

APSN Katong School

FAQ collated from PUBLIC TALKS

ADMISSION MATTERS	
Q1	What is the admission criteria for Katong School?
	Katong School caters to children between 7 and 16 years old, with Mild Intellectual Disability (MID) IQ range 50-70.
Q2	How do I know if Katong School is suitable for my child?
	You may refer to the “Which School for My Child? A Parent’s guide for children with Special Education Needs” by MOE. It can be found at https://www.moe.gov.sg/docs/default-source/document/education/special-education/files/parents-guide-children-special-educational-needs.pdf . The document contains information about the different special education schools in Singapore and serves a guide to help you understand how to identify a school that best supports your child.
Q3	Can I still apply to Katong School if my child does not meet admission criteria?
	The screening psychologist would have recommended the most appropriate learning setting for your child after completing the psychological assessment. If you still wish to apply for Katong School after the discussion with the psychologist, Katong School may consider the application on a case-by-case basis.
Q4	How do I apply to Katong School?
	<p>Please submit the completed SPED school application form together with all the relevant documents (as listed in Page 2 of the application form) to Katong School. The SPED school application form consists of 4 portions and can be downloaded from:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) https://www.apsn.org.sg/admission-procedures/2) https://www.moe.gov.sg/education/special-education/how-do-i-apply-for-a-place-in-the-school-for-my-child <p>Once we have verified that documents are in order, we will arrange for an admission screening for your child. The results of the admission screening will be made known to you 2 to 6 months from the date of the screening.</p>
Q5	Where can I get the psychological report done?
	The psychological report must be completed by a qualified psychologist. It can be done at the public hospitals or a private psychology clinic. A list of registered psychologists can be found at https://singaporepsychologicalsociety.org/srp-membership-directory/ .
Q6	Which doctor can complete the medical report section?
	The medical report section (Section 3) of the SPED school application form should be completed by a Medical Specialist or General Practitioner (e.g. Family doctor). Please bring along your child’s health booklet for the medical appointment with the Medical Specialist or General Practitioner.

ADMISSION MATTERS	
Q7	What is the admission screening? What is tested during admission screening?
	The admission screening is not a test. The admission screening consists of 2 parts - A classroom observation and a parent interview. During the classroom observation, your child will sit through a regular classroom lesson. He/ She will be observed to help us identify his/ her learning needs for class placement and intervention support. The results of the admission screening would depend on whether or not we are able to support his/ her learning needs.
Q8	Who can I contact for more information about the admission process?
	You may contact our school at 6445 8027 to leave a message for our admissions team. Alternatively, you may email the following staff: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Mdm Amizah Binte Othman, Admissions/Support Officer amizah@apsn.org.sg <input type="checkbox"/> Ms Chang Wei Ling, Psychologist chang.weiling@apsn.org.sg <input type="checkbox"/> Mr Holden Lim, Psychologist holden.lim@apsn.org.sg
Q9	Why do I only submit the SPED school application form to my first choice school?
	The SPED school application form allows parents to state their three preferred SPED schools in a single application, removing the need for multiple applications to different schools. The schools will process the applications and reduce the number of trips to be made and forms to be filled by parents.
Q10	What happens when I submit the SPED school application form to more than 1 school?
	If multiple copies of the SPED school application form were submitted, the application will be processed by the first choice school.
Q11	When is the deadline to submit applications for P1 intake in 2021?
	As part of the intake assessments consists of a classroom observation (subjected to changes due to the evolving COVID-19 situation), we can only do it during school term. The application deadline for P1 intake in 2021 has been extended to the end of July/ early August. Intake assessments would be scheduled based on the dates of receipt of the application forms. You are encouraged to submit the applications as soon as possible.
Q12	Can my child join Katong School in the middle of the academic year?
	Katong School could admit students on a monthly basis except during the school holidays.
Q13	What happens if the application to Katong School is not successful?
	In the event that Katong School is unable to meet your child's current learning needs, the school will seek advice from MOE's Multi-Agency Advisory Panel (MAAP) to review the other 2 options or recommend an alternative SPED school that can meet your child's learning needs.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Q1 What are the school hours?

The school operates in two sessions. The morning session caters to secondary students from 13 to 16 years old. The afternoon session is for primary students from 7 to 12 years old. The school hours are as follows:

AM SESSION

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
School Hours	8.00am to 1.00pm	8.00am to 1.00pm	8.00am to 12.30pm	8.00am to 12.30pm	8.00am to 11.30am
Recess	Secondary 1 & 2: 9.30am to 10.00am				
	Secondary 3 & 4: 10.00am to 10.30am				

* Students will report to school by 7.45am.

PM SESSION

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
School Hours	12.30pm to 5.15pm	12.30pm to 5.15pm	12.30pm to 5pm	12.30pm to 5pm	1.00pm to 5pm
Recess	Pri 1 to 4	2.00pm to 2.30pm			2.30pm to 3.00pm
	Pri 5 & 6	2.30pm to 3.00pm			3.00pm to 3.30pm

* Students will report to school by 12.15pm from Mondays to Thursdays and by 12.45pm on Fridays.

Q2 How much is the school fees?

School fees is \$20 for Singapore citizens and permanent residents. Foreign students on the Dependent Pass and Long Term Visit Pass will be given 2 years of concessionary rate at \$20. After which, they will be charged at the non-subsidised rate at \$4,080 per month, subject to changes by MOE.

Q3 Is school bus available?

School bus service is available and the fees depend on the distance between Katong School and the pick-up/drop-off points. You may contact the school bus operator, Mr Tony Yeo, at 9858 8099 for more details.

Q4 My child has MID/ASD. Will he need to serve National Service (NS)?

Your child would still be required to register for NS upon receipt of the NS Registration Notice. The Ministry of Defence (MINDEF) would assess whether or not your child would be fit to serve his NS. A letter from Katong School certifying that your child has attended a SPED school can be issued to you. This letter could be submitted with all medical reports for the NS medical screening.

CURRICULUM	
Q1	Does my child need to take any exam?
	<p>Our students do not need to sit for the National Examinations (e.g. PSLE, 'O' and 'N' levels). At 16 years old, they will sit for the Workplace Literacy and Numeracy (WPLN) assessment which will be used for course placement in the post-secondary vocational education institutions.</p> <p>Teachers will conduct school-based assessment regularly to monitor your child's learning progress and adjust the pace of teaching to provide necessary support.</p>
Q2	Does my child need to learn Mother Tongue?
	All students attending Special Education (SPED) schools in Singapore are exempted from learning the Mother Tongue (MT) language. Hence, the school does not have this subject in the curriculum.
Q3	Are the teachers trained?
	Teachers have to go through training at National Institute of Education (NIE) to be a trained SPED teacher.
Q4	How many students are there in the class?
	On the average, we have about 8 to 12 students in a class. For students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) who may require more support, they will be placed in smaller class size of about 4 students. A teacher aide may be deployed to the class depending on the needs of the students.
Q5	Can we be in school when my child starts school?
	On the first day of school, you can send your child to the class if your child needs your presence in an unfamiliar setting. Once the teacher starts the lesson, you can leave your child with the teacher. The teachers will communicate with you regularly to update on your child's progress.
Q6	My child needs help in his speech. Can the school help?
	The school has a team of Allied Professionals (APs) comprising Occupational Therapists, Speech Language Therapists, Psychologists and Social Workers, who will work with teachers to support the students. Teachers will refer students to the APs and your child who needs help in his speech will be supported by the Speech Language Therapists.
Q7	Do we get to meet the teachers to discuss about my child's progress?
	The school conducts Parent-Teacher Conference (PTC) 3 times a year for teachers and parents to discuss the child's Individual Education Plan (IEP) and progress. The first meeting is to set common goals in the IEP that the teachers will be working on your child. Teachers will then update you the progress at the second meeting. At the last meeting, you will be presented the overall progress that your child has made at the end of the year.

CURRICULUM

Q8	What are the subjects taught in Katong School? What will my child learn in Katong School?
	Students in the Primary levels are taught Functional Academics, Social Emotional, Daily Living Skills, Physical Education and Sports, as well as Visual and Performing Arts. At the Secondary level, Vocational Education will be included. Information Communication Technology and Character and Citizenship Education are integrated in the lessons across the levels.
Q9	What happens after my child completes Secondary 4?
	After completing Secondary 4, you may consider sending your child to APSN Delta Senior School or other SPED schools that offer post-secondary vocational education.
Q10	Can my child go to ITE after Secondary 4?
	After completing Secondary 4, students may join a post-secondary vocational education institution and will continue to take the WPLN assessment. At the end of their post-secondary vocational education, they may use the WPLN scores to apply for NITEC courses in ITE.