



GAN ENG SENG SCHOOL

1 HENDERSON ROAD, SINGAPORE 159561

Tel: 6474 5594

Email: gess@moe.edu.sg

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

GESS/2026/Admin/001

30 December 2025

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

Onward to 2026!

"Seeking and making progress" – these powerful words from our school anthem capture the essence of what makes GESS a truly exceptional learning community. Our commitment to continuous improvement is reflected not only in the substantial upgrades to our learning spaces and facilities that now better serve our students' diverse needs, but also in the commendable GCE 'N' Level results that our Class of 2025 has achieved, demonstrating the fruits of their dedication and our teachers' unwavering support.

As we welcome new staff members who bring fresh perspectives, we also bid farewell to our Vice-Principal, Mrs Selva, who is retiring after 8 years in GESS. She has been instrumental in the many successes in GESS, and her impact on students and staff outcomes is immeasurable. We will always remember her steadfast commitment, invaluable mentorship and her care for all staff and students – her presence has made GESS a more caring and enabling environment. As our Start Right routines continue to set the standard for excellence in everything we do, we are reminded that true progress lies in our collective commitment to nurturing Gessians of Excellence, Standing and Significance.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our entire school community – staff, students, parents, and partners – for coming together to make our 140th anniversary celebrations in 2025 truly memorable, demonstrating once again the strength of our united GESS family.

1. Learning Spaces and Facilities Updates

The table below lists the improvements made to better support teaching and learning in Semester 2 of 2025 and upcoming enhancements.

S/N	Item	Timeline
1	Re-turfing of School Field	Jul 2025
2	Installation of 2 lifts	Sep 2025
3	Canteen vendor area refurbishment	Dec 2025
4	Installation of rainbreakers and anti-slip flooring at Levels 1 & 2	Dec 2025
5	New classroom chairs at Levels 3 & 4	Dec 2025
6	Installation of air-conditioning in School Hall	Jan 2026
7	New vegetarian canteen stall 'Whole Grains'	Jan 2026
8	Wormery Room at Level 4 (as part of Science curriculum)	Mar 2026
9	General Repair & Redecoration, i.e. re-painting of school façade and classrooms	Mar 2026

We would like to express our appreciation to our Operations Managers and School Administration Team for seeing through the various improvement works.



Integrity, Compassion, Resilience, Discipline, Respect



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2. Staff Updates

We are very happy to welcome our new colleagues who have joined us in 2026:

S/N	Name of Staff	Designation
1	Mrs Oh-Onong Lay Ling	Vice-Principal
2	Ms Tan Zilin Aileen	HOD/ Science
3	Ms Wong Teck Yen Esther	HOD/ Humanities
4	Mr Tay Yong Chiang	HOD/ Student Management
5	Mr Lim Say Chionh	HOD/ Special Projects
6	Ms Zubaidah Lah	Administration Manager
7	Ms Yap Soo Ting	Senior SEN Officer

We would also like to express our appreciation to all other staff who left us at the end of the year. We wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

3. Celebrating Our Students' Achievements – GCE 'N' Level Results 2025

Our Secondary Four 'N' Level students did us proud in the 2024 GCE 'N' Level examinations.

Indicators	GESS
4N(A) students' eligibility for 5N(A)	98.4%
No. 4N(T) students with EMB3 of 8 points or less	18, with all achieving 'Excellent' CCA grade
4N(T) students' eligibility for ITE	100%
No. 4N(T) students with EMB2 of 5 points or less	9, with 8 achieving 'Excellent' CCA grade
No. received MOE Edusave Character Award (ECHA) for exemplary character and outstanding personal qualities	6

Heartiest congratulations to our 2025 'N' Level cohort!

4. Information for First Day of School and Start Right Programme 2026

We wish to partner all parents/ guardians to help our students start the year right by building good habits and sound values. As we prepare for the first day of school, please take note of the following.

Reporting Time: In line with national efforts to strengthen student well-being, the school is piloting a later reporting time for Gessians in 2026. Students are to report to the school Arena (Parade Square) by **7.50 am daily except Wednesday and by 8.10 am on Wednesday**.

School Attire: Please note that school may send students with improper grooming and attire back home. The expectations for Gessians can be found on the school website, <https://www.ganengsengsch.moe.edu.sg/about-us/schoolrulesandregulations/>.



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Items to bring: Students are to bring along a story book for silent reading (English books from Monday to Thursday and Mother Tongue books on Friday), an oral digital thermometer, student handbook and stationery. For Sec 2 to 5 students, they are to bring their report book duly signed as well as their personal learning device (PLD).

Be Socially Responsible: If your child/ ward is unwell, please ensure that he/ she stays at home and seeks medical attention if necessary. If your child/ ward is recovering from respiratory-related illness, please encourage him/ her to exercise social responsibility (e.g., wearing a mask, minimising social interactions with big groups).

Start Right Programme (2, 5, 6 Jan): The Start Right Programme aims to allow our students to start the year right. By setting the tone for the cohort, allowing students to build rapport with their classmates and Form Teachers, and setting targets for the year, the programme hopes to help Gessians reintegrate into school life and prepare them for learning. Please see the attached table for information on the attire and the dismissal on each day for each level.

Date	2 Jan (Fri)	5 Jan (Mon)	6 Jan (Tues)	7 Jan (Wed) ¹
Reporting Time	7.50 am	7.50 am	7.50 am	8.10 am
Sec 1	Attire: Half Uniform ²	Attire: School Uniform with Tie ³	Attire: Half Uniform Bring along PE attire ⁴	Attire: PE attire
Sec 1 Dismissal time	12.40 pm	1.55 pm	1.55 pm	Based on GESS Camp Timetable
Sec 2 to 5	Attire: Half Uniform ² Sec 3 to bring along their PE attire ⁴	Attire: School Uniform with Tie ³ Sec 2 to bring along their PE attire ⁴	Attire: Half Uniform Sec 4&5 to bring along their PE attire ⁴	Attire: Half Uniform
Sec 2 to 5 Dismissal time	12.40 pm	1.55 pm	5.00 pm after CCA ⁵	Based on Timetable

¹ Note that formal curriculum lessons will start from 7 January for Sec 2 to 5 students. Sec 1 GESS Camp will be on 7 and 8 January 2026. Formal curriculum lessons will commence from 9 January for Sec 1 students.

² Half uniform refers to PE T-shirt with school shorts/ skirt/ pants.

³ Students to report for morning assembly in school uniform with school tie. They may change to half uniform after the morning assembly.

⁴ Students to bring PE attire as there will be cohort games organised for them.

⁵ CCAs will be weekly on Tuesday (3 pm to 5 pm) and Friday (2 pm to 5 pm).



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5. School Based Assessments

As part of our commitment to academic excellence, all levels will have weighted assessments (WAs) throughout the year. These assessments are integral to evaluating and reinforcing your child's/ ward's progress in their studies. The weighting of the assessments can be found in the table below.

Level/ Term	Term 1 WA1	Term 2 WA2	Term 3 WA3	Term 4 End-Of-Year Examination
Sec 1	10%	15%	15%	60%
Sec 2	10%	10%	10%	70%
Sec 3	10%	15%	15%	60%
Sec 4/5	15%	15%	-	70% (Preliminary Examination)

The Weighted Assessment (WA) Schedule for 2026 will be shared on the school website by the end of Term 1 Week 3 at <https://www.ganengsengsch.moe.edu.sg/weighted-assessment/>.

6. Communication with School

The school aims to work closely with parents/ guardians for the holistic development of every student in the school. At the same time, staff well-being is important to us. Kindly take note of the following:

- Keep all communication to teachers within school hours (8 am to 6 pm) on working days and during school terms.
- Teachers are not expected to respond to parents' or students' queries after office hours, during weekends or on school holidays.
- Urgent messages to teachers may be directed to the General Office at 6474 5594, should the teachers be in class and are uncontactable during school hours.
- Teachers are not expected to provide their personal mobile numbers to parents/students. Appointments to see teachers (face-to-face or virtual) should be made at least 3 working days in advance. Email addresses of teachers can be found on our website: <https://www.ganengsengsch.moe.edu.sg/about-us/Our-Staff/key-personnel-and-form-teachers/>
- GESS Student Handbook contains useful information about school policies, rules and regulations and school calendar. Please go through the content with your child/ ward.
- Should you have any queries, please feel free to email the school at gess@moe.edu.sg.
- Follow us on Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/theofficialgess> and Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SG.GESS> for timely updates on school events.



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7. Smart Phones/ Devices Policy

As communicated by MOE, there will be stricter smartphone rules for secondary school students starting from 2026 January. Students will be banned from using phones and smartwatches during all school hours, including recess and CCAs, aligning with primary school rules to foster healthier screen habits and reduce distractions.

Students who bring smart phones to school will switch them off and hand them to their form teachers for safekeeping in the classroom cabinet before the first curriculum period. The handphones will be returned to the students at the end of the school day.

Students' smart phones/ smart devices will be confiscated by the teachers if they are found to have breached the smart phone/ devices policy. Parents/ guardians may be required to personally collect these devices from the school's Operations Manager (OM)/ Administration Manager (AM) in the General Office.

8. Use of Photographs and Video Images of Students/ Parents

Please be informed that photograph(s) or video image(s) of you and your child/ ward may be captured during school activities and events such as CCAs, GESS camps and Meet-Parent-Sessions. The school may use and publish such photographs and/ or video recordings in school publications, website, social media channels, and other communication channels.

9. Key Events for Term 1, 2026

We look forward to another year of active partnership with all parents/guardians to give all our students an enriching schooling experience. Kindly refer to Annex A for this term's key events.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Tan Hwee Pin
Principal





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Key Events for Term 1 (2026)

Annex A

Dates	Event	Remarks (if any)
2 Jan, 5 & 6 Jan	Start Right Programme	
7 & 8 Jan	Sec 1 GESS Camp	
9 Jan (PM)	CCA Orientation & Sec 1 Meet-Parent-Session	
13 & 16 Jan	Sec 1 CCA Trials	
14 Jan, 28 Jan, 11 Feb, 25 Feb, 11 Mar	Home-Based Learning (HBL) <i>Typically on Wednesday of even week</i>	14 Jan HBL will be on 15 Jan if the release of O Level Results is on 14 Jan
21 Jan (3 to 5 pm)	Sec 2 Museum-based Learning: Artefactually Speaking @ National Museum Singapore	Classes 2-1, 2-6
21 Jan & 4 Mar	Sports Wednesdays	Students are encouraged to participate in sports after curriculum hours
22 Jan & 6 Feb	Sec 1 & 3 Photo-taking	
6 Feb	Sec 1 CCA First Training	
10 Feb	Total Defence Day Commemoration	
13 Feb (8 to 9 am)	Sec 4/5 Breakfast with Parents	
16 Feb	Chinese New Year Celebrations	Attire for the day – Red top for all students. Students will be dismissed at 10.30 am
17 & 18 Feb	Chinese New Year Holiday	
19, 20 Feb & 23, 24, 25 Feb	Mother Tongue Language Fortnight Programme	
4 Mar (3 to 5 pm)	Sec 1 iPad and Device Management Application (DMA) Deployment	
4 Mar (3 to 5 pm)	Sec 2 Museum-based Learning: Artefactually Speaking @ National Museum Singapore	Classes 2-3, 2-4, 2-5 <i>Note: 2-2, 2-7 in Term 2</i>
7 Mar (9 to 10 am)	Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) online Annual General Meeting (AGM)	
13 Mar	Founder's Day Celebrations	
14 to 22 Mar	March School Holiday	
23 Mar	Hari Raya Puasa School Holiday	



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