

31 Pasir Ris Street 51, Singapore 518901 Tel: 65831387 Fax: 65836467

Ref. No.: MSS/LTP/003/2026

30 December 2025 Dear Parents / Guardian,

#### A warm welcome to Meridian Secondary School!

I am Mr Puah You Kai, the new Principal of Meridian Secondary School. I am deeply humbled to join the Meridian Family as its third Principal and honoured to take over the leadership baton from Mr Mohamad Razali.

Meridian Secondary School was established in April 2016 through the union of two schools in Pasir Ris: Siglap Secondary School and Coral Secondary School. Since our inception, we have been clear-eyed in our mission as a hope-building school for the community – providing all our students with deep care, instilling in them sound values, and developing in them the right mindsets, skillsets and toolsets to thrive long after they leave us.

Every parent and child aspires to find a school that cares deeply, provides an inspiring and meaningful education, and opens doors to future opportunities. At Meridian, we are committed to being that school. We develop Meridians to become Joyful Learners, Creative Thinkers and Compassionate Leaders, anchored on our RICH values of Resilience, Integrity, Compassion and Humility.

Despite our short history, we have made significant strides. Some of our students have been featured in the press for their <u>accomplishments</u>, while countless others continue to make us proud in their own unique ways. Many alumni remain in touch, and their continued development reinforces our holistic education approach – nurturing their character, creativity and resilience alongside their intellectual growth.

Since joining the school, I have connected with students, parents, alumni, SAC members, CCA coaches and various community partners who shared fond memories and a strong belief in what Meridian stands for. At the same time, they also expressed concerns about the challenges facing our youths today – from mental health pressures, to navigating relationships and peer dynamics, to thriving in a digital world increasingly shaped by social media and Al. Their stories have reinforced my conviction that we are building something truly special, but also reminded me that more than ever, we need to work more closely together as a school community to prepare our young for the future.

Our school's  $10^{th}$  anniversary in 2026 will be a meaningful opportunity to do just that – to honour those who have helped us get here, celebrate our achievements, and strengthen our partnerships as we welcome the dreams of past, present and future Meridians. I look forward to connecting more deeply with members of our Meridian Family, as we celebrate and chart the next bound of our growth together.

Wishing all a fruitful 2026 ahead!

To help parents have an overview of upcoming activities throughout the year, please refer to Annex A attached for further details.

Mr. Puah You Kai Principal Meridian Secondary School



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#### Annex A

#### **Key School Information & Overview of School Activities for 2026 (Secondary 1)**

Please refer to the following sections for the information that is outlined in this Annex:

- 1. Sec 1 Orientation Programme
- 2. Timetable for AY 2026 and CCAs
- 3. School-based Assessment Updates
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- 10. School Calendar



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#### 1 Sec 1 Orientation Programme (2, 5, 6, 7 Jan)

On the first day of school on 2 Jan (Fri), students are to report by 8:30am. There will be four days of orientation, where students will have opportunities to get to know their classmates and Form Teachers as they participated in fun-filled activities led by our peer support leaders.

Information on the dismissal times during the orientation period and the items to be brought is available in the "Sec 1 Orientation Kit", which is available on the Sec 1 Registration page (item 8) on our school website: Sec 1 Orientation Info Kit

#### 2 Timetable for AY 2026 and Co-Curricular Activities (CCAs) Schedule

The 2026 timetable will be available in this link https://www.meridiansec.moe.edu.sg/student-information/student-timetable/

Remedial and enrichment lessons, and CCAs are scheduled after school dismissal time. Beyond remedial lessons, individual students who needed additional help in their studies may also seek clarification with their teachers either virtually through online platforms and in asynchronous mode after lessons. Parents may also refer to the CCA page on our school website for more information about the various CCAs: https://www.meridiansec.moe.edu.sg/co-curricular-activities-cca-leaps/

For school activities carried out after dismissal, subject teachers and staff-in-charge of programmes and CCA will provide more information via Parents Gateway.

#### 3 School-based Assessment Updates

Below are the assessment weightings for 2026. More details regarding the Weighted Assessments will be given to the students through the subject teachers.

For Sec 1

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
Component	Weighted	Weighted	Weighted	End-of-Year
	Assessment	Assessment	Assessment	Examination
Weighting	15%	15%	15%	55%

#### 4 Independent Learning Days (ILD)

Since 2021, Blended Learning has become a key feature of the schooling experience to further develop students' ability to be self-directed, passionate and life-long learners. Through Blended Learning, regularly scheduled Home-based Learning (HBL) Days will complement teaching and learning in schools. Students' learning during HBL Days will be supported by the National Digital Literacy Programme (NDLP) which will ensure that all secondary students will own a personal learning device (PLD). (https://www.moe.gov.sg/news/press-releases/20201229-blended-learning-to-enhance-schooling-experience-and-further-develop-students-into-self-directed-learners)

In Meridian Secondary, we called our HBL days Independent Learning Days (ILD) to remind students that on these days, they take ownership of their learning and they will exercise autonomy in the learning process.



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Independent Learning Days (ILD) will take place on even week Fridays and will allow students to manage their own learning and explore and pursue their interests from home. There will be a total of 8 ILDs in Semester 1. The schedule of subjects and activities on each ILD can be found in the link <a href="https://www.meridiansec.moe.edu.sg/student-information/student-timetable/">https://www.meridiansec.moe.edu.sg/student-information/student-timetable/</a>

#### Activities during the ILD

4.1

Each ILD comprises curriculum tasks and Student-Initiated Learning (SIL) activities. Details of the curriculum tasks will be provided by subject teachers. SIL activities is an opportunity for students to engage in learning beyond the formal curriculum. Students are encouraged to explore their interests and passions as part of the ILD. The estimated timings serve as a guide for students to allocate their time appropriately. More details will be provided to students by their Form Teachers.

#### Parents' consent for proposed SIL

4.2

We seek parents'/guardians' support for the students' SIL activities. Students are expected to show their parents/guardians the proposal before starting the activity. The school would require parents/guardians to give consent for the student's chosen SIL activities in an upcoming message sent through Parent Gateway. For more information on Blended Learning, you may visit https://go.gov.sg/moe-experiencing-blended-learning.

#### 5 Student Management Matters

Refer to the Student Handbook 2026 for further details: <u>2026 Student Handbook</u> for the items in this section.

#### 5.1 School Attire

Students are to be in the day's Full/Half School Uniform by Flag Raising Ceremony **every morning.** 

The school attire is as follows:

#### **SCHOOL ATTIRE**

Students must wear full or half uniform (i.e., White Polo T-shirt with school uniform shorts/pants/culottes) with **shirts/T-shirts tucked in**. No PE shorts to be worn.



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Full Uniform or Half Uniform with White Polo T-shirt with school uniform bottoms

Students may wear low-cut sports shoes with laces, provided they are not in flashy colours. Students must wear plain white socks that are **visible and cover the ankle joints**.

#### **Punctuality**

5.2

To help students to develop a sense of responsibility, all students must report punctually to school as well as lessons. Students who are not present with their respective classes at the Flag Raising Ceremony venue by 7.30am will be considered **late** for school.

Students are also required to report to lessons on time when there is a switch of venues between lessons.

#### School policy on use of mobile phones and possession of other expensive items

5.3 To provide a conducive learning environment for the students, we strongly discourage students from bringing electronic devices, smart watches or other expensive items to school. In particular, handphones are a great source of distraction for students in the classrooms.

The use of smart gadgets (e.g. smartphones/smart watches) is **NOT allowed during school hours, including recess, CCA and after school programmes** (e.g. supplementary/enrichment/remedial lesson). Students found to infringe this rule may have their phones confiscated by the teacher for the day.

Students are required to place their mobile phones in their lockers before the start of the first lesson. All mobile phones are to be switched off and/ or turned to silent mode. They may collect their phones from their lockers at the end of their last school activity for the day. For emergencies, parents/guardians are advised to call the school General Office at 65831387. Please provide the name and class of your child so that we can act on the information. For non-emergency cases, please leave a message to their child/ward's mobile phone for them to call after school dismissal.



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In the event of loss of electronic devices or other expensive items due to students' negligence, the school shall not be held responsible.

Please refer to the E-Student Handbook for details of the policy on Handphones and Electronic Devices (Para 3.1).

#### Road Safety

- 5.4 For the safety of our students and other road users, we would like to remind parents/guardians who drive the students to school of the following:
  - Not to stop their vehicles directly in front of the school gates or too close to the traffic light when alighting or picking-up passengers.
  - To co-operate with the security guards and staff who are directing the traffic by following their instructions
  - Slow down your vehicle as the speed limit within the school compound is 10 km/h.
  - In light of ongoing roadworks around the vicinity of the school and Pasir Ris, we urge all students and parents / guardians / visitors to school to take extra precautions when using the pedestrian crossings and walkways.

#### Advisory for cyclists

If your child is cycling to school, he/she should wear a protective helmet, demonstrate competency in safe cycling and is aware of the cycling rules.

#### Use of lockers

Form Teachers will assign each student a locker (internal dimension: 15x26X40mm) on the first day of school. The use of lockers is provided free of charge. Students are expected to use the lockers in a responsible manner in accordance to school rules in the *Student Handbook*.

As a welcome gift, Sec 1 students will be presented with a number lock for securing the locker assigned to them on the first day of school.

#### **6** School Programmes

#### 6.1 Personalised Digital Learning Programme

Sec 1 students will be issued their devices in the last week of Term 1. More information on the collection will be communicated on a later date.

6.2 For updates on other **school programmes**, please click the embedded links below:

Co-Curricular Activities (CCAs)

Applied Learning Programme (ALP)

Learning for Life Programme (LLP)

Education & Career Guidance (ECG)

#### 7 Student Administrative Matters

#### 7.1 Verification of Student Details Report

A PG will be sent to you at the start of the year requesting your assistance to verify the information of your child/ward's in the online Student Details Report(SDR). Your submission should be made via PG (Parents Gateway) app by **16 Jan (Fri)**. If there are any changes (medical, contact info) to be made after the submission, please approach the



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Form Teacher for assistance. If there is a change in your contact number or email address in the course of the year, please promptly update the information in PG. This updated information is important for the school especially during emergencies. Please do not hesitate to contact the school for assistance.

#### 7.2 <u>Use of photos/ videos for publicity purposes</u>

Throughout your child's journey at Meridian, photographs or video images of your child/ward may be taken during school activities and events such as classroom lessons, CCAs, school camps, or school concerts. The school may use and publish such photographs or video recordings in school publications, the school's website, social media channels, or other communication channels. If you object to your child's/ ward's photo/ video being used for publicity by the school, please email us at meridian sec@moe.edu.sg.

#### 7.4 (New) Submission of Medical Certificates and Parents Letter through PG

The new Student Absence feature on Parents Gateway (PG) will be made available with effect from January 2026.

With this feature, you will be able to submit reasons for your child's absence, and attach medical certificates and documents – all on the PG app.

Please find the user guide and FAQ here. (Will insert link once uploaded on website).

#### 8 Student Health and Well-being Matters

#### 8.1 HPV Vaccinations for Girls

The HPV vaccine helps to protect females against cervical cancer, which is caused by HPV infection. HPV vaccination is now offered as a school-based programme for our female students and is free of charge. Consent from parents is required for this vaccination. The HPV vaccination for Sec 1 girls will be held on 14 and 15 Jul. More details will be sent via PG nearer the date.

#### 8.2 Annual Health Screening

The annual health screening, conducted by Health Promotion Board, will be held at the school for Sec 1 students. The annual health screening will be held from 7 to 13 Jul. More details will be sent via PG nearer the date.

#### 8.3 <u>Temperature-Taking Exercise (ATTEx) – 1 Apr (Wed)</u>

The ATTEx is conducted twice yearly and aims to:

- a. maintain schools' preparedness to re-activate the attendance and temperature-taking regime should the need arise; and
- b. educate students on personal responsibility for their own health and social responsibility.

The first ATTEx will be conducted on 1 Apr immediately after the morning flag-raising ceremony. All students are to bring their own <u>working</u> Oral Digital Thermometers (ODT) on that day

### 8.4 Counselling



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Our school counselors are available to support your child's emotional, social, and academic well-being. If your child ever needs someone to talk to, they are encouraged to reach out to Mr Shu Shi Rong and Ms Wendy Lauw, who are here to ensure a positive and supportive school experience.

#### 9 Partnership with Parents

#### 9.1 Sec 1 Parents Engagement Session

We would also like to extend our invitation to all Sec 1 parents/guardians on 7 Jan (Wed) from 5.30 pm to 7 pm for the Parent Engagement Session.

#### Agenda:

- (a) Classroom engagement with your child's form teachers
- (b) Introduction by Year Head
- (c) Address by Principal
- (d) Address by HOD CCA
- (e) Address by Parent-Support-Group

#### 9.2 Communication Guidelines

Parents Gateway (PG) will be the main communication platform to parents, and we will continue to provide important updates through this platform. If you wish to communicate on school matters with your child's/ward's teachers, you can do so by calling the school at 65831387 or email directly to the respective staff. You can go to <a href="https://www.meridiansec.moe.edu.sg/about-us/contact-us/">https://www.meridiansec.moe.edu.sg/about-us/contact-us/</a>, and select the menu item Our Organisation.

Communication during weekends is not encouraged. Please refer to the guidelines for school-home partnership on MOE's website here: <a href="https://www.moe.gov.sg/-/media/files/news/press/2019/guidelines-for-school-home-partnership.pdf">https://www.moe.gov.sg/-/media/files/news/press/2019/guidelines-for-school-home-partnership.pdf</a>.

#### 9.3 Parent Support Group (PSG)

All parents are invited to join our PSG to engage in meaningful activities and get to know other parents and your child's friends in school. You can sign up for activities that suit your schedule and you do not have to devote long hours in the PSG to be fully engaged in your child's education. You may also share parenting tips and relevant information with other parents and engage in conversations with the school personnel through the PSG's termly meetings. More information on how you can be involved in your child's education can be found at <a href="https://www.schoolbag.edu.sg/">https://www.schoolbag.edu.sg/</a>.

To join MSS Parent Support Group, please click this link: https://forms.gle/BL2VH631Fy1cGrby7

#### 10 School Calendar

For 2026 MOE terms and holidays please refer to: <a href="https://www.moe.gov.sg/news/press-releases/20250730-school-terms-and-holidays-for-2026">https://www.moe.gov.sg/news/press-releases/20250730-school-terms-and-holidays-for-2026</a>



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For our school's calendar, please refer to: <a href="https://www.meridiansec.moe.edu.sg/calendar/">https://www.meridiansec.moe.edu.sg/calendar/</a>