



JURONG WEST SECONDARY SCHOOL

Secondary 2 Parent Engagement Session 2021

Principal's Address

Saturday, 6 February 2021



JURONG WEST SECONDARY SCHOOL

**NEW
NORMAL**

Belief
It does not
matter which
school you come
from.

It is what you do
in the school
that you are in
that really
matters and
determines your
future.

Elite school or not doesn't matter: PM

Success hinges more
on what one makes of
the opportunities given

■ BY CASSANDRA CHEW

**Success
hinges more
on what one
makes of the
opportunities
given**

and key members are sent to receive training alongside a famous band in Nagoya.
The school illustrates his point that good teaching, a varied curriculum and a wide range of activities are available in every school across the island, and not just "elite" ones.

**Ensuring
S'pore's
success lasts**

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thing is possible... and who will take our

PM Lee's remarks were spurred by a debate in The Straits Times Forum pages on the stiff competition to enter elite junior colleges, or JCs.

He highlighted two letters. One, from a parent arguing that those who do not enter elite JCs also offer solid education, have the same chances to do well if they put in the effort.
The other, from a former JC alumnus, pointed out that an elite JC is not necessarily the best.

PM Lee said no JC in Singapore is superior and that success should not be defined solely as getting into top schools. PM Lee agreed with the letter writers, a nod of approval that resonated with many of the students.

Delia Toh from Raffles Institution said



PM Lee cited the example of Bowen Secondary School, which spares no expense in giving the best education to members of its display band (above). PHOTO COURTESY OF BOWEN SECONDARY SCHOOL

many parents feel "anything outside of academic achievements is sort of a waste of time". She asked what could be done to correct the mindset.

PM Lee said it is up to parents to believe that there are many places where students can get a good education.

"I believe it," he added, pointing out that Minister Mentor Lee Kuan Yew attended the 100th birthday of his alma mater, Telok Kurau Primary School, to remind people that one does not have to go to a good school to do well.

"What counts, as the Pioneer JC alumnus said, is what you do with your life

and that's quite fundamental," he said.

Li Yi Jia from Dunman High asked how Singapore can progress as a meritocratic society without elitism rearing its ugly head.

By ensuring Singapore keeps its doors open for the talented and capable to contribute, PM Lee replied.

"That's one of the reasons we want to make sure all our schools are good schools... you don't have to go to the best school in Singapore or the most popular school in Singapore in order to get ahead," he said.

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Meridian JC's Nur Adilah (right) listening to PM Lee after posing him a question during a chat. ST PHOTO: LIM SIN THAI



Secondary 2

GCE N / O Levels

JC / Poly / ITE / Private Institutions

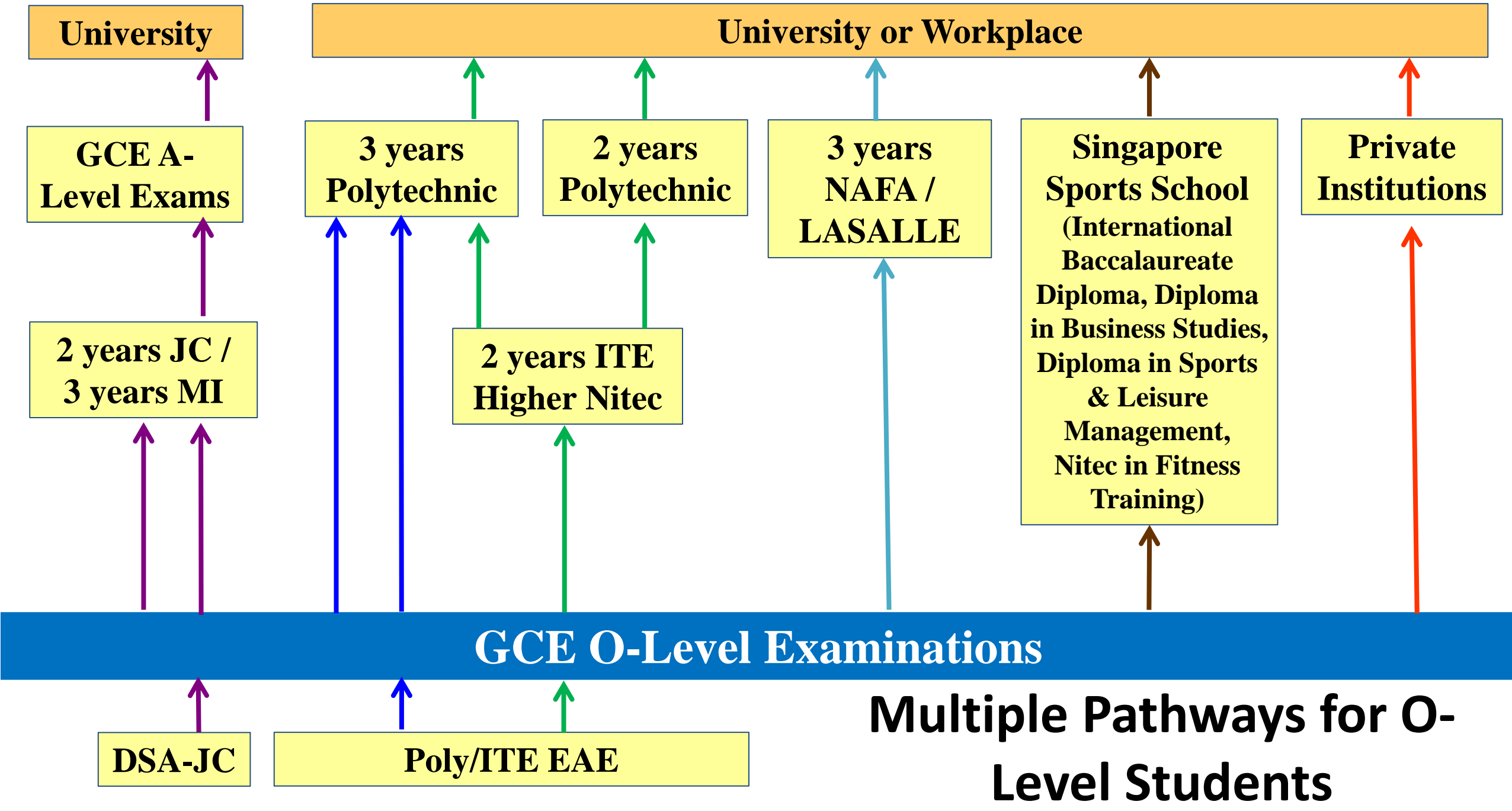
University (or Work)

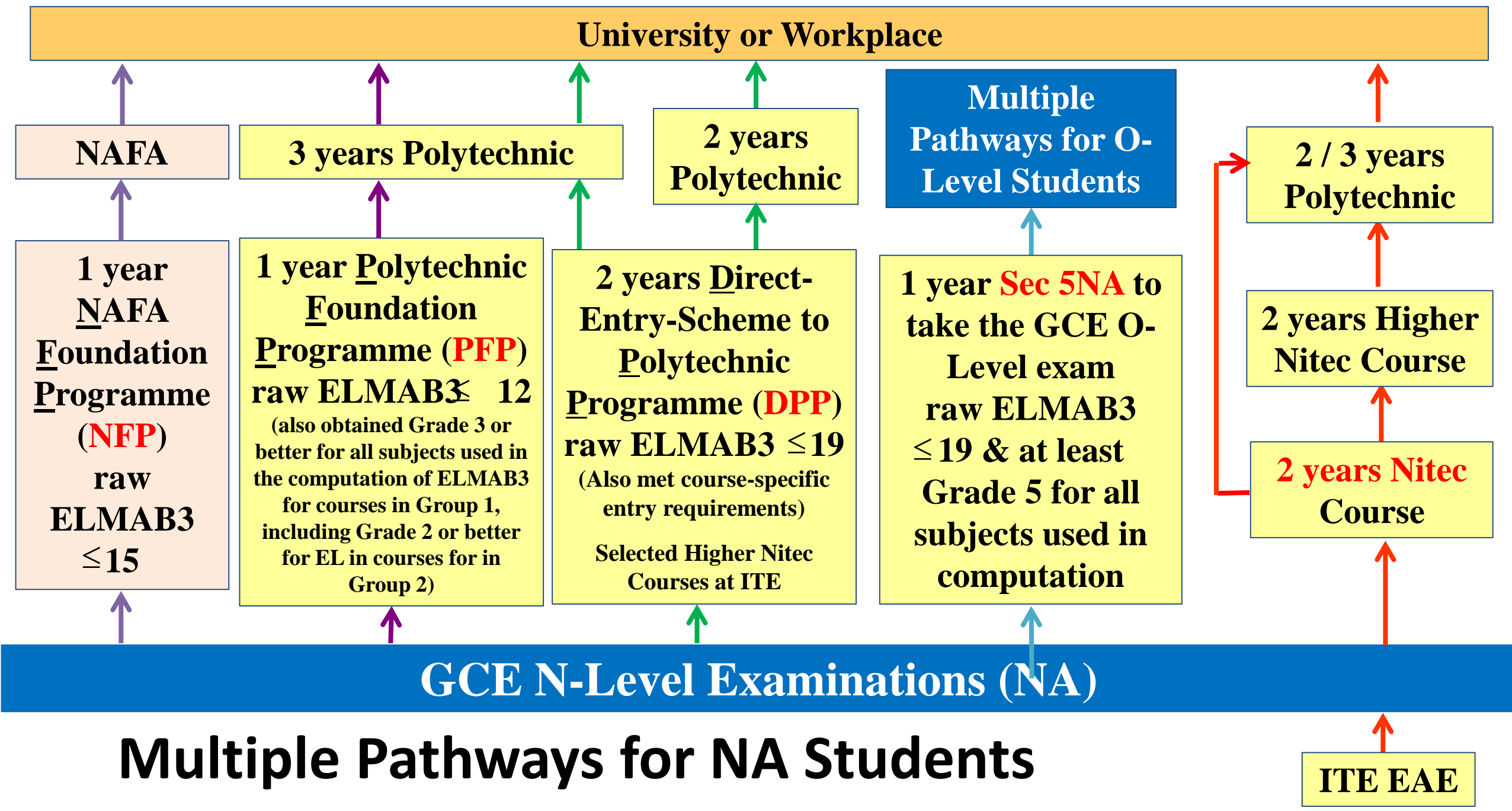
Work (or University)

After the GCE O-Level and GCE N- Level Examinations



Post-Secondary Education Options





University or Workplace

**2 / 3 years
Polytechnic**

**2 / 3 years
Polytechnic**

**2 years Higher
Nitec Course**

**2 years Higher
Nitec Course**

Workplace

Workplace

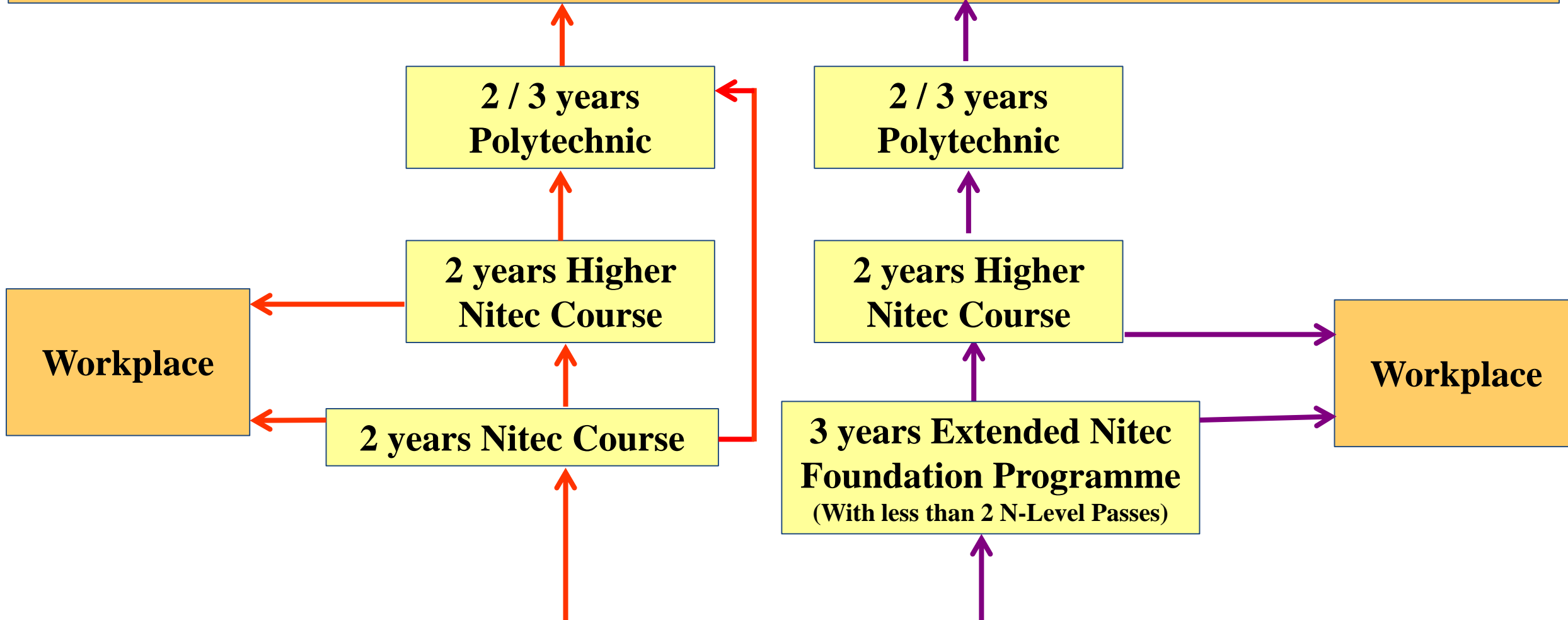
2 years Nitec Course

**3 years Extended Nitec
Foundation Programme
(With less than 2 N-Level Passes)**

GCE N-Level Examinations (NT)

ITE EAE


Multiple Pathways for NT Students





**It is important that students
do NOT have this view:**

**I will think about the courses I want to
go to in the JC / Poly / ITE
only when I reach Sec 4/5.**



**It is important that students
do NOT have this view:**

**I will see where I go depending on my
GCE N/O level results.**



**Well-informed choices about subjects
&**

Plan/Aim what to do in JC/Poly/ITE

**can make a real positive difference to
results
and
post-secondary pathways available.**

SUBJECT CHOICES

Make your subject choices based on

- ✓ Interest**
- ✓ Strengths/Aptitude/Talent**
- ✓ Ability**
- ✓ Your future Plans (JC/Poly/ITE, Career etc)**

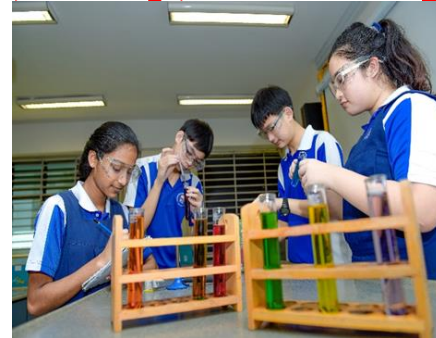
and not based entirely on

- ? Friends'/Siblings' choices**
- ? What you hear from your seniors**
- ? What you think/feel about the subject**

Aims for Students of JWSS

When a student walks out of the gates of JWSS as a graduand after 4-5 years in the school:

- ✓ **Passionate Learners, Innovative Thinkers and Caring Leaders centred on values**
- ✓ **Academic results good enough to enable you to move on to the next stage of education and pursue a course of your choice [JC, Poly, ITE etc]**
- ✓ **A Good Testimonial which will include your CCA and other achievements in the school**
- ✓ **Good Values and Attitudes**
- ✓ **Good Mental and Physical Health**





Consistency
is The Key

WHAT YOU DO
EVERY DAY
MATTERS
MORE THAN
WHAT YOU DO
ONCE IN A WHILE.

Always remember...



**“IT’S NOT
HOW GOOD
YOU ARE,**

**IT’S HOW
GOOD YOU
WANT
TO BE”**