

Education

Over the years, Singapore education system has produced students who excel in both academic and vocational studies.

Our government understands the importance of a high level of education in our country and invests over S\$6 billion yearly to develop and operate its education system for over half a million students.

In the last decade, Singapore's education system has achieved various thematic goals:

- 1) **“Thinking Schools, Learning Nation”**: Adopted in 1997, this was Singapore's vision to produce a nation of thinking and committed citizens, conscious of their responsibilities to their family, society and ultimately, their country.
- 2) **“Innovation and Enterprise”**: Launched in 2003, this focused on developing creative thinking and entrepreneurial skills among students and staff, as part of the country's drive towards a knowledge-based economy.
- 3) **“Teach Less, Learn More”**: Since 2004, following Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong's call to Teach Less, Learn More (TLLM), emphasis is now placed on improving teaching effectiveness, enhancing the quality of interaction between teachers and students, and equipping students with the knowledge, skills and values to prepare them for life beyond their school environment.

Singapore's education system has gradually moved towards a more flexible and diverse system, aimed at providing students with greater variety to cater to their different strengths and interests. For example, upon completing their primary education, students can choose from a wide range of education institutions and programmes to allow for maximum development.

Our schooling system also features a high-standard training syllabus and curriculum for its students. The Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) has become a sought after assessment package that schools abroad have come to recognise and adopt.

Results have shown that our education system has evolved over the years to produce a steady performance on an upward trend. In 2007, the overall percentage for a Primary 1 cohort admitted to post-secondary institutions, including private educational organisations, was 93%. This has been seen as a milestone as compared to a smaller 73% in 1996.

The overall proportion of GCE 'O' level students with at least 3 'O' level passes has also exceeded 95% in 2006, as compared to 91% in 1997, clearly reflecting our country's constant improvement in the education system.

This constant reviewing of our education policy is essential in preparing the country for the challenges ahead to mould our future generation.

All information is accurate as of December 2009