

Bowen Fact Sheet 2022

1. How many classes are there at each level?

- There are usually 7 classes per level - 4 Exp classes, 2 N(A) classes and 1 N(T) class.
- MOE announced that streaming will be scrapped and replaced by Full Subject-Based Banding (Full SBB) from 2024. Bowen piloted Full SBB in 2020: every Sec 1 form class will comprise students from all 3 streams. **See Question 7 for more details.**

2. What is the cut off indicative Achievement Level (AL)?

Express	Normal Academic (NA)	Normal Technical (NT)	2021 Sec 1 cohort's scores
10-16	21-24	25-27	

3. What are the subjects offered in Bowen?

- Lower Sec: EL, Literature, MT/HMT[#], Maths, Science, Design & Technology, Food & Consumer Education, Art, History and Geography, Music, PE. N(T) only - Social Studies and Computer Applications.
- Upper Sec: EL, MT/HMT[#], Maths, Additional Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Combined Science (Physics + Chemistry / Chemistry + Biology), Combined Humanities (Elective (Geography / History/ Literature) + Social Studies), Pure Humanities (Pure Literature, Pure Geography), PE, Art, Design & Technology, Food & Nutrition, Exercise & Sports Science. N(T) only - Computer Applications and Elements Of Business Skills.

Interested students who do not meet MOE's criteria will need to meet Bowen's criteria to offer HMT.

**Note 1: HMT is offered to Sec 1 – 4 Express students. HMT lessons are conducted in Bowen during timetabled lessons.*

**Note 2: The actual subject combination for Upper Secondary may vary from year to year depending on students' interests and staff resources.*

Subject-Based Banding: Sec 1 N(A) / N(T) students who meet MOE-criteria to offer Exp / N(A)-level English, MTL, Maths and/or Science will be offered the option to do so.

4. What is so unique about Bowen?

Bowen champions **holistic education**, where students are challenged to strive for excellence through both academic programmes and character development programmes. Bowen engages students in learning through creative programmes such as **LifELit**, an oratory English Language programme for lower secondary, and authentic fieldwork such as annual **Historical and Geographical Investigations** to sites of historical and geographical interest. Our year-round

AForte programme broadens the learning opportunities for Normal Course stream students through enrichment and elective modules to help them aspire to the future. Our **strong CCA culture** provides a well-balanced and comprehensive co-curricular programme that helps the students to grow into all-round individuals. Our **flagship ChANgeMakers Programme** systematically provides authentic opportunities for students to engage in meaningful service, utilising **Design Thinking** protocol to better meet the needs of the beneficiaries. ChANgeMakers trains students in both **social enterprise and community youth leadership**, which are two areas under which students can be admitted to Bowen under Direct School Admission.

More about AForte:

- The AForte Programme is a key programme designed to broaden the learning experiences of students in the Normal Course stream.
- The aim of the programme is to help students maximize their potential and discover their interests and talents by providing learning within and beyond the classrooms through authentic and experiential learning activities.
- Some examples of AForte activities and programmes include
 - Positive Character Development programmes to equip students with Socio-Emotional competencies and school values.
 - Elective Modules (in ITE and in school) to provide students with insights into the types of jobs and industries or post-secondary education they might be interested in.
 - Sports Discovery Programme

More about LifELit:

- LifELit is a lower secondary oratory programme that focuses on developing confident communicators. All students will be trained in public speaking.
- Students have opportunities to present their speeches and pit their skills with students from other schools in various competitions.

Talent Development:

- IgnITE Challenge, Elementz competition, oratorical competitions, Math Olympiads, Science Olympiads, NUS Geography Challenge, Model UN, etc.

Horizons Overseas Trips

Horizons Trips cater to Sec 2 and 3 students and provide international experience through:

- student exchanges – Bowenians will interact with students of the country and learn what it is like to study in a different environment.
- values-in-action activities – Bowenians will conduct VIA activities for local children, eg, at orphanages or special needs schools.
- cultural immersion activities – Bowenians will experience local culture and gain a deeper understanding of cross-culture perspectives.

In 2019, there are 4 Horizons Trips: to Taiwan (school twinning), Malacca (inter-humanities), Vietnam (ChANgeMakers / Values in Action) and Jakarta (leadership / cultural exchange). Due to the COVID pandemic, there were no trips in 2020 and 2021.

5. Besides academic excellence, what else does Bowen emphasise?

○ Bowenians are given a holistic education in all areas. The school believes in building character and leadership qualities in our students. This is done through:

→ **Service Learning (VIA)**

- Sec 1: make a difference within the school community
- Sec 2: work with community partners in our neighbourhood (e.g. AWWA, Bright Vision Hospital)
- Upp Sec VIA Congress: Each class advocates for their selected community cause and presents it to their juniors to influence them to take up their cause.

→ **CCAs**

Sports & Games	Uniformed Groups	Visual & Performing Arts	Clubs & Societies
1. Badminton	1. Boys' Brigade	1. Bowen Artists	1. AIMS Club
2. Basketball (Boys)	2. Girl Guides	2. Bowen Chorale	(Multimedia Club)
3. Football	3. National Cadet Corps (Land) (Boys)	3. Drama - English	2. Library
4. Netball (Girls)	4. National Civil Defence Cadet Corps	4. Modern Dance	
5. Table Tennis (Boys)	5. National Police Cadet Corps	5. Indian Dance	
6. Taekwondo		6. Malay Dance	
		7. Military Band	

→ **Camps**

- *Sec 1 Start Bright Camp*
- *Sec 3 Outdoor Adventure Camp*
- *CCA camps*

→ **Student Leadership**

Leadership development in Bowen takes a two-tiered approach – **school-wide** and **customised**. School-wide programmes to equip students with basic leadership skills and customised leadership development for various identified group of student leaders.

6. Where do most Bowenians go after they leave Bowen?

- The majority of our Express, N(A) and N(T) students qualify for JC, Polytechnic and ITE courses respectively.
- Students are encouraged to pursue a post-secondary education in line with their interests and ambitions.

7. Full Subject-Based Banding

In March 2019, then Minister for Education Ong Ye Kung announced that streaming would be replaced by Full Subject-Based Banding (Full SBB). Bowen Secondary is one of the 28 secondary schools selected by MOE to start piloting aspects of Full SBB from 2020 onwards.

Two aspects of the Full SBB Pilot in Bowen

First, **Secondary 1 students joining Bowen will get a richer student experience as they will get to be part of two classes:**

- **The Form Class**, where they will build their socio-emotional skills and take hands-on subjects like Art, D&T and FCE. Students will also do CCE, Music and PE in their form class. The form class will comprise students from all 3 streams.
- **The Teaching Group**, where they will take subjects like EL, MTL, Maths, Science, Geography, etc. pitched at the level which will suit their learning ability.
 - N(A) and N(T) students, who are strong in EL, MTL, Maths and/or Science and meet MOE-criteria, can study these subjects at N(A) / Exp levels.
 - Express students will offer these subjects at Express level.

Benefits: A richer student experience

- **This two-class arrangement** will give them both the opportunity to socialise and build a strong sense of community, as well as the opportunity to study EL, MTL etc. with peers who can spur them on.
- In the form classes, we will implement **'buddy groups'** comprising 2-4 students, for students to provide mutual support. We will have **'Class Bonding Time'** every Friday for the classes to do something fun together (e.g. play a game) regularly.
- Students will attend **enrichment programmes** in both their form class (E.g. Leadership programmes) and teaching group (Learning Journey to Science Centre) so that the students will be able to enjoy the best of both worlds.

Second, **Sec 2N(A) students who are eligible can offer Geography and/or History at Sec 2 Exp level, to help them further their strengths and interests.** Criteria at the end of Sec 1:

- Geography 75% and above
- History 75% and above

If they do well in these subjects at Sec 2 Exp level, they may be offered the subject at O level in Sec 3N(A) and Sec 4N(A).

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