ST. JOSEPH’S INSTITUTION
DIRECT SCHOOL ADMISSION EXERCISE FOR ADMISSION TO SECONDARY 1 IN 2016

FREQUENTLYASKED QUESTIONS FOR DSA SECONDARY 1

1. DSA

a) What is DSA?

DSA, introduced in 2004, stands for Direct School Admission. This annual exercise provides students with the opportunity to demonstrate a more diverse range of achievements and talents in seeking admission to participating schools. It also provides participating schools greater flexibility in admitting students while holding on to the key principles of transparency and meritocracy.

b) What programme is the SJI DSA for?

The SJI DSA will be for:

- Integrated Programme (through academic and sport talents)
- ‘O’ Level Programme (through sport talents)

The sport talents that we are seeking are in the areas of Athletics, Badminton, Football, Gymnastics, Hockey, Rugby, Sailing, Squash and Table-tennis.

c) Who is it for?

The SJI DSA Exercise 2015 is for boys in Primary 6 in 2015.

d) How many DSA applications did SJI receive in 2014?

SJI received about 400 DSA applications in 2014.

e) Will SJI consider applicants with other sport talents other than those stated?

SJI’s niche sports are Athletics, Badminton, Football, Gymnastics, Hockey, Rugby, Sailing, Squash and Table-tennis. As most sports require a team of participants, it is unlikely that applicants with other sport talents will be considered.

f) If I am applying for DSA IP (Sports) can I also apply for DSA ‘O’ Level (Sports)?

Yes, there is a field in the online form for you to indicate that should you be unsuccessful in your application for DSA IP (Sports) to be considered for DSA ‘O’ Level (Sports).

g) Will SJI consider applicants for DSA ‘O’ Level Academic?

No. The DSA ‘O’ Level is only for talent in Sport in the niche areas as indicated.
h) When and how do I apply?

Online application opens on 18 May 2015 at 12 noon and closes on 1 July 2015 at 12 noon. Applicants can access the online form at [http://www.sji.edu.sg/dsasec1](http://www.sji.edu.sg/dsasec1).

Applicants for the DSA IP are advised to log on to [http://www.gat.sg](http://www.gat.sg) to register for the General Ability Test (GAT) prior to logging on to the SJI website to complete the online application form.

Upon completion and submission of the online application form to SJI, a hardcopy of the completed form is to be printed and submitted with the supporting documents to the SJI Administration Office.

The application is considered complete when:

- The online application has been made;
- All documents listed in the application form have been submitted AND
- For applicants of DSA IP – the applicant has registered and sat for the GAT.

i) Do you accept applications from students from international schools or home-schooled?

Yes, but you are required to approach the Ministry of Education’s (MOE) Customer Service Centre to obtain a registration (RG) or CE number. A photocopy of letter with the RG or CE number issued by MOE is to be attached to application form submitted to SJI.

j) Do I have to submit the forms personally?

Yes, as this will enable the Student Services and Programmes Office to check through the documentation required and also enable us to return an acknowledgement form that the application is submitted. The hardcopy of the completed application form and its supporting documents would have to be submitted to SJI by 1 July 2015, 3.00pm. The Student Services and Programmes Office is open Mondays to Fridays, 8.30am to 3.00pm. It is closed on Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays.

2. GENERAL ABILITY TEST (GAT)

a) What is GAT?

GAT stands for General Ability Test. It measures a candidate’s competence in a range of areas such as critical thinking, abstract reasoning, numerical reasoning, verbal reasoning and so forth. The test is administered by the Principals’ Academy Inc (PAI) for most IP schools in Singapore. You can log on to [http://www.gat.sg](http://www.gat.sg) for more information on GAT. Enquiries on GAT can be directed to register@gat.sg or telephone: 6363 0330.

All applicants, except GEP students, for the SJI DSA IP MUST sit for the GAT.

b) How do I register for GAT?

Please log on to [http://www.gat.sg](http://www.gat.sg) from May 2015 to select a test date.

c) When will I receive the GAT result?

The GAT results will be forwarded directly to SJI and will not be made known to the applicant.
INTERVIEWS AND SPORT TRIALS

a) Will there be interviews and sport trials? When will I know if I need to attend the interview/sport trials?

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to an interview and/or sport trials. Communication will be made via email or phone by the 2nd week of July 2015.

The interviews and sport trials will be conducted from mid-July 2015 to mid-August 2015.

3. OUTCOME OF DSA APPLICATION

a) When will I know if my application is successful?

SJI will inform all applicants on the status of the application by 30 August 2015. Applicants will be given a Confirmed Offer (CO), placed on the Waiting List (WL) or Rejected.

b) If I am given a Confirmed Offer, do I have to accept the offer immediately?

There is no need for you to accept or confirm any offer from any school during the DSA exercise. DSA applicants will only exercise their options during the DSA-Sec School stage in October 2015. The primary school will provide advice with regard to this.

c) What is this DSA-Sec School Stage?

This stage of the DSA exercise is administered by MOE. All students who have participated in the DSA exercise and have received a Confirmed Offer or placed on the Wait List will receive the School Preference Form from their primary school in October 2015. Students can then exercise their options.

*Students who have exercised their DSA option and eventually posted to the DSA school will not be allowed to transfer to another secondary school.*

d) When will I know if I am admitted to SJI via DSA?

DSA students (Confirmed Offers and Wait List) who have exercised their options in October 2015 will receive the DSA posting together with their PSLE results in November 2015.

e) If I am on the Wait List and was not posted to SJI. What should I do?

You can participate in the Secondary 1 Posting Exercise.

4. SJI HOLDING SITE AND PERMANENT CAMPUS

a) How long will SJI be in its holding site?

SJI will operate from its holding site at 21, Bishan Street 14, Singapore 579781 until mid-2017.

b) Where is SJI’s permanent campus located?

SJI will return to its permanent campus at 38, Malcolm Road, Singapore 308274 in mid-2017 when the redevelopment of the campus is completed.

***************