Confirmed or Waiting List.

10. When will I know which school I am allocated to under the DSA-Sec Exercise?

Successful DSA-Sec applicant will receive their results on the school they are allocated to, via their primary schools, on the day they receive their PSLE results

11. If I were posted to a school through the DSA-Sec Exercise that is not my first choice, can I change my mind and take part in the Secondary 1 Posting Exercise or make an appeal to transfer to the school of my first choice?

Students admitted to a school through DSA-Sec Exercise will not be allowed to participate in the Secondary One Posting Exercise (administered by MOE after the release of the PSLE results) as places have already been reserved for them in the DSA-Sec schools.

In addition, students admitted to a school through DSA-Sec Exercise will not be allowed to transfer to another school after the release of the PSLE results. They are expected to honour the commitment to the posted DSA school for the duration of the programme admitted to.

We advise students to consider carefully when they indicate their DSA choices (in October, during the Exercise Preference Stage), in order of preference, through their respective primary schools.

12. If I am not successful in any of my applications under the Direct School Admission - Secondary (DSA-Sec) Exercise, can I still opt for the school during the DSA-Sec Exercise School Preference Stage?

If you are not successful in your DSA-Sec applications during the Selection Stage, you will not receive the School Preference Form and also not eligible to opt for any school during the Exercise School Preference Stage.

13. What should I do if I am not successful in the DSA-Sec Exercise?

Students who are not successful in the DSA-Sec Exercise can still select any school of your choice during the centralised Secondary One (S1) Posting Exercise after the release of Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) results.

14. How do I find information on the DSA-Sec Exercise and the participating schools?

You may refer to

- a) MOE's website: <https://www.moe.gov.sg/admissions/direct-admissions/dsa-sec/overview>
- b) Visit the websites of participating schools
- c) Call the participating schools

You may also contact MOE Customer Service Centre at 6872 2220 for more information.

B) DSA TO VICTORIA SCHOOL (VS)

15. How can I submit my application to VS?

Interested students should complete and submit the **online application form**. For VS, there is no need to submit any hardcopy documents during the online application stage. You will only be required to submit certified true copies of the documents when you come for the selection trials/audition and/or interview.

16. What is the deadline for DSA application to VS?

Application closes on 2 July 2018 (0800 hours). Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

17. How will I know that my online application is submitted successfully?

You will receive an acknowledgement when your online application is submitted successfully.

18. How can I find out more information on DSA to VS?

For more information on VS and DSA to VS, refer to our website for more details. In addition, we encourage you to visit our Open House on Saturday, 26 May, 8am – 1pm. The programme and details on our Open House is on our website. Refer to our website for announcement on Open House. Website: victoria.moe.edu.sg

19. What are the DSA Domains for admission to VS?

In line with the school's focus on holistic development and to nurture diversity of talents, we are looking for promising Primary 6 boys who demonstrate talent and ability in Character & Leadership, Sports, Aesthetics, Languages and Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM). Successful applicants will join VS in January 2019.

There are 5 DSA Domains:

- a. DSA /Sports (O Level)
- b. DSA /Sports (IP)
- c. DSA /Languages and STEM [*Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics*] (IP)
- d. DSA /Character & Leadership (IP)
- e. DSA /Performing Arts (IP)

The DSA domains, and the corresponding talent areas, are shown in the table below.

<u>DSA Domain</u>	<u>Talent Area</u>	<u>Course of Study</u>
DSA / Sports (O Level)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Badminton• Cricket• Cross Country• Floorball• Football• Hockey• Sailing• Shooting• Table Tennis• Tennis• Track & Field• Volleyball• Wushu	4-year 'O' Level Programme

<u>DSA Domain</u>	<u>Talent Area</u>	<u>Course of Study</u>
DSA /Sports (IP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Badminton • Cricket • Cross Country • Floorball • Football • Hockey • Sailing • Shooting • Table Tennis • Tennis • Track & Field • Volleyball • Wushu 	6-year Victoria-Cedar Alliance Integrated Programme
DSA / Languages and STEM (IP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English Language • Mathematics • Science 	6-year Victoria-Cedar Alliance Integrated Programme
DSA / Character & Leadership (IP)	Students who demonstrate exemplary character and leadership	6-year Victoria-Cedar Alliance Integrated Programme
DSA / Aesthetics (IP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art • Chinese Orchestra • Choir • Concert Band 	6-year Victoria-Cedar Alliance Integrated Programme

20. For DSA to VS, am I allowed to apply under more than 1 domain?

Each applicant may apply only for one DSA domain e.g. DSA/Sports. We encourage students to apply for the DSA domain they are strong in, with evidence of participation and achievement in the talent area. For DSA/Sports, students can apply for either the IP track, or O level track, or both.

21. Do I need to indicate the talent area when I submit my application?

Applicants are encouraged to apply for the DSA domain they are talented in, with evidence of participation and achievement. They should indicate the talent area in the online application form.

22. Am I allowed to switch domains during the DSA exercise?

Applicants are not allowed to switch their domain after they have submitted their application. Applicants who are applying under Sports should indicate DSA (O Level)/Sports and DSA (IP)/Sports, if they want to be considered for both the O level and Integrated Programme.

23. How will students be assessed for DSA to VS?

Students will be assessed on their ability in the talent area and academic ability so as to ensure that they benefit from the rigorous total curriculum offered at VS. Generally, students should have:

- a. High intellectual potential and ability,
- b. High levels of motivation and commitment to excellence in academic and co-curricular areas (including but not limited to co-curricular activities and community involvement),
- c. Leadership potential with the commitment to serve others,
- d. A passion for life and learning, and
- e. Potential to contribute to the VS community.

24. How important are academic results in the shortlisting process?

During the DSA process, applicants will be assessed on their ability in the talent area and academic ability so as to ensure that they benefit from the rigorous total curriculum offered at VS.

Your PSLE results will determine your eligibility for admission into VS. For admission to VS under DSA for the O Level or Integrated Programme, students must qualify for the Express course.

25. When will the selection trials, audition and tests take place?

The selection trials (Sports CCAs), audition (Performing Arts CCAs) and selection test (Art) will take place in June and July. Shortlisted applicants will be informed via phone/email on the date, time and venue. Due to overwhelming number of applicants, only shortlisted applicants will be notified.

26. When will the interview take place?

The DSA interview will take place from mid-July to August, after the selection trial, audition and tests are completed. Shortlisted applicants for the interview will be notified via phone/email on the date, time and venue. Due to overwhelming number of applicants, only shortlisted applicants will be notified.

27. What documents do I have to bring when I come to VS for the trials, audition, tests and interviews?

The following supporting documents are to be submitted when the applicants come to the school for sports trials, audition, tests and/or interviews:

- a. Certified true copies of Primary 4 and 5 overall results, and Primary 6 mid-year results;
- b. Certified true copies of leadership roles in school;
- c. Certified true copies of community involvement records in school;
- d. Certified true copies of certificates of CCA participation and achievement(e.g. Sports, Performing Arts CCAs, Uniformed Groups);
- e. Certified true copies of achievements in academic talent areas (e.g. University of New South Wales competitions, Olympiad, Commonwealth Essay Competition);

- f. Certified true copies of music achievements and qualifications [for DSA (IP)/Performing Arts], and/or
- g. Portfolio [for DSA (IP)/Academic] e.g. Science research project, Mathematics project.

28. What is my commitment if I am admitted to VS under DSA? Do I have to continue with the same CCA?

Successful DSA-Sec students admitted to VS via DSA /Sports (O Level) are expected to honour their commitment to the CCA when they are in VS.

Successful DSA-Sec students admitted to the VCA IP via DSA /Sports (IP) and DSA /Aesthetics are expected to honour their commitment to the CCA during their six-year course of study in VS and VJC.

29. Must I sit for the PSLE if I am offered a place under DSA?

All successful DSA applicants are *still* required to sit for the PSLE. MOE requires all students admitted via DSA to prove that they can qualify for the course of study (Express, Normal(Academic) or Normal(Technical))

30. How important are PSLE results if I qualify for VS under DSA?

Your PSLE results will determine your eligibility for admission into VS. For admission to VS under DSA for the O Level or Integrated Programme, students must qualify for the Express course. Both the O Level Programme and Integrated Programme are considered Express Course of study.

As PSLE is an important assessment of students learning and provides the foundation of knowledge for secondary education, we encourage all students (including those who hold a confirmed offer) to prepare well for the PSLE and ensure they have a strong mastery of knowledge.

31. If I am offered a place to VS under DSA, do I have to meet the school's cut-off point (COP) for admission under MOE's Secondary 1 Posting Exercise?

Students given an offer by a secondary school for DSA-Sec admissions must achieve PSLE results that would enable them to be eligible for admission to a course being offered by the school,

For students who are made a Confirmed Offer under the DSA, the place at VS is confirmed if you choose VS as one of your choices and you meet the PSLE cut-off point for a place in the Express Course.

D) APPLICATION TO VS DURING MOE'S SECONDARY 1 POSTING EXERCISE

32. Will I be able to apply to VS if I do not take part in the DSA-Sec Exercise?

As only a certain percentage of places are given for the DSA-Sec Exercise, there are places available to students for posting after PSLE results. The majority of VS students are admitted via MOE's Secondary 1 Posting Exercise. Every year, VS admits students from more than 80 primary schools.

Students who are applying to VS during MOE's Secondary 1 Posting Exercise are to take note that there are different option codes for the 'O' level Programme and Integrated Programme at VS. Students should indicate if they are selecting the 'O' level programme (3014) or Integrated Programme (9151). For example, a student may choose VS (Integrated

Programme) as the first choice and VS ('O' Level Programme) as the second choice. The PSLE cut-off scores for both tracks vary every year depending on the PSLE T-scores of the applicants in that year. For 2018 Sec 1 Posting, the COP for O level is 246, while the COP for IP is 252.