



GAN ENG SENG SCHOOL

1 HENDERSON ROAD, SINGAPORE 159561

TEL: 6474 5594 FAX: 6473 2479

Email: gess@moe.edu.sg

School Web: <http://ganengsengsch.moe.edu.sg/>

GESS/2021/Admin/001

5 Jan 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Happy New Year to all Gessians, parents and guardians and a warm welcome to all Sec 1 students who have joined us this year.

'The story of our school is a history of change. But truth, faith and vigour survived circumstances strange'. So states our school anthem composed by our ex-teacher, Mr R.C. Scharenguivel in the 1950s. GESS is built to withstand the test of times. In fact, GESS has evolved along with our local history and flourished to give all its students a unique Gessian Brand of Education. We now live in an era of disruptions in which powerful global forces and the Covid-19 pandemic are changing the way we live and work. The educational landscape is changing in tandem with a strong emphasis on holistic development of every student. To stay relevant, GESS has to embrace these changes and prepare our students for a complex and volatile world where head knowledge is insufficient and soft skills and values are essential to thrive. With this in mind, GESS reviewed its Vision, Mission, Values and Student Portrait in 2020 and came up with the following:

VISION: Gessians of Excellence, Standing and Significance

MISSION: Nurturing the best in each and striving ever onward

VALUES: Integrity, Resilience, Compassion, Respect, Discipline

No major changes were made to the vision and mission as staff and students still find them relevant and inspiring. The value of compassion was added as the 5th value as it is closely aligned to our Founder's legacy of care and empathy for others.

The Student Portrait was revised to comprise the following 4 components: Principled Leader, Engaged Learner, Reflective & Innovative Thinker and Active Citizen.

We continually seek to improve to give our students a quality education and we thank our partners, namely, our Parent-Teacher Association, School Advisory Committee and Gan Eng Seng Old Students' Association for their continuous support.

GCE 'N' level Results 2020

We are pleased to announce that our Normal (Academic) and Normal (Technical) students performed well in the GCE 'N' level examination 2020. 100% of our NT students gained admission to the Institute of Technical Education (ITE) with 67% admitted via the Early Admission Exercise to do the course of their choice. 88.7% of our NA students were eligible for Sec 5 and 83.1% qualified for the Direct-Entry-Scheme to Polytechnic programme (DPP). 33.8% of the NA students qualified for the Polytechnic Foundation Programme (PFP) and this is better than the last two years. PFP allows the students to do a 1 year Foundation studies followed by a course of their choice in a Polytechnic. 10 NA students obtained ELMAB3 of 10 points or less, with 8 from this group obtaining an 'Excellent' for their CCAs too.



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It is especially heartening to see students with learning, behavioural and family challenges perform their best in this examination and find a place in an institute of higher learning. Special thanks go to all teachers (lower and upper Sec) who have taught this cohort of students, for their constant guidance and support. Gessians not only excel in studies; they also do well in non-academic areas. 5 students in our 2020 Sec 4 Normal graduating cohort received the MOE Edusave CHaracter Award (ECHA) for good character.

School-Based Assessment

Kindly take note that similar to 2020, there will be **no mid-year examination for Sec 1 and Sec 3**. Weighted Assessments (WA) are carried out throughout the year and the intent of WA is both formative and summative. While WAs assess your child's/ward's proficiency in the subjects, they also provide teachers with information on the learning gaps they need to address. Hence, we seek your active partnership in ensuring that your child/ward does his/her best in every assessment. Please see below for details on GESS Assessment Weighting Distribution for the respective levels:

GESS Assessment Weighting Distribution (for 2021)

Level	Term 1	Term 2		Term 3	Term 4	
	WA	WA	Mid-Year Exam	WA	WA	End-of-Year Exam
Sec 1	10%	15%	-	15%	10% (Alternative Assessment)	50%
Sec 2	5%	5%	20%	10%	10% (Alternative Assessment)	50%
Sec 3	10%	15%	-	15%	10% (Alternative Assessment)	50%
Sec 4	10%	-	30%	-	-	60% (Prelim)

Covid-19 Safe Management Measures

As the Covid-19 pandemic remains fluid and the threat to our safety persists, we continue to practice Safe Management Measures in our school. We will continue to enforce visual screening, temperature –taking, wearing of face masks, social distancing and wipe down. We will also clean high touch surfaces frequently and disinfect the school premises daily. There will be fixed seating plans for both the classrooms and the canteen to minimise intermingling across levels and classes.

Arrival and dismissal times will also be staggered to avoid overcrowding:

Arrival Times:

Level	Reporting Time
Sec 1 and 4/5	7:30am (Tue – Fri)
	8:30am (Mon only)
Sec 2 and 3	7:45am (Tue – Fri)
	8:45am (Mon only)



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Dismissal Times

Do follow your child's/ward's timetable for the staggered dismissal times.

Students may enter or exit the school from (a) Main gate, (b) Side gate and (c) Back gate. The opening hours of the gates are as follows:

	Monday	Tuesday – Friday
Main Gate	7:30am – 6:00pm	7:00am – 6:00pm
Side Gate and Back Gate	7:30 – 8:55am (for entry) 12:55 – 6:00pm (for exit)	7:00 – 7:55am (for entry) 12:55 – 6:00pm (for exit)

After curriculum hours, students are encouraged to go home if they do not have any scheduled activities in the afternoons. However, for students who need a place to do self-study, revision or homework, they can use the study areas in the school. They must follow the Safe Management Measures at all times. Please advise your child/ward to avoid gathering or playing in public areas for safety reasons.

School Attire

From week 2 of Term 1, all students are required to report to school in full uniform. They should also put on their ties for morning assembly. Students can dress down on Fridays, i.e. they can come to school in half uniform (PE, CCA or Class T-shirt with school skirt or pants). Parents/Guardians, kindly ensure that your children come to school appropriately attired at all times.

Key Events and Important Dates for Term 1, 2021

Kindly refer to Annex A for key events and important dates for term 1.

As Partners-In-Education, we look forward to working closely with you to realise our vision of Gessians of Excellence, Standing and Significance.

Onward!

Yours faithfully,

Ms Tan Hwee Pin
Principal



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Key Dates for Term 1 (2021)

Annex A

Dates	Event	Remarks (if any)
6 & 7 Jan 2021 (Wed-Thu)	Sec 1 GESS Camp 2 days of non-residential camp for all Sec 1 students	
11 Jan 2021 (Mon)	Release of GCE 'O' level results 2020 1.30 pm to 4.30 pm	
15 Jan 2021 (Fri)	Sec 1 CCA Orientation 2 pm to 5.30 pm	
19 & 22 Jan 2021 (Tue & Fri)	Sec 1 CCA Trials & Auditions : 19 Jan (3pm – 5.30pm) 22 Jan (2pm – 5.30pm)	
29 Jan 2021 (Fri)	Sec 1 Meet-Parent-Session	Details will be sent to parents at a later date.
11 Feb 2021 (Thu)	Chinese New Year (CNY) Celebrations	All students will be dismissed at <u>10am</u> on 11 Feb 2021. 15 Feb 2021 is a school holiday
1 – 3 March 2021 (Mon-Wed)	Sec 1: Home-based Learning on 1 & 2 March/ Sec 1 Special Programme on 3 March Sec 2 & 3: Gess Camp (Non-residential) Sec 4/5: Special programme (Non-residential)	Sec 1 students need not come to school on 1 & 2 March.
10 March 2021 (Wed)	HPV Vaccination for Sec 3, 4 & 5 students	
12 March 2021 (Fri)	<u>Founder's Day 2021</u> 7.30am – 11am: School Programme (all students will attend) 2pm – 5 pm: Prize-giving Ceremony (only selected students need to attend)	
15 -19 March 2021 (Mon-Fri)	Term Break	