



Supporting Our Teens in Choosing Post-Secondary Pathways

Our teens will soon be pursuing their next phase of learning. We may be wondering about the pathways available to them and how we can guide them on their options.

Get started [here](#) to learn about the post-secondary options available for our teens to pursue based on their interests and strengths.

Here are also **4 tips** for us as parents.



2. Hear our teens out

Ask them about their thoughts and feelings on their strengths, aspirations and choice of pathways. Make them feel heard.

If we observe some of their interests and strengths, validate it by asking them directly.

Discuss with them about how they would like to be supported. Assure them of our support.

Try these conversation starters

- **Which** subject(s) in school interest(s) you the most?
- **Which** lessons do you feel the most engaged in and **why**?
- **What** are some occupations or areas that interest you?
- **Why** are you keen on these?
- Is this an area you can see yourself contributing to in the future and **how**?

1. Take a step back from our own expectations

Every teen is unique. Encourage them to think through their options by recognising their own strengths, interests and learning styles.

Offer advice but avoid pressuring them to qualify for a certain pathway based on our own expectations and experiences.



Consider these factors

- **Overall interest** in the course
- **Distance to travel** between home and school
- **Duration** of study
- **Future** work opportunities related to your teens' interests
- **Learning styles** (i.e. visual, auditory) and **Modes** (i.e. methods and environments – individual, group, online, experiential)
- **Cost** of the post-secondary option
- **Scholarship** opportunities

3. It's okay to be uncertain (this applies to parents too)

Sometimes, our teens may not be certain about what they want to do after secondary school. We ourselves may also be uncertain. Don't worry - there is support around.

Seek Support through these channels

- **Support Circles**
Encourage our teens to reach out to like-minded friends to motivate one another. Speak to seniors who have progressed to post-secondary levels to find out more.
- **Fellow Parents**
Reach out to our own social circle to connect with fellow parents at the same stage or other parents who have been through post-secondary pathways with their children to encourage and motivate one another. Attend parent seminars.
- **Education and Career Guidance (ECG)**
Encourage our teens to speak with their ECG counsellor in school and seek advice on post-secondary pathways.

4. Knowledge is power

Together with our teens, learn more about the various post-secondary options through the following resources.

- **For an overview** of MOE's pathways for students taking the O- and N-levels, **refer to pages 3 to 6.**
- **For Education and Career Guidance Resources** to support our teens, **[click here.](#)**
- **For the latest updates** on post-secondary education, **[click here.](#)**

Be open to the education and career pathways and discuss them with our teens.

Keep an eye out for Open House dates on the AIs, JC/CI, ITE and Polytechnics' social media or websites. Encourage our teens to attend them or attend some with them too!

A WORLD BEYOND SCHOOL

Check out MOE's '[A World Beyond School](#)' online series that bring to you industry experts, parents and youths who share about the world of work.

As we advise our teens, let's also value their thoughts and opinions so that they feel empowered and supported.

"I tried my best to respect my daughter's choice of polytechnic course by being supportive. She showed me that she did her research about the course and knows how it will benefit her in future. It helped me feel confident - that's how she won me over."

- Parent of Year 3 Polytechnic Student



Missed our last issue or want to see more?
[Click here](#)



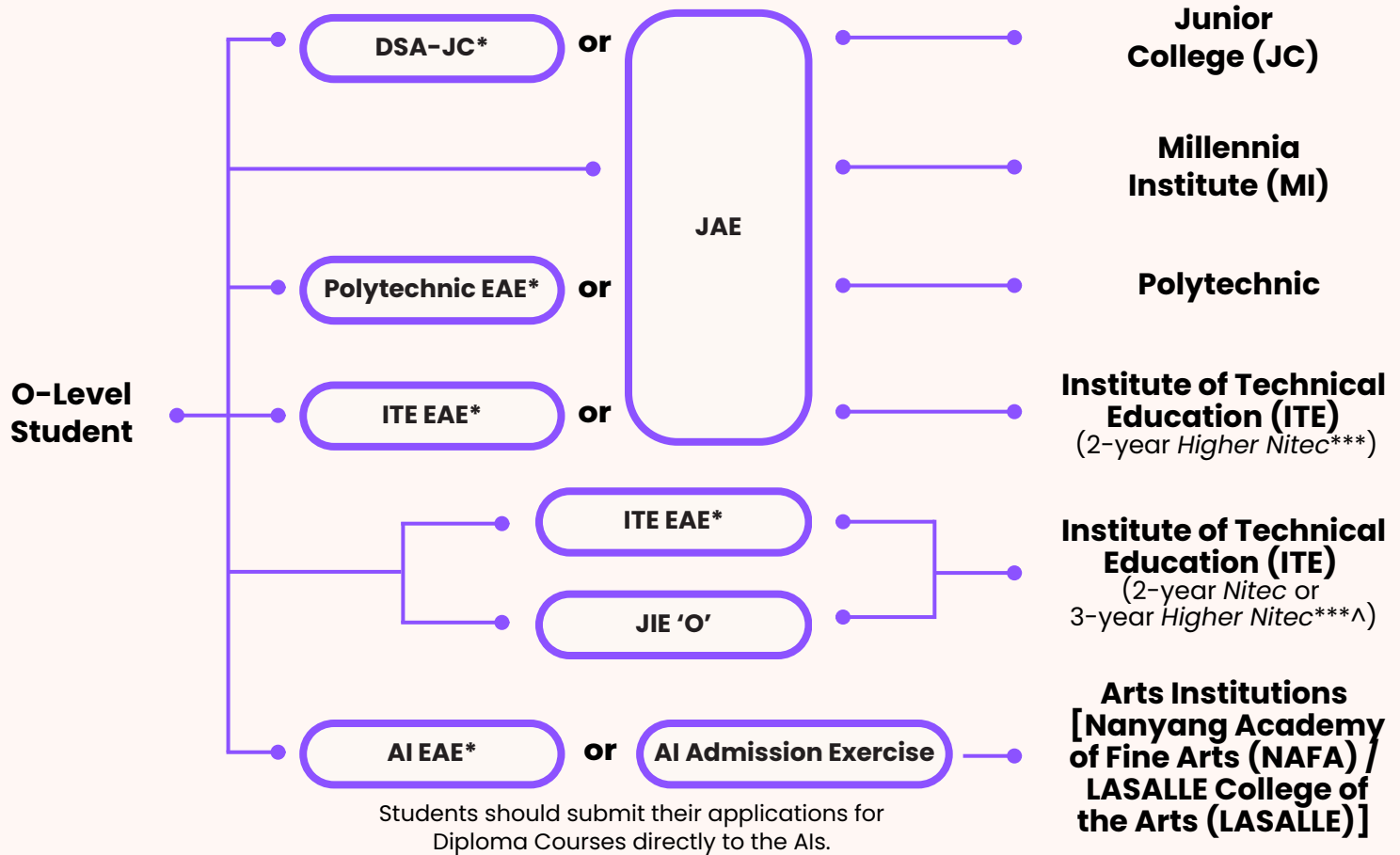
Check out our Instagram account for parents
[@parentingwith.moeg.](#)

Post-Secondary Admissions Exercises for O-Level Students

Where am I now?

What admissions exercises can I take part in?

Where do I want to go?



When can I start to apply?

May

- DSA-JC*
- ITE EAE*
- AI EAE* (LASALLE)

Jun

- Polytechnic EAE*
- AI EAE* (NAFA)

(O-Level Exams)

Oct/Nov

- LASALLE**
- NAFA**

(O-Level Results)

Jan

- JAE
- JIE 'O'

..... O-Level Student

*Students apply through these admissions exercises before their O-Level examinations.

**Application to LASALLE's and NAFA's diploma programmes starts from October.

***Selected *Nitec* and *Higher Nitec* courses are available in traineeship mode.

^For the list of 3-year *Higher Nitec* courses, please visit [here](#).

For more information on applying to these courses, you can visit [here](#).

Details of Admissions Exercises

Arts Institutions – NAFA/LASALLE

GCE O-Level holders with the aptitude and interest to pursue the creative arts at the tertiary level may apply for diploma programmes at the Arts Institutions (AIs). Each AI runs its own admissions exercise, and interested students should apply directly to the institution.

The AIs also run their own Early Admission Exercise, an aptitude-based admissions exercise open to graduating O-Level students, final-year *Nitec* and *Higher Nitec* students from ITE and graduating Integrated Programme (IP) / International Baccalaureate (IB) Year 4 students. This exercise allows students to apply for and receive conditional offers for admission to NAFA and LASALLE prior to receiving their final grades.

NAFA: go.gov.sg/applynafa

LASALLE: go.gov.sg/applylasalle

ITE EAE – ITE Early Admissions Exercise

ITE EAE is an aptitude-based admissions exercise that allows students to apply for and receive conditional offers for admission to ITE prior to receiving their final O-Level examination results. It allows ITE flexibility to admit students based on demonstrated aptitudes and interest, apart from academic grades, thus allowing a wider range of talents to be recognised.

ITE EAE: go.gov.sg/iteeae

DSA-JC – Direct School Admission for Junior Colleges

DSA provides students with the opportunity to seek admission to JCs based on a broader range of talents and achievements.

DSA-JC: go.gov.sg/applydsajc

JAE – Joint Admissions Exercise

JAE enables GCE O-level holders to apply for courses offered by JCs, MI, polytechnics and ITE (2-year *Higher Nitec* courses).

JAE: go.gov.sg/applyjae

JIE 'O' – Joint Intake Exercise 'O'

The JIE 'O' is conducted to enable GCE O-Level holders to apply for the 2-year *Nitec* or 3-year *Higher Nitec* courses conducted by ITE.

JIE 'O': go.gov.sg/applyjie

Polytechnic EAE – Polytechnic Early Admissions Exercise

Polytechnic EAE is an aptitude-based admissions exercise that allows students to apply for and receive conditional offers for admission to polytechnics prior to receiving their final O-Level examination results. It allows polytechnics flexibility to admit students based on demonstrated aptitudes and interests, apart from academic grades, thus allowing a wider range of talents to be recognised.

Polytechnic EAE: go.gov.sg/polyeae

Post-Secondary Admissions Exercises for N-Level Students

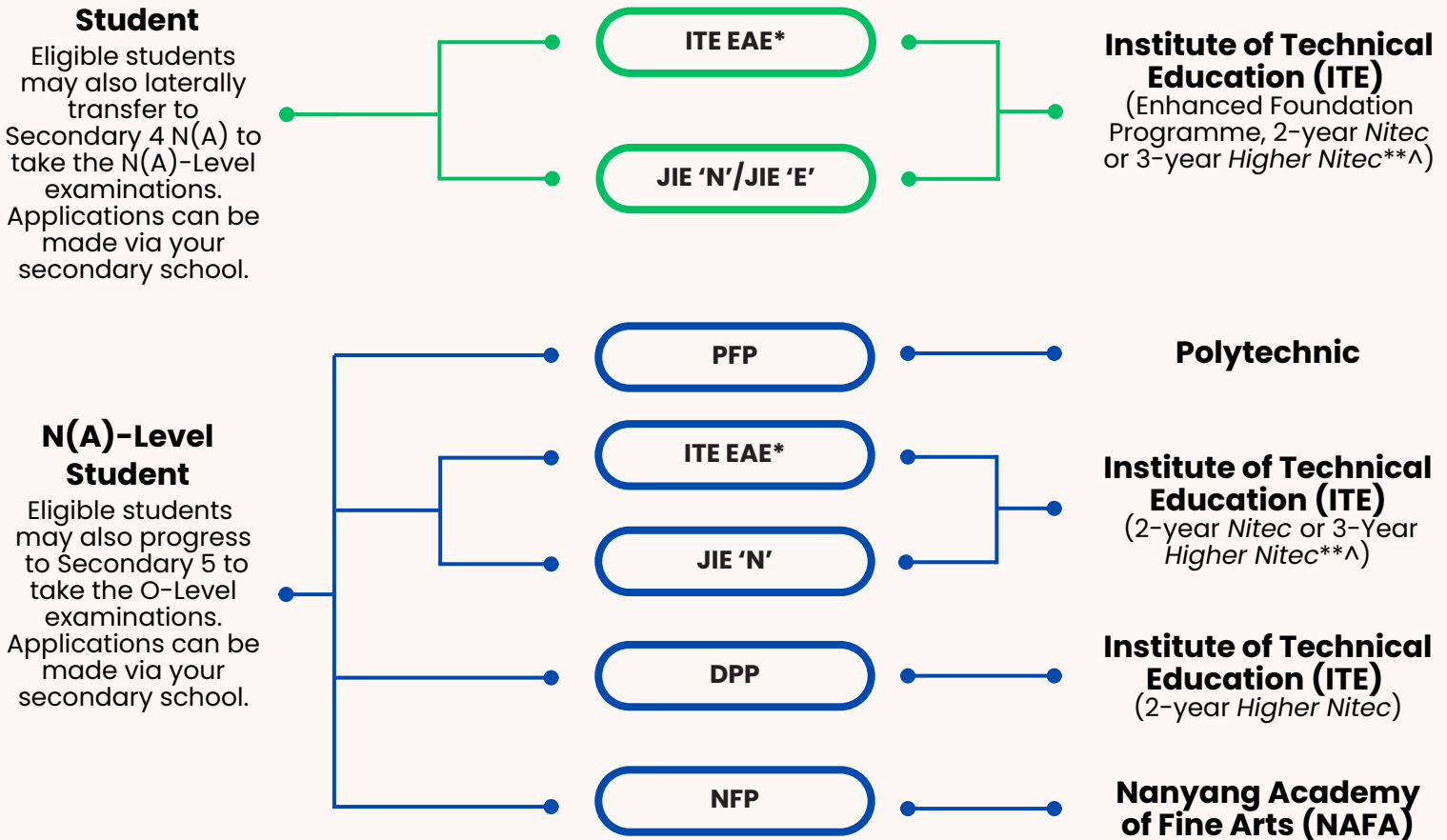
Where am I now?

N(T)-Level Student

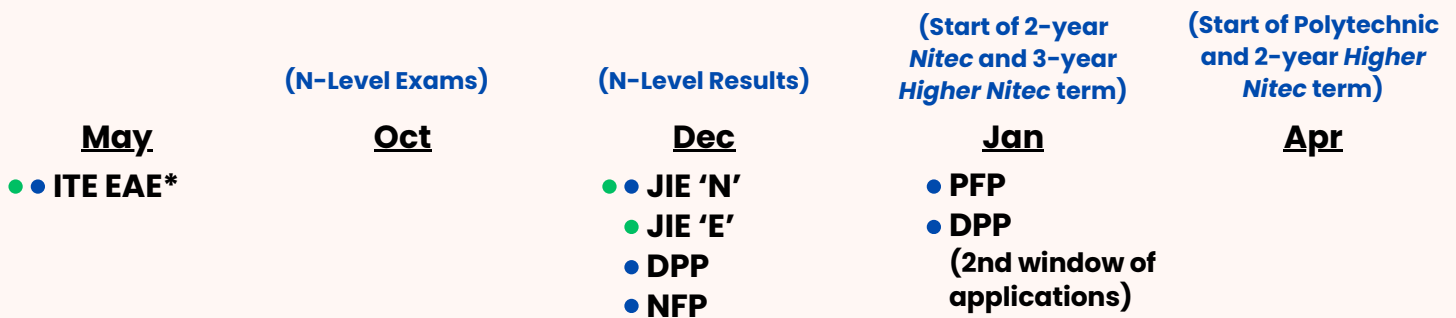
Eligible students may also laterally transfer to Secondary 4 N(A) to take the N(A)-Level examinations. Applications can be made via your secondary school.

What admissions exercises can I take part in?

Where do I want to go?



When can I start to apply?



..... N(T)-Level Student
 N(A)-Level Student

*Students can apply through these admissions exercises before their examinations.

**Selected Nitec and Higher Nitec courses are available in traineeship mode.

^For the list of 3-year Higher Nitec courses, please visit [here](#).

For more information on applying to these courses, you can visit [here](#).

Details of Admissions Exercises

DPP – Direct-Entry-Scheme to Polytechnic Programme

DPP allows Secondary 4N(A) students to be admitted directly into selected 2-year *Higher Nitec* programmes at ITE without having to sit for the O-Level examinations or undergo a *Nitec* programme. DPP students who successfully complete their *Higher Nitec* courses at ITE and attain the required qualifying Grade Point Average (GPA) scores are guaranteed a place in a polytechnic diploma course mapped to their *Higher Nitec* course.

DPP: go.gov.sg/applydpp

JIE 'N'/JIE 'E' – Joint Intake Exercise

The JIE 'N' is for 2-year *Nitec* or 3-year *Higher Nitec* courses offered by ITE. The JIE 'E' is for GCE N(T) students to apply for the 3-year *Nitec* course with Enhanced *Nitec* Foundation Programme.

JIE 'N'/JIE 'E': go.gov.sg/applyjie

PFP – Polytechnic Foundation Programme

PFP is a one-year programme that offers a practice-oriented curriculum taught by polytechnic lecturers to better prepare polytechnic-bound Secondary 4 N(A) students for entry into selected polytechnic diploma courses. PFP students are given provisional places in diploma programmes, subject to them passing all modules in the one-year programme.

PFP: go.gov.sg/pfp

ITE EAE – ITE Early Admissions Exercise

ITE EAE is an aptitude-based admissions exercise that allows students to apply and receive conditional offers for admission to ITE based on their aptitude and interest, prior to receiving their final GCE N-Level examination results. It allows students to demonstrate their aptitudes and interests apart from academic grades, thus allowing a wider range of talents to be recognised.

ITE EAE: go.gov.sg/iteeae

NFP – NAFA Foundation Programme

NFP is a one-year practice-based programme that prepares N(A) Level holders to pursue a diploma in the creative arts. NFP students who successfully complete the programme will be offered a place in their chosen diploma course at NAFA.

NFP: go.gov.sg/applynafafp