

## Year 5 Direct School Admissions (DSA):

### Criteria & Schedule

- ▶ The DSA-JC Exercise allows students with special talents and achievements to apply to RI directly.
- ▶ Students who are successful are guaranteed a place provided they meet the eligibility criteria for admission to a JC based on their GCE 'O' Level results.
- ▶ Applicants can only apply under one talent area. The switching of talent areas after registration has closed is not allowed.
- ▶ RI offers direct admissions under the 3 domains listed below:
  1. Sports Domain
  2. Performing Arts Domain
  3. Academic Domain
- ▶ This document contains two annexes for your reference:
  - Annex A: Minimum criteria for performing arts & sports domains
  - Annex B: Frequently asked questions for DSA (Year 5)
- ▶ For additional information on the Sports and Performing Arts Domains, you may refer to the deck of slide 'Additional Information for DSA Sports and Performing Arts Domains' on the Year 5 DSA Webpage.

## 1. Sports Domain

- ▶ You should be able to demonstrate interest and talent beyond the abilities of your peers in one of the sports listed below.

Badminton	Basketball	Cricket	Cross Country
Fencing	Floorball(Girls)	Football	Golf
Hockey	Judo	Netball	Rugby
Sailing	Shooting	Softball	Squash
Swimming	Table Tennis	Tennis	Tenpin Bowling
Track & Field	Water Polo		

- ▶ For your selected sport, you must have a history of accomplished performance at the national level or international level. Criteria for each sport talent is stated in *Annex A*.
- ▶ List of Corresponding Teachers in Charge

If you have any questions on the specific sport, you may contact the respective teachers in charge listed below.

Sports	Teacher In Charge	Email Address
Badminton	Mr Wong Chu Lin	chulin.wong@ri.edu.sg
Basketball	Mr Carlsen Tay	carlsen.tay@ri.edu.sg
Cricket	Mr Ng Hak Yee	hakyee.ng@ri.edu.sg
Cross Country	Ms Tan Cheng June	chengjune.tan@ri.edu.sg
Fencing	Mr Jason Teo	jason.teo@ri.edu.sg
Floorball	Mr Benjamin Fong	benjamin.fong@ri.edu.sg
Golf	Ms Joyce Tan	joyce.tan@ri.edu.sg
Hockey	Mr Gopinathan	gopinathan.r@ri.edu.sg
Judo	Mr Paul Poh	paul.poh@ri.edu.sg
Netball	Ms Deborah Koh	deborah.koh@ri.edu.sg
Rugby	Mr Tan Mian'Ou	mianou.tan@ri.edu.sg
Sailing	Ms Christine Chin	christine.chin@ri.edu.sg
Shooting	Mr Brian Kek	brian.kek@ri.edu.sg
Football	Mr Muhammad Iqbal	iqbal.m@ri.edu.sg
Football (Girls)	Mr Leong Chee Mun	cheemun.leong@ri.edu.sg
Softball	Mr Michael Seah	michael.seah@ri.edu.sg
Squash	Mr Venantius Chng	venantius.chng@ri.edu.sg
Swimming	Mr Chan Cheow Hwa	cheowhwa.chan@ri.edu.sg
Table Tennis	Mr Chan Joon Kiat	joonkiat.chan@ri.edu.sg
Tenpin Bowling	Ms Lim Li Li	lili.lim@ri.edu.sg
Tennis	Mr Koh Say Yong	sayyong.koh@ri.edu.sg
Track & Field	Ms See Tho Mun Yee	munyee.seetho@ri.edu.sg
Waterpolo	Mr Chan Cheow Hwa	cheowhwa.chan@ri.edu.sg

## 2. Performing Arts Domain

- ▶ You should be able to demonstrate interest and talent beyond the abilities of your peers in one of the performing arts listed below.

Chamber Ensemble	Chinese Orchestra	Choir	Symphonic Band
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- ▶ You must have a history of accomplished performance in this area at the national or international level.
- ▶ Criteria according to each performing art talent is stated in *Annex A*.
- ▶ List of Corresponding Teachers in Charge

If you have any questions on the specific performing arts, you may contact the respective teachers in charge listed below.

Performing Arts	Teacher In Charge	Email Address
Chamber Ensemble	Ms Tang Mui Kee	<a href="mailto:muikee.tang@ri.edu.sg">muikee.tang@ri.edu.sg</a>
Chinese Orchestra	Ms Tan Pei Yee	<a href="mailto:Peiyee.tan@ri.edu.sg">Peiyee.tan@ri.edu.sg</a>
Raffles Chorale	Mrs Jasbir Kaur	<a href="mailto:jasbir.kaur@ri.edu.sg">jasbir.kaur@ri.edu.sg</a>
Raffles Symphonic Band	Ms Grace Ho	<a href="mailto:grace.ho@ri.edu.sg">grace.ho@ri.edu.sg</a>

### 3. Academic Domain

- ▶ You should be able to demonstrate interest and talent beyond the abilities of your peers in one of the academic sub-categories listed below.

Mathematics / Science Olympiad	Science Research	Bilingualism (Malay Language Elective Programme)
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- ▶ For the Mathematics / Science Olympiad sub-category, you should have a history of accomplished performance in the Science/Maths Olympiad at the national or international arena.
- ▶ For the Science Research sub-category, you should have a history of accomplished performance at the national level such as the Singapore Science and Engineering Fair or at the international arena.
- ▶ For the Bilingualism (Malay Language Elective Programme) sub-category, you should demonstrate a strong talent and interest in the Malay Language and Literature as well as a passion for Malay culture. Successful applicants under this sub-category would be enrolled in the Malay Language Elective Programme (MLEP).
  - We may require applicants to write an essay for MLEP, you will be contacted if this is necessary.

To be eligible for the MLEP, students need to obtain at least:

- Grade B3 in Higher Malay (HML) or
- Grade B4 in HML and B3 in Literature in Malay (Full or Elective) or
- Grade A2 in Malay Language (ML)

## 2021 APPLICATION SCHEDULE & PROCESS

- Below is a summary of the Application Schedule:

RI Application period starts	17 May 2021 (Mon), 12pm
RI Application period ends	28 June 2021 (Mon), 12pm
^* DSA Online Interviews <i>For shortlisted students only</i>	28 June 2021 to 30 July 2021
^ Final announcement of shortlisted applicants via email for DSA Online Interview. <i>Unsuccessful applicants will be informed by 26 July 2021 too.</i>	By 26 July 2021, 6pm (Mon)
Announcement of DSA Results	By 11 August 2021 (Wed)

*\* The Interview will be conducted online at your school. If you are shortlisted, we will be contacting you via email and provide more interview details.*

*^ Announcement of the shortlisted students will be done concurrently with the DSA Interviews. Please wait for official email from us to find out if you are successful in your application.*

- Interested students need to apply online at <http://www.ri.edu.sg/admissions/year-5-admissions>.
- The online application link will be available only when application commences from 17 May 2021, 12pm onwards.
- No hard copy submission is required.

### Notes

- Please check that your email address (as indicated in the online Application Form) is valid; we will inform you the interview dates and outcome via email.
- Only shortlisted applicants will be invited to attend the selection tests, interviews and/or sport trials.
- Meeting all criteria does not guarantee the student will be shortlisted/ given an offer.
- We will notify all applicants of the outcome by 11 August 2021.
- Please note that
- We will not release detailed results of DSA selection test, interviews, trials, and auditions.
  - We reserve the right not to discuss the results or reasons for non-selection.
  - We will not provide information on application status or outcome over the phone.
- Successful DSA-JC candidates will not be allowed to participate in the Joint Admissions Exercise. They will also not be allowed to transfer to another school after the release of the GCE 'O' Level examination results. They are expected to honour their commitment to the DSA-JC schools.

## ANNEX A: MINIMUM CRITERIA FOR PERFORMING ARTS & SPORTS DOMAINS

► To help you decide if you should apply for a particular sport/performing arts talent-area, we have listed the *minimum* criteria which you should have attained in the talent area.

► If you have not met this minimum criteria, you may still apply but you will very likely not be shortlisted unless there are other clear evidence of your skills as reflected in your DSA application.

Performing Arts Talent Areas	
Chamber Ensemble	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A minimum ABRSM Grade 5 or equivalent in either Violin, Viola, Cello or Double bass practical.</li> <li>- Participated in SYF in 2021.</li> </ul>
Chinese Orchestra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Minimum Grade 6 and above from any major Grading Exam recognized in Singapore, e.g.: CI-NTU grading exams, NAFA CCOM grading exams, etc.</li> <li>- Participated in SYF in 2021.</li> <li>- All instruments will be considered</li> </ul>
Symphonic Band	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Participated in SYF in 2021.</li> <li>- Students with experience playing in a concert band and/or orchestra preferred</li> <li>- All instruments will be considered</li> </ul>
Choir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Participated in SYF in 2021</li> </ul>

Sports Talent Areas	
Badminton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Represented school in 2021 NSG</li> <li>- Selected to represent school in 2020 NSG (First Team)</li> </ul>
Basketball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Represented school in 2019 NSG (National/Zonal)</li> <li>- Represented school in 2020 NSG (B Div Zonal Competition)</li> <li>- Selected to represent school in 2021 NSG</li> </ul>
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Represented school in 2019 NSG</li> <li>- Selected to represent school in 2021 NSG (First Team)</li> </ul>
Cross Country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Represented school in 2018/19 NSG</li> <li>- Top 20 position in 2018/19 NSG individual race.</li> <li>- Selected to represent school in 2021 NSG</li> <li>- NAPFA 2019/2021 (if available) 2.4km run results (Girls 2.4km timing should not be more than 12mins; Boys 2.4km timing should not be more than 10mins)</li> </ul>
Floorball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Represented school in 2019 NSG (National Round)</li> <li>- Selected to represent school in 2021 NSG (First Team)</li> </ul>
Football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Represented school in 2018 or 2019 NSG</li> <li>- Selected to represent school in 2020 / 2021 NSG (First Team)</li> <li>- Selected to train or represent FAS COE clubs / NFA would be preferred</li> </ul>
Fencing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Represented school in 2019 NSG (Top 4 finish)</li> <li>- Selected to represent school in 2020/2021 NSG</li> <li>- Participated in FS endorsed competitions (Top 4 finish)</li> </ul>
Golf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Represented school in 2021 NSG</li> <li>- Selected to represent school in 2020 NSG</li> </ul>
Judo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Represented school in 2019 NSG</li> <li>- Selected to represent school in 2020/2021 NSG</li> <li>- Singapore Judo Federation 4th Kyu (Orange Belt) certification (or higher)</li> </ul>
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Represented school in 2019 NSG (National round)</li> <li>- Selected to represent school in 2020/2021 NSG (First Team)</li> </ul>

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Sports Talent Areas (continued)	
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Participated in 2019 NSG (National round);</li> <li>- Selected to represent school in 2021 NSG (First Team)</li> </ul>
Rugby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Participated in 2018 and / or 2019 U-14 NSG (Main or Bowl categories)</li> <li>- Selected to represent school in 2021 NSG</li> <li>- Member of secondary school's Rugby CCA for the past 4 years</li> </ul>
Softball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Represented school in 2019 NSG</li> <li>- Selected to represent school in 2021 NSG</li> <li>- Competed in club competition in 2019-2021 (if there is no school team)</li> </ul>
Squash	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Represented school in 2019 NSG</li> <li>- Selected to represent school in 2020/2021 NSG</li> </ul>
Table Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Represented school in 2021 NSG (First Team)</li> <li>- Selected to represent school in 2020 NSG (First Team)</li> </ul>
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Represented school in 2021 NSG (National round)</li> <li>- Selected to represent school in 2020 NSG (First Team)</li> </ul>
Ten-pin Bowling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Represented school in 2021 NSG</li> <li>- Boys : Obtained average score above 190 in 2021 NSG</li> <li>- Girls : Obtained average score above 170 in 2021 NSG</li> </ul>
Track and Field	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Represented school in 2018/19 NSG or represented club in 2020/2021 at athletics competitions organized by Singapore Athletics (SA) NSA.</li> <li>- Semi-finalist for track; top 12 for field events in 2018/2019 NSG or top 8 at SA competitions in 2020/2021</li> <li>- Selected to represent school in 2021 NSG</li> </ul>
Sailing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Represented school in 2019 NSG</li> <li>- Selected to represent school in 2020 / 2021 NSG</li> <li>- Competed in external regattas in 2019-2021</li> </ul>
Shooting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Represented school in 2019 and 2021 NSG</li> <li>- Top 10 (individual competition); Top 5 (team) in 2019 and 2021 NSG</li> <li>- Competed in external competitions (NUS/NTU Invitational Shoot; SG Cup)</li> </ul>
Swimming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Selected to represent school in 2021 NSG</li> <li>- Represented club in SNAG 2021</li> <li>- Finalist in 2019 NSG</li> </ul>
Water Polo (Boys)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Represented school in 2019 NSG</li> <li>- Selected to represent school in 2021 NSG (First Team)</li> </ul>
Water Polo (Girls)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Represented school in 2019 NSG Swimming</li> <li>- Selected to represent school in 2021 NSG Swimming</li> <li>- Represented school in 2019 National Schools' Synchronised Swimming Championship</li> <li>- Selected to represent school in 2021 National Schools' Synchronised Swimming Championship</li> </ul>

## ANNEX B: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR DSA (YEAR 5)

### Questions on the application and selection process

**Q1: What kind of DSA talent is Raffles Institution looking for?**

We are looking for students who have outstanding talent and achievements in the Academic, Sports or Performing Arts domains. You can visit the 'Admissions' page on our website for the detailed list of talent areas: <http://www.ri.edu.sg/admissions/year-5-admissions>.

**Q2: What are the selection criteria for DSA?**

Applicants will be evaluated on the following:

- a) Quality of involvement and/or achievements in the specific domain. Do note that applicants can only apply under one domain and will not be allowed to switch domains after application.
- b) Exemplary disciplinary record and personal qualities, e.g. integrity, discipline, resilience, leadership, etc.
- c) Good academic performance at the Secondary 3 and Secondary 4 School Examinations. This ensures that students are able to manage the demands of the GCE A-Level curriculum, in addition to their DSA commitments.

**Q3: How many DSA applicants will RI be taking this year?**

The number of students admitted varies from year to year, depending on the quality of the applicant pool.

**Q4: With the COVID-19 safe distancing measures in place, how will the selection interviews, auditions or trials be conducted?**

We will be conducting interviews and/or auditions through video-conferencing tools. We will not be conducting in-person interviews, auditions or trials.

**Q5: If I wish to apply for DSA through the Sports domain, can I prepare and submit videos of my sports performance, since I do not have an opportunity to showcase my abilities?**

We will not be considering video submissions in our selection of candidates, as not all students will be able to prepare and submit these videos. This is to ensure parity across all applicants. We will rely on other information, including previous years' NSG results, and representation at Combined Schools, Clubs, National Youth Team, or National Team (if any).

**Q6: When will I know if I have been shortlisted for the e-interviews and/or auditions?**

Announcement of the shortlisted students will be done concurrently with the DSA Interviews. Please wait for official email from us to find out if you are successful in your application.

**Q7: When will I know if I have been offered a place through DSA, after the e-interviews and/or auditions are completed?**

Applicants will be informed of their DSA results by 11 August 2021. Successful applicants will receive a letter of offer from RI. Unsuccessful applicants will be notified via email.

### Questions on student life in RI

**Q8: Will all DSA students be placed in the same classes?**

No. The allocation of classes will be based on students' subject combinations.



**Q9: How many Academic Units will DSA students be allowed to offer?**

All students admitted to RI will offer at least 10 academic units, comprising H1 General Paper, H1 Project Work, H1 Mother Tongue, and 3 H2 and 1 H1 content-based subjects. Students who have obtained an L1R5 score of 11 or better at the O-level Examinations will be allowed to offer 11 units, comprising 4 H2 content-based subjects, at Year 5.

**Q10: Will DSA students be able to select their subject combinations or will RI allocate them to prescribed subject combinations?**

All students admitted to RI at Year 5 will be given an opportunity to select their subject combinations, provided they meet the school's O-level subject pre-requisites (if any) for the individual A-level subjects. The proposed subject combination must also meet MOE's compulsory requirements. Applicants are to inform the RI DSA selection panel of their tentative subject choice during the e-interviews so that we can offer guidance to enable you to make a well-informed decision. You can visit the 'Learning at RI' page on Raffles Institution's website for the various subject combinations we offer: (<http://www.ri.edu.sg/learning-at-ri/year-5-6>)

**Q11: Will DSA students be given extra help if they miss lessons due to competitions? I am concerned about falling behind in my studies.**

At RI, we have a comprehensive learning management system that enables students to access online recordings of past lectures. This enables students to catch up with the content taught in their own time. If you need additional help to keep pace with missed lessons or to clarify concepts, you can approach your subject tutors for one-to-one or small group consultations. However, you will need to take ownership of your own learning by exercising discipline, managing your time well, and pro-actively seeking help from your teachers.

**Q12: Does RI have programmes to help DSA students assimilate into the school?**

DSA students will be attending RI's January Induction Programme (JIP) along with the Raffles Programme intake, i.e. students from RI Year 1-4 and RGS. During the JIP, Y5 students will be introduced to the various aspects of student life at RI, with talks on academic studies, CCAs, as well as hands-on elective modules. The Year 5 Orientation programme is another valuable opportunity for the whole cohort, comprising RP, DSA and JAE students, to build important friendships.

**Q13: As RI is an independent school, I am worried about the school fees. Is financial assistance available to DSA students?**

The school is committed to ensuring that an RI education remains accessible to all eligible Singapore students, regardless of financial background. A range of bursaries and scholarships offered by both RI and MOE is open to all RI students. You can visit the 'Fees and Financial Aid' page on our website for details: <http://www.ri.edu.sg/admissions/fees-and-financial-aid>

### Questions on accepting RI's DSA offer

**Q14: If I receive a letter of offer from RI, must I accept the offer immediately?**

Successful applicants will be given time to consider the offer(s) received from RI and other JCs. If you wish to accept RI's DSA offer, you will need to submit the acceptance letter before MOE's stipulated date of 16 August 2021. Late submissions will not be accepted. Hence, if you are certain that you would like to accept the offer, we advise that you submit the acceptance letter as soon as you can.

**Q15: Can I appeal if my DSA application is unsuccessful?**

The selection panel's decision is final and we will not be entertaining any appeals. Unsuccessful applicants are welcome to participate in the following year's Joint Admission Exercise after the release of the GCE O-Level results.

**Q16: If I have accepted RI's DSA offer, can I change my mind after the release of the 'O' Level results and choose another Junior College instead?**

Applicants who have accepted DSA offers will not be allowed to take part in the Joint Admission Exercise, conducted after the release of the 'O' Level results. As long as you meet the criteria for admission to Junior College, i.e. L1R5 less than or equal to 20 points and a Pass in English Language, you will be posted to the school whose DSA offer you have accepted. As such, we encourage applicants to consider their decision carefully before accepting the DSA offer.

**Q17: I have accepted RI's DSA offer through a particular CCA but do well enough in the 'O' Level to meet the cut-off for entry into RI. Can I request to change my CCA?**

Applicants who have accepted DSA offers through a particular CCA are required to honour their commitment to that CCA for the duration of their JC education. This is regardless of their GCE 'O' Level results.