



P4 SUBJECT BRIEFING MOTHER TONGUE



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What is Mother Tongue Language

Mother Tongue Language (MTL) is offered in Singapore schools as a second language. It is a compulsory subject. There are 3 official MTLs:

- Chinese
- Malay
- Tamil



- Students of Chinese, Malay and Indian ethnicities will study their own MTLs.
- Non-Tamil speaking students of Indian ethnicity can apply to study Non-Tamil Indian Language (Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Punjabi or Urdu).
- These languages are **conducted outside of school premises and hours**. You may want to find out more information from the Board for the Teaching and Testing of South Asian Languages' website.



- Students registered with a double-barreled race will be assigned a MTL based on the first component of their double-barreled race. Those who wish to study a MTL based on the second component of their race may apply to do so through their schools.
- Students who are Eurasian or of other races, and whose mother tongue is not one of the official MTLs, can request to study any of the official MTLs through their schools, subject to approval.





Mother Tongue Language Syllabus



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Mother Tongue Language Syllabus

- The Mother Tongue Language curriculum focuses on **listening, speaking, reading, writing and interaction skills.**
- Your child can progress to different levels of proficiency. For example, to learn Higher Mother Tongue language based on each's ability and interest.



Listening



Speaking



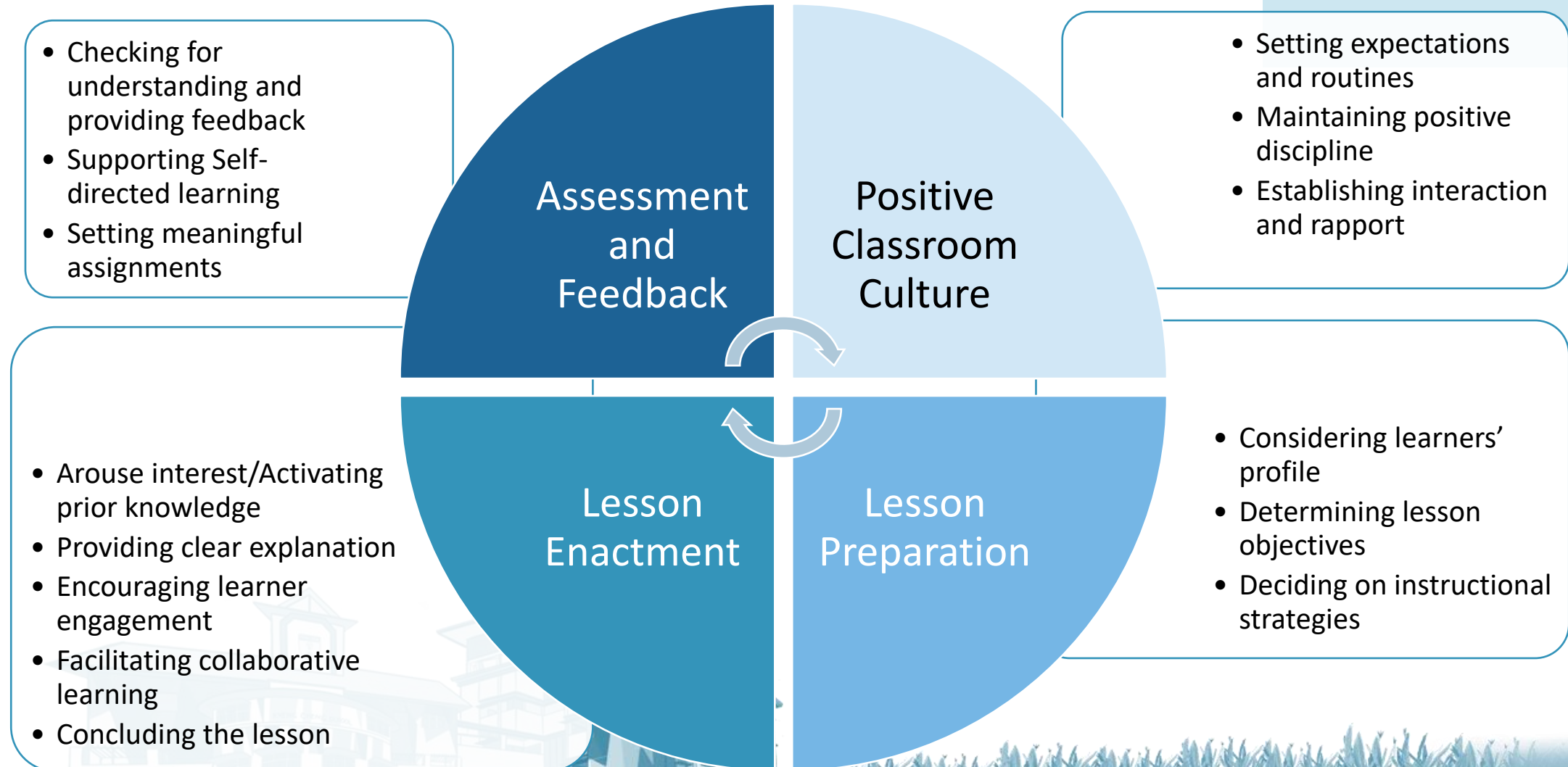
Reading



Writing



The Four Teaching Processes and Teaching Areas



Key Mother Tongue Programmes

- Structured Reading Programme
- Mother Tongue Language Fiesta



Assessment

Focus on:

- listening
- speaking (reading aloud and picture conversation)
- reading (comprehension)
- writing (based on a set of pictures).



Selection Criteria for P5 Higher Mother Tongue

- 1) Achieve an overall score of 85% in Standard Mother Tongue.
- 2) Strongly recommended by Mother Tongue teacher.



How are lessons carried out for HMTL at P3 and P4 level?

MOE recommends 2 additional periods per week

For HCL	For HCL, the textbook includes literary-based texts which would require two additional periods per week to provide an enjoyable early experience to ethnic literature and cultural knowledge.
For HML or HTL	For HML and HTL at P3 and P4, school will adopt Banded class/ differentiated instruction in a mixed ability class/ after school

- **HTML at P3 & P4 will be reflected as a non-weighted assessment.**

How to help your child?

- If you are able to speak your Mother Tongue, try to speak with your child at home. As the child practices conversations, he or she repeats the new language structures in his or her mind.
- Otherwise, you may provide your child with a conducive environment for reading and watching programmes that are in Mother Tongue language.



- Monitor your child and **ensure that he or she completes homework and revises consistently at home.**
- Do keep a **MT journal** at home. Whether it is new expressions or full sentences, **revising and repeating new language structures** every day helps your child to build confidence.



A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step
千里之行始于足下



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