

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

GHANA EDUCATION SERVICE / GHANA TVET SERVICE / PILOT PRIVATE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOLS

2026 Second Cycle Schools Selection and Sensitization Exercise



Ghana Education
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Policy Guidelines (2026)

Public Second Cycle Institutions have been categorized into three (3) groups, namely;

Category A : **Overly subscribed Schools**

Category B : **Averagely subscribed Schools**

Category C : **Under-Subscribed Schools**

Pilot Private Senior High Schools



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Policy Guidelines (Cont.)

Number of Schools per Category(2025)

SN	CATEGORY	NO. OF SCHOOLS
1	Category A	94
2	Category B	259
3	Category C	603
4	Pilot Private FSHS Schools	70
	TOTAL	1,026

Policy Guidelines (Cont.)

Number of Schools per Category(2026)

SN	CATEGORY	NO. OF SCHOOLS (A)	NO. OF SCHOOLS ADDED (B)	TOTAL (A+B)
1	Category A	94	Nil	94
2	Category B	259	Nil	259
3	Category C	602	45 (Absorbed Schools)	647
4	Pilot Private SHSs	70	15 (New Schools on Board)	85
TOTAL				1,085

Policy Guidelines (No. of Schools)

School Type (GES ,TVET & Piloted Private SHSs)

SN	CATEGORIES	SHS	SHTS	TVET	TOTAL
1	Category A	55	5	34	94
2	Category B	176	51	32	259
3	Category C	297	153	197	647
4	Pilot Private SHSs	81	4	0	85
TOTAL		609	213	263	1,085

Policy Guidelines(Cont.)

- Six (6) Subjects are used for Selection & Placement
(*Four core + Two Best*) These are:

CORE

English

Mathematics

Integrated Science

Social Studies

ELECTIVES

Computing

French/Arabic

Career Technology

Creative Art & Design

R.M.E

Gh. Language

- Aggregate & Raw scores of candidates are used.
- Choice of schools across regions is permitted.

Policy Guidelines(Cont.)

CATEGORIES OF CANDIDATES

Categories of candidates to be processed for placement in 2026 include:

- **Category 1 : 2026 BECE candidates (School Candidates)**
- **Category 2 : 2026 Private BECE Candidates (Private Candidates)**
- **Category 3 : Foreign Students (Foreign Candidates)**
- **Category 4 : Re-Entry Candidates (2025, 2024 and 2023)**



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Policy Guidelines(Cont.)

Selection Criteria

*Candidates who wish to enter **SHS/SHTS/TVET** schools must, with guidance from parents/guardians and school authorities:*

- a) Select **eight (8)** schools in total,
 - i. Your **eight (8)** schools should be ranked in order of **preference**, with the **1st** being the most preferred choice.
- b) Select **programmes** and **residential** preferences for each school choice (**5 Boarding and 3day**).
- c) All day schools should be schools you can easily attend (catchment area).

Note: Candidates MUST NOT repeat a school selected irrespective of the status. All day schools should be within catchment area (schools you can easily attend). Candidate placed in any of their choices will NOT be changed.



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Policy Guidelines(Cont.)

SELECTION CRITERIA

- d) Candidates may select two (2) category A schools, one(1) as Boarding and one(1) as Day.
- e) Candidates may select three (3) category B schools, two(2) as Boarding and one(1) as Day.
- f) Candidates may select three (3) category C schools, two(2) as Boarding and one(1) as Day.
- g) Candidates may select Pilot Private Senior High Schools as Category B/ Category C as Day



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Policy Guidelines(Cont.)

SELECTION CRITERIA

Candidates should also note that they:

- a) Cannot choose more than two (2) School from Category A.
- b) Cannot select more than three (3) schools from Category B.
- c) May select all eight (8) schools from Category C (5 Boarding and 3 Day).
- d) May select Pilot Private Senior High Schools as Category B/ Category C as Day
- e) Candidates who wish to offer purely TVET Programmes must select all eight (8) TVET Institutes from CATEGORY A, B and C as **Day** or **Boarding**
- f) Candidates interested in pursuing careers in STEM/Science fields such as engineering, medicine or astronautics etc, must select STEM/ Science subjects in all eight choices from categories A, B and C as Day or Boarding.



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Policy Guidelines(cont.)

Mode of Selection of Schools

- **BECE Candidates** are supposed to select eight(8) 2nd cycle schools of their choice for placement.
- Mode of selection of the schools differs in terms of the categories of Candidates
- **School Candidates** Select their schools, sign off by parent/guardian, and submit them to their JHS Heads.
- **Validation of schools selected would be done by candidate on the cssps portal after results have been released**
- **Date for validation of the schools announced before BECE results**



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Mode of selection of schools (cont.)

- **Private Candidates** must select their school choices online via; <https://www.waecinternetsolution.org> (the date will be announced by WAEC)
- **Foreign Students** must purchase the foreign students' application form, fill and submit to the Director of Schools & Instructions Division (Secondary) at the **GES** headquarters, Accra.



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POLICY GUIDELINES (Placement Procedure)

- Placement is by Merit.
- School and Programme options are linked
- In the event of a tie, candidates' raw scores are compared to help discriminate further.
- Candidates who are not placed after **auto placement**, can access schools using the Self **Placement Module**



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Self Placement Module

Candidates who are not placed after auto placement (*Unplaced Candidates*) can use the **Self Placement Module** to place themselves.

How the Self Placement Module works:

Candidates visits the CSSPS portal

www.cssps.gov.gh or www.cssps.org

Enter their details (*Index numbers & Pin codes*)

Schools with vacancies are made available for candidates to choose from.

Candidates print their placement form after submission.



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15% Public JHS Allocation

15% of the total vacancies declared by each of the Category 'A' schools are reserved for candidates from the Public Basic Schools (JHS)

Implying that 15% of the total vacancies declared by all Category 'A' schools is set aside for Public Basic Schools (JHS) candidates who have selected that particular Category 'A' school



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15% Public JHS Allocation(Cont.)

Who Qualifies for it?

- **Strictly reserved for candidates of Public JHS**
- **To qualify for this, candidates are required to select a Category 'A' school**
- **It is automatic and not optional**
- **Public JHS candidates who choose Category 'A' schools compete for placement**



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PARTNERSHIP WITH PRIVATE SECOND CYCLE INSTITUTIONS

- The Ministry of Education, in collaboration with the Associations of Private Second Cycle Institutions, has integrated some Private Second Cycle Institutions into the Free Senior High School (FSHS) Programme.



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RIGHT SELECTION OF SCHOOLS

CHOICE	JOHN	AHMED	KOFI	MENSAH	KJO	QUAYE
1	A (boarding)	B (boarding)	C (boarding)	A (boarding)	B (boarding)	C (day)
2	B (boarding)	Pilot Private SHS (day)	C (boarding)	A(Day)	A (boarding)	C (day)
3	B (day)	A (boarding)	C (boarding)	B (boarding)	B (boarding)	C (day)
4	C (boarding)	C (boarding)	C (day)	B (day)	Pilot Private SHS (day)	C (day)
5	C (day)	C (day)	C (day)	B (Boarding)	C (day)	C (day)
6	A(Day)	C (boarding)	A(Day)	C (boarding)	C (day)	C (boarding)
7	B (boarding)	Pilot Private SHS (day)	C (boarding)	C (day)	C (day)	C (boarding)
8	C (boarding)	B (boarding)	C (boarding)	C (boarding)	C (day)	C (boarding)

WRONG SELECTION OF SCHOOLS

CHOICE	OFORI	IBRAHIM	DJOKOTO	ESSEL	QUARSHIE	CATHERINE
1	A (boarding)	A (Boarding)	A (boarding)	A (boarding)	B (boarding)	C (boarding)
2	B (boarding)	A (Boarding)	B (boarding)	B (boarding)	A (boarding)	C (boarding)
3	B (boarding)	B (boarding)	B (boarding)	B (day)	B (boarding)	C (boarding)
4	C (boarding)	B (boarding)	Pilot Private SHS (day)	C (boarding)	C (day)	C (boarding)
5	Pilot Private SHS (day)	B (boarding)	A (day)	C (boarding)	C (boarding)	A (Boarding)
6	A (boarding)	C (boarding)	B (boarding)	B (boarding)	B (Day)	A (boarding)
7	B (boarding)	C (boarding)	C (DAY)	B (day)	B (day)	B (boarding)
8	B (boarding)	C (boarding)	C (DAY)	C (day)	C (boarding)	C (boarding)

Thank You



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