



Singapore Education System

An education model for 21st Century

[Link to Storyboard I - A Model for Sustainable Transport System - Lessons from London Public Transport Model](#)

Standing at the Top



Singapore ranks first in all performance verticals of the Programme for International Student Assessment (**PISA**) study by OECD including in mathematics, science and reading abilities

Tops global education rankings - TIMSS - Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study 2015

Education had a key role to play in Singapore's transition to a developed country

Singapore has achieved this with tax to gdp ratio of 14.2% which is less than that of India

112.9%

**Combined Enrollment
Ratio**

1:14

Teacher Pupil Ratio

2.7%

**Education spending as a
percentage of GDP**

Pillars supporting the Singapore Education System

- 1 Systemic Coherence
- 2 Evidence Based Policy Making and Commitment in Implementation
- 3 High Quality Teachers and School Leaders
- 4 Futuristic Outlook

Systematic Coherence - Tripartite Relation

MOE*

Responsible for policy development based on inputs from NIE

NIE**

Acts a bridge by feeding dynamic data from research on schooling to the ministry.
Also provides pre-service training to educators

Schools

NIE and Ministry work in coordination to bring the world of work
closer to schools. NIE also monitors schools periodically

Judicious Policy Making

Manpower Planning Approach - Identifying critical manpower needs and future skills projection to inform education planning. Idea is to move students to growing sectors and reduce oversupply in certain sectors

Policy alignment with changing needs - Evidence based policy making

Teaching is not the last resort profession in Singapore

Selection and Retention

Teachers are selected from among the **top 30 %**; passion for teaching is inculcated through **internship programmes**.

Competitive compensation package comparable to other professions in civil services which includes **retention bonuses** and **performance bonuses**.

Enhanced Performance Management System where Teachers' contribution to character development of the students and contribution to the school as a whole is rewarded by a bonus

Career progression

After three years of teaching, teachers are assessed annually and nurtured along three career tracks - Teacher track, Specialist Track, and Leadership track.

Principals are selected after comprehensive and intensive process such as interviews, various stages of assessments and six months of executive leadership training, an international study trip, a project on school innovation



Pedagogy

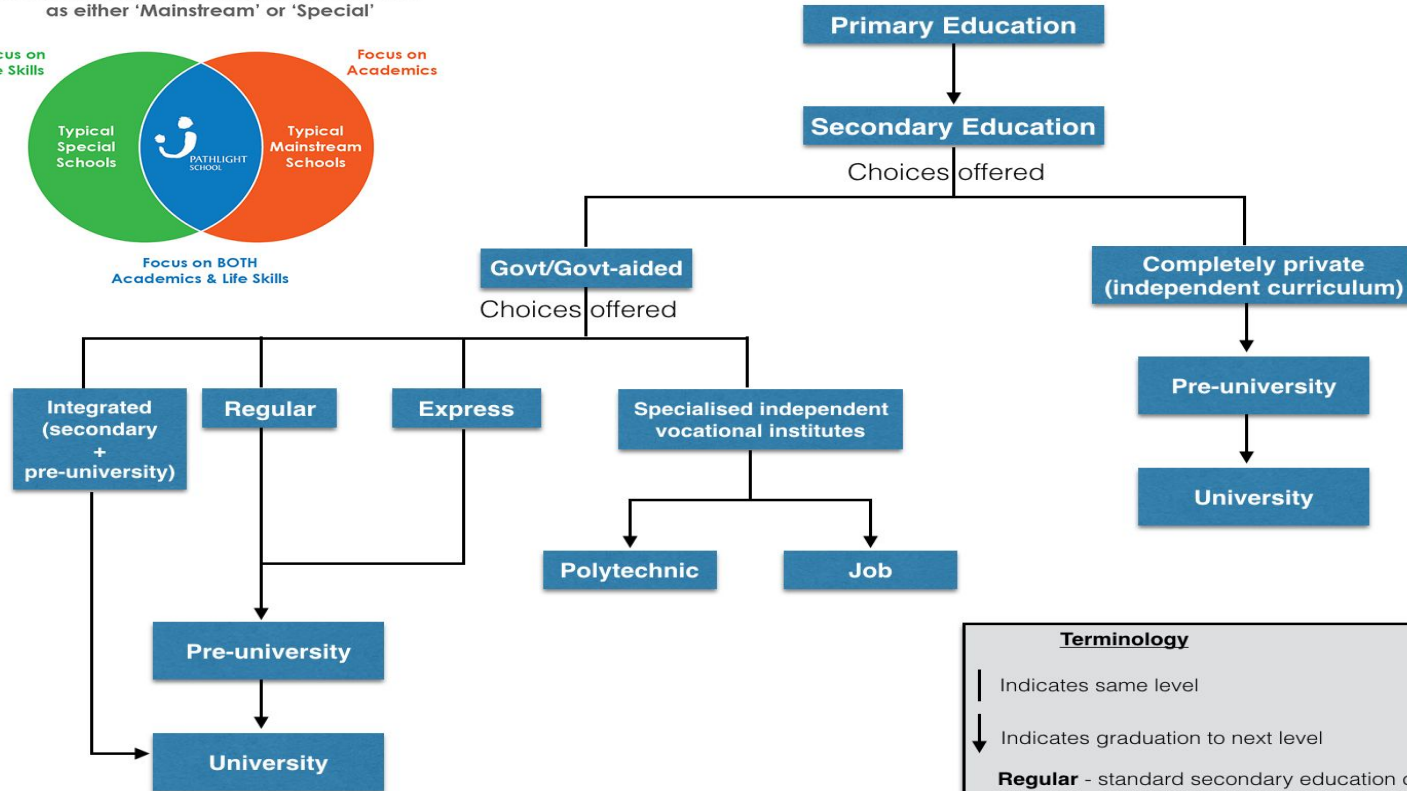
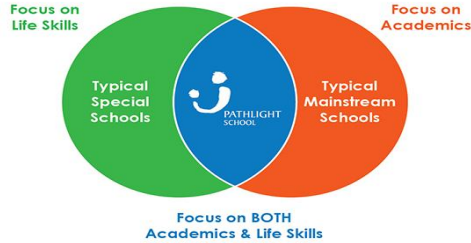
Educational vision of Singapore “Thinking Schools, Learning Nation” emphasises on in-depth understanding and not just grades. Mathematics and science education is by demonstrative learning

- 01 | Flexibility and choice for students to choose a combination of subjects
- 02 | Autonomy to a cluster of schools
- 03 | Learning Support programs for low level achievers
- 04 | Vocational education is seen as applied learning
- 05 | Continuous improvement and incorporating best global practices



Landscape of Education System in Singapore

Education in Singapore is typically classified as either 'Mainstream' or 'Special'



Terminology	
	Indicates same level
↓	Indicates graduation to next level
Regular	- standard secondary education curriculum
Express	- standard secondary education curriculum + practical skills training (music, arts, industry etc.)

Funding the Education

01 HIGHER EDUSAVE CONTRIBUTIONS



1. All aided schools receive **Opportunity Fund**, to use for their low-income students and students from ethnic minority groups.
2. **EDUSAVE grants**, a corpus currently at 1.5 Bn dollars, from which annual incentives are given to every Singaporean child aged 7-16 upon completing each stage of schooling. Budgetary allocations are set aside for Edusave.
3. MOE gives separate Grants, depending on the Gross Household Income. Accordingly waivers are given for upto 70 % Subsidy on school fee.

Learnings for India



- **Appropriate allocation of resources focussing on learning outcomes**
- **Making vocational education as applied learning**
- **Revamping the teacher education and orientation system**
- **Specialized schooling system can adopted**
- **Decentralised education planning and evidence policy making is tackle the poor outcomes**
- **Autonomy to regulatory bodies**