

Student Option Programme

Quick Start Guide for SOP Version 2.0

Council and Secondary Section 2

Education Bureau

Date: 8 Mar 2024

1. Introduction

1.1. Major Functions of the Student Option Programme (SOP)



1.2. What is Time Block?

- ▶ Time block refers to the time slots reserved in the school timetable for elective subjects.
- Schools may have 2 to 4 time blocks depending on the number of elective subjects taken by students and other consideration on timetabling.
- A time block contains several elective subject groups (e.g. Physics, Economics, History are put into the same time block).
- Students can take one of the elective subjects in each time block.
- ▶ SOP helps schools to design and optimise the combination of elective subjects for the time blocks based on schools' various constraints (e.g. putting ECON and BAFS into different time blocks if they are taught by the same teacher).



2. Suggested Workflow

Step 1: Preparing Data Required

- Defining System Settings
- Inputting Students' Particulars
- Selecting Elective Subjects Offered by the School

Step 2: Designing Time Blocks

- Inputting Students Options
- Setting Elective Subject Groups
- Generating Time Blocks

Step 3: Conducting Elective Subjects
Allocation

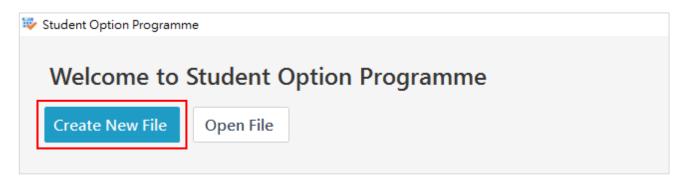
- Updating Students' Options with confirmed Time Block Structure
- Maintaining Students Allocation Orders
- Allocating Elective Subjects to Students

Step 4: Getting the Results

• Printing Timetables and Reports

2.1. Create New Data File

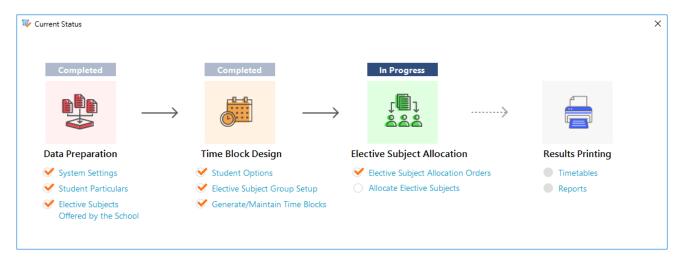
To start using the SOP, launch the SOP and then create a new data file on the Welcome page.



2.2. Current Status

To allocate elective subject to students, follow the **Current Status** screen to complete inputting all data required.

- = finished items
 - = unfinished items



3. User Interface

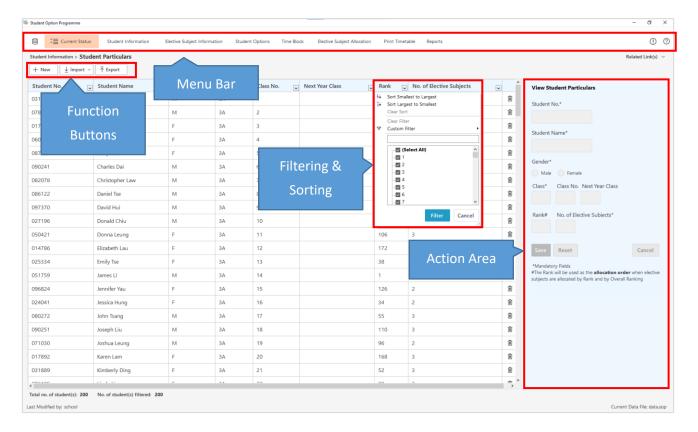
1.1. General Layout

Menu Bar - To open different functions of the SOP

Function Buttons – To create/generate new records, import or export data or print preview

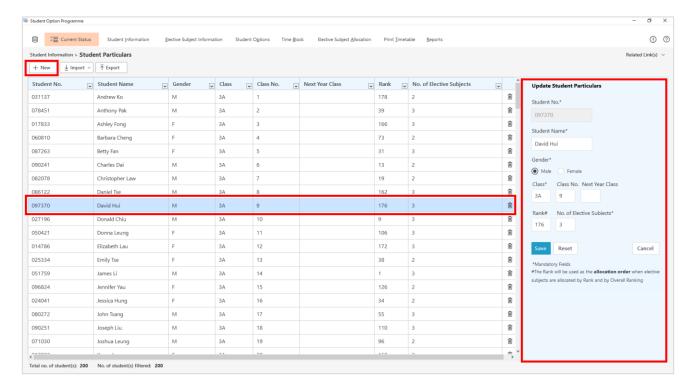
Filtering & Sorting - To filter or sort the student list

Action Area - To input, edit and save details of a particular record



1.2. Editing Record

By double-clicking on a particular record or clicking the "New" function button, the action area will be turned into edit mode.



4. Function Overview

Launching	► Checking for version upgrade of the SOP			
Screen	► Checking for version upgrade of the data file template			
Welcome Page	► To open an existing data file and convert data file for SOPv1.2.1 to SOPv2.0 if			
	applicable			
	► To create a new data file			
	► Showing the last 20 opened data files			

Menu	Sub-menu	Fun	ctionality
	New	•	To create a new data file
	Open	•	To open an existing data file and convert data file for
			SOPv1.2.1 to SOPv2.0 if applicable
	Save As	•	To save the opened data file as another data file
	Close	•	To close the data file
	System Settings	•	To define:
			- No. of Time Blocks
			- No. of Elective Subjects to be taken by
			Students in general
			- Method of Elective Subject Allocation
	Change Password	•	To change the password of the data file
	Exit	•	To exit the SOP
Current Status	-	•	To view the workflow and current status of
			"mandatory functions"
		•	Quick access to the "mandatory functions"
		Not	e: "mandatory functions" refers to the functions that
		use	rs must complete prior to getting the elective subject
		allo	cation results
Student	Student Particulars	•	To create, update, remove, import and export
Information			student particulars
	Student Academic Results	•	To import and export students' academic results
Elective	Elective Subjects Offered by	•	To select elective subjects offered by the school
Subject	the School	•	To indicate whether the school offers the option of
Information			Two Science Subjects (for elective subject allocation
			by overall ranking only)
		•	To create, update remove and import school-
			defined elective subjects
		•	To export the list of elective subjects

Menu	Sub-menu	Fun	octionality
	Elective Subject Group Setup	•	To define:
			- no. of elective subject groups for each elective
			subject offered by the school
			- no. of quota for each elective subject group
			- no. of elective subject groups in each time
			block
Student	Input Student Options	•	To update, import and export student options
Options	Print Student Option Form /	•	To export the following documents for printing:
	Acknowledgement Form		- Survey Form
			- Survey Form with Time Blocks
			- Acknowledgement Form
Time Block	Conflict Matrix Enquiry	•	For every 2 elective subjects, view the no. of
			students who have selected both elective subjects as
			their top priorities.
	Elective Subject Group	•	To define which 2 elective subjects should be put to
	Constraints Setup		the same / different time block(s).
	Generate/Maintain Time	•	To generate time blocks
	Block		To create, update, remove, import and export time
			blocks
			To calculate the estimated satisfaction rate of time
			block structures
		•	To mark a time block structure as confirmed
Elective	Elective Subject Allocation		To generate the overall allocation order of students
Subject	Orders		(for elective subject allocation by overall ranking)
Allocation			To generate the elective subject allocation order of
			students (for elective subject allocation by elective
			subject queue)
			To update, clear, import, export and print allocation .
			orders
	Allocate Elective Subjects		To allocate elective subjects to students (by overall
			ranking)
			To allocate elective subjects to students (by subject
			queue)
			To allocate elective subjects to students manually
			To clear, import, export and print subject allocation
			results
			To view the overall satisfaction rate of students

Menu	Sub-menu	Functionality
Print Timetables	-	 To export time block results to WebSAMS To export elective subject allocation results to WebSAMS To import master timetable To view, export and print students' individual timetables
Reports		 ▶ To view, export and print the following reports: Time Blocks with Satisfaction Rate Elective Subject Statistics List of Students for Elective Subjects List of Student Options in Priority Order and Elective Subject Allocation Vacancies of Elective Subjects List of Students with Insufficient Elective Subject Allocation List of Students with Offered Subjects / Modules List of Students with Subject Allocation and Block Allocation Results