



23 January 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians,

WEIGHTED ASSESSMENT AT BOWEN SECONDARY – SECONDARY 3

1. Aligned with MOE's Learning for Life movement to provide more time for deep learning, reduce overemphasis on academic results and promote student well-being, Bowen Secondary adopts an assessment framework that balances alternative and traditional modes of assessment.
2. To further realise the aims of Learning for Life, please note that with effect from 2025, there will be adjustments to how Term Assessments are carried out in Bowen Secondary. Please see below for key details:
 - In each term, students' learning in a subject will continue to be assessed through either Alternative Assessments (AAs) or Pen and Paper tests (PPs), but not both. For example, a student offering 7 subjects will have a mix of 7 AAs or PPs in total during each term. About 3-5 subjects will be assessed through AAs while the rest will be assessed through PPs.
 - **Pen and Paper (PPs)** tests comprise written assessments that are more aligned with examination requirements. These help students to better understand and work towards established national standards. From 2025, all termly PPs will be conducted during curriculum time (i.e. a timetabled lesson for the relevant subject, unless otherwise stated). The duration of each PP will typically be 45 min, with minor differences based on individual subject requirements.
 - **Alternative Assessments (AAs)** allow students to demonstrate their learning more creatively, holistically and are distinct in form from pen and paper tests. Types of AAs include practical tasks / portfolios / class presentations, etc. The deadlines for various AAs will be spread out over Weeks 5 to 8 (Term 1) or Weeks 3 to 7 (Terms 2 and 3) to help students manage their workload/time. AAs in some selected subjects may be due in other weeks, based on the scope/sequence of learning. Teachers will continue to brief students on expectations and success criteria and provide details through a 'Task Sheet' issued 2-3 weeks before the submission deadline.
 - Please refer to the **Annex** included at the end of this letter for the TA Schedule. To enable students to take ownership of their learning, subject teachers will communicate submission dates for AAs, assessment dates for PPs, rubrics (where applicable) and coverage of each assessment directly with students via channels such as Google Classroom and Class Notice Boards.
 - To help students manage their workload, there will be no more than 2 Term Assessments conducted for students per day. This includes AA deadlines, PP tests and other school-wide assessments (e.g. oral examinations).

3. Assessment Structure and Weightings

- Please note that the weightings of the TAs and exams are as follows:

Subjects	TA1 Term 1 Weeks 5-8	TA2 Term 2 Weeks 3-7	TA3 Term 3 Weeks 3-7	EYE Term 4 Weeks 3-5	Overall
All Examinable Subjects	15%	15%	15%	55%	100%

4. We strongly advise all students to take TAs seriously as these will provide important information about their subject mastery and learning gaps. Any absences **must be** supported by a Medical Certificate or reason deemed valid by the school.

5. Progression to Next Level of Study

- The progression of students from one level to the next is based on the year-long assessment of whether students have attained the required foundation to cope with and benefit from the next level. Students who do not meet the promotion criteria may be retained or laterally transferred to a less demanding course. The following table outlines the criteria for progression for Secondary 3.

Course	Requirement for Promotion	Lateral Transfer to more demanding stream
Students offering subjects mainly at G3 / Express level	Pass in English Language and 2 other subjects	-
Students offering subjects mainly at G2 / Normal (Academic) level	(a) Pass in English Language and 2 other subjects <u>OR</u> (b) Pass 4 subjects	-
Students offering subjects mainly at G1 / Normal (Technical) level	Pass 2 subjects (Grade D or better), one of which should be English Language or Mathematics	<u>Sec 3 students</u> who have met the promotion criteria and attained a minimum of 70% in the overall percentage of all subjects combined may be considered for lateral transfer to N(A) course with teachers' recommendation(s). This will be at the same level i.e. Sec 3 N(T) to Sec 3 N(A).

6. Termly result slips will be issued to keep parents/guardians informed of their child's/ward's progress. Please note that Form Teachers may meet or speak with parents/guardians of selected students following the release of termly result slips.
7. Should you need any clarification, please feel free to contact your child/ward's Form Teacher. We seek your support in ensuring that your child/ward prepares well for all assessments.

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B Chen', with a small flourish at the end.

MR BENJAMIN CHEN
VICE-PRINCIPAL

Annex

2025 Term Assessment Schedule - Secondary Three

TERM 1

Level/Stream	W5	W6	W7	W8
	3/2 to 7/2	10/2 to 14/2	17/2 to 21/2	24/2 to 28/2
3 Exp	ART (AA)		Additional Mathematics (PP)	
	Design & Technology (AA)		Geography Elective (PP)	
	English Language (AA)		History Elective (PP)	
	Mathematics (PP)		Literature (PP)	
	Mother Tongue (PP)		Pure Biology (PP)	
			Pure Chemistry (PP)	
			Pure Geography (PP)	
			Pure Physics (PP)	
			Science [Chem/Bio] (PP)	
			Science [Phy/Chem] (PP)	
			Social Studies (PP)	

Level/Stream	W5	W6	W7	W8
	3/2 to 7/2	10/2 to 14/2	17/2 to 21/2	24/2 to 28/2
3 NA	ART (AA)		Additional Mathematics (PP)	
	Design & Technology (AA)		Geography Elective (PP)	
	English Language (AA)		History Elective (PP)	
	Mother Tongue (PP)		Literature (PP)	
	Nutrition & Food Science (AA)		Science [Chem] (AA) Practical	
	Mathematics (PP)		Science [Bio] (AA) Practical	
	Science [Phy] (AA) Practical		Social Studies (PP)	

Level/Stream	W5	W6	W7	W8
	3/2 to 7/2	10/2 to 14/2	17/2 to 21/2	24/2 to 28/2
3 NT	English Language (AA)		Design & Technology (AA)	
	Mother Tongue (PP)		Element of Business Skills (PP)	
	Science (AA) Project		Mathematics (PP)	

TERM 2

Level/Stream	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7	W8
	31/3 to 4/4	7/4 to 11/4	14/4 to 18/4	21/4 to 25/4	28/4 to 2/5	5/5 to 9/5
3 Exp	English Language (PP)	Mathematics (AA)		English Language Oral [5 May]		English Language Oral
		ART (AA)		Geography Elective (PP)		
		Design & Technology (AA)		History Elective (PP)		
		English Language Oral [17 Apr]		Literature (PP)		
		Pure Physics (PP)		Additional Mathematics (AA)		
				Mother Tongue (AA)		
				Pure Biology (PP)		
				Pure Chemistry (PP)		
				Pure Geography (PP)		
				Science [Chem/Bio] (PP)		
				Science [Phy/Chem] (PP)		
		Social Studies (AA)				

Level/Stream	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7	W8
	31/3 to 4/4	7/4 to 11/4	14/4 to 18/4	21/4 to 25/4	28/4 to 2/5	5/5 to 9/5
3 NA	English Language (PP)	ART (AA)		Additional Mathematics (PP)		English Language 'O' Oral
	English Language 'NA' Oral [10 Apr]	Design & Technology (AA)		Geography Elective (AA)		
		English Language 'NA' Oral [14 Apr]		History Elective (PP)		
		Nutrition & Food Science (PP)		Literature (PP)		
		Mathematics (PP)		Mother Tongue (AA)		
		English Language 'O' Oral [17 Apr]		Science [Chem/Bio] (PP)		
				Science [Phy/Chem] (PP)		
				Social Studies (AA)		

Level/Stream	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7
	31/3 to 4/4	7/4 to 11/4	14/4 to 18/4	21/4 to 25/4	28/4 to 2/5
3 NT	English Language (PP)	English Language 'NT' Oral [10 Apr]		Design & Technology (AA)	
		Science (AA) Practical		Element of Business Skills (PP)	
		English Language 'NA' Oral [10 & 14 Apr]		Mathematics (PP)	
				Mother Tongue (AA)	

TERM 3

Level/Stream	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7
	14/7 to 18/7	21/7 to 25/7	28/7 to 1/8	4/8 to 8/8	11/8 to 15/8
3 Exp	English Language (PP)	Mathematics (PP)		Geography Elective (PP)	
		ART (AA)		History (AA)	
		Design & Technology (AA)		Literature (AA)	
		Mother Tongue (PP)		Additional Mathematics (PP)	
		Pure Physics (AA) Practical		Pure Biology (AA) Practical	
		Science [Chem] (AA) Practical		Pure Chemistry (AA) Practical	
		Science [Physics] (AA) Practical		Pure Geography (AA)	
				Science [Bio] (AA) Practical	
				Social Studies (PP)	

Level/Stream	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7
	14/7 to 18/7	21/7 to 25/7	28/7 to 1/8	4/8 to 8/8	11/8 to 15/8
3 NA	English Language (PP)	Mathematics (PP)		Geography Elective (PP)	
		ART (AA)		History (AA)	
		Design & Technology (AA)		Literature (AA)	
		Mother Tongue (PP)		Additional Mathematics (PP)	
		Nutrition & Food Science (AA)		Social Studies (PP)	
		Science [Chem/Bio] (PP)			
		Science [Phy/Chem] (PP)			

Level/Stream	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7
	14/7 to 18/7	21/7 to 25/7	28/7 to 1/8	4/8 to 8/8	11/8 to 15/8
3 NT	English Language (PP)	Mother Tongue (PP)		Design & Technology (AA)	
				Element of Business Skills (AA)	
				Mathematics (PP)	
				Science (PP)	

Notes

- All PPs will be conducted during curriculum time (i.e. during timetabled lessons for the relevant subject, unless otherwise stated)
- The duration of each PP will typically be 45 min, with minor differences based on individual subject requirements.
- Subject teachers will inform students of the exact assessment dates nearer the relevant assessment window. Teachers will also inform students if there are any changes to assessment windows for a specific subject.