

# DAS INTERNATIONAL SERVICES

DAS International Services is a subsidiary of the Dyslexia Association of Singapore





# **SPECIALIST TUTORING**

### **OUR APPROACH**

DAS International has a team of specialist tutors who have extensive experience in supporting students with specific learning differences and other learning needs.

Specialist Tutoring is an individualised, one-on-one service that is tailored to meet the needs of students with learning differences. Tutoring is provided based on the profile of the child obtained from our multidisciplinary team of educational psychologists, speech and language therapists and in consultation with parents and educators. Specialist Tutoring has an individualised problem solving approach where skills focused include:

- Literacy, Numeracy, Oracy, & Writing Skills
- Individual Curriculum support
- Study skills and Exam preparation
- Behaviour and Social support

Our tutors are experienced in the international, private and public school systems; they have an understanding of the curriculum and the demands that today's education systems place on your child. They listen with sensitivity to the concerns that parents have and provide a total solution with an Individualised Education Plan to support their child's needs. Regular verbal feedback is provided at the end of each tuition session. Informal assessments on progress is made to monitor and track your child's progress. We strive to empower successful learning and nurture each individual child to achieve their full potential.

# DAS International Services Specialist Tutoring

#### Anaberta Oehlers-Jaen

*Head of DAS International and Programme Director for On-site School Based Programmes Dyslexia Association of Singapore* 

#### **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE MAIN PROGRAMME**

DAS International, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Dyslexia Association of Singapore since its inception in 2011 has been providing one to one Specialist support for students with literacy and Maths challenges through a customised one to one programme. In response to demand DAI has responded with new initiatives that aim to support students with Specific Learning Differences (SpLDs) in Singapore and the ASEAN region.

Services provided by DAS International include:

- Specialist Tutoring
- Regional Awareness
- Overseas Assessments
- Training
- Consultancy

#### **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SUB PROGRAMME**

This programme is intended for students with Specific Learning Differences such as Dyslexia, Maths Learning Difficulties, who seek or require one to one Specialist Tutoring.

#### SPECIALIST TUTORING SUMMARY

- We provide an Individualised & customized one to one service aimed to assist students with learning differences reach their full potential
- Offering an Individual Education Plan (IEP) for each child
- We adopt a Problem solving approach
- We aim to bridge the gap between therapy and curriculum targets
- Flexibility in terms of our approach, teaching methodology & curriculum

#### PRESCHOOL AND PRIMARY LEVEL

- Literacy, Numeracy, Oracy, & Writing Skills
- Behavioural and Social support
- Chinese
- Curriculum Based Remediation
- Speech and Language Therapy
- Exam preparation

#### SPECIALIST TUTORING FOR HIGHER LEARNING.

It is recommended for students who are currently studying in:

- Upper Secondary
- International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme
- GCE A-Level Examinations Tertiary Institutes
- Dyslexia for Adults

#### INTENSIVE SPECIALIST TUTORING

This programme is designed to bridge the learning gap with mainstream education.

- Intensive tutoring is aimed at supporting children who are unable to secure a place in an international school
- Struggling in an international or mainstream curriculum.

For 2020 we saw a steady stream of students requesting for Intensive Specialist tutoring.

#### ONLINE SPECIALIST TUTORING

Specialist Tutoring Sessions are delivered through an online learning platform bringing intervention into the home

- Online lessons are flexible and customized to suit the learners needs.
- Students are located overseas
- Geographical barriers restrict student access to structured support programmes
- Continued support during school holidays

#### CURRICULUM BASED REMEDIATION

The highlight of this programme is that it provides a strong link between the curriculum and remediation, all the while keeping in mind the child's learning differences. The focus is on the strengths of the learner as the curriculum is explored.

- Bridging remediation and curriculum support
- Extending the strategies and effectively adapting them to curriculum Exam Skills



Curriculum-sets a structure to channel learning

Interventions help in effective support

> Learners are happy

	TEACHING AND DELIVERY	RECOMMENDED FOR	
SPECIALIST TUTORING	Regular weekly sessions Does not interfere with school hours	Students who require a consistent personalised tutoring session Students who have completed the intensive programme	
INTENSIVE PROGRAMME	Block sessions Ideal for vacation breaks	Students who require intensive tutoring to close learning gap with mainstream education	
CURRICULUM BASED REMEDIATION	Works closely with school to support homework and curriculum	Students who are lagging behind curriculum Students who require a consistent personalised tutoring session	
ONLINE TUTORING	Students who are unable to access Specialist Teachers in their country	Students who have completed the intensive onsite programme Students who require a consistent personalised tutoring session	
EXAM PREPARATION	Regular weekly sessions Does not interfere with school hours	Students who are preparing for national exams such as : PSLE GCE O / N GCESE's A Levels IB	



#### **ENTRY CRITERIA**

The programme is open to Preschool students at risk of Dyslexia as well as to Primary, Secondary, and tertiary students with a valid diagnosis of a Specific Learning Difference.

#### WHO THE PROGRAMME IS FOR

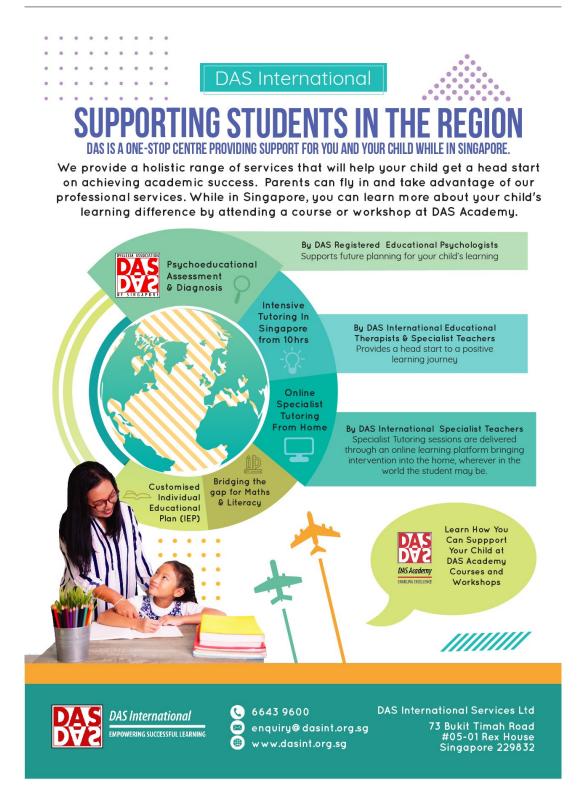
The aim of Specialist Tutoring is to effectively support the development of each child. Each child is seen as an active, competent learner, especially children who have Specific learning differences (SpLD), wanting and in need of a value-added programme / specialist support. Specialist tutoring is individually tailored, based on the profile of the child obtained both externally through previous psychological reports or through our in-house psycho-educational assessments, and in consultation with parents and educators.

Specialist Tutoring further supports the learning needs of our more challenged students who may have difficulty entering International schools in Singapore.

#### 5 PLUS + PACKAGE MODEL:

- 1. Overseas client comes to Singapore for a psychological assessment
- 2. Receives Intensive Specialist Tutoring (10 or 20 hours) in Singapore
- 3. Concurrently Parent may also seek to attend DAS Academy Training Courses whilst child is receiving Specialist Tutoring in Singapore
- 4. Follows up with the Online Specialist tutoring (Online Specialist Tutoring)
- 5. Receives periodic Intensive Specialist Tutoring (10 or 20 hours) in Singapore

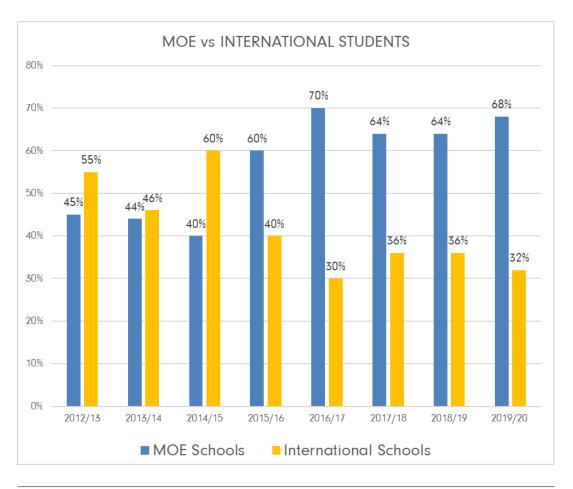
TOTAL ENROLMENT FY 2019/2020	93
Specialist Tutoring	84
Speech and Language Therapy	9
Total Student Enrolment as at 31 March 2020	47
Students attending International schools	25
Student attending Ministry of Education Schools (MOE)	68
Adult Student	1
Specialist Teachers	14
Speech and Language Therapists	3



#### MOE STUDENTS VS INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS SINCE 2012 TO 2019/20

We can see a clear trend in the Ministry of Education students versus the International students we have supported from 2012 to 2020. We have found that previously whilst we saw mostly expatriates who attended elite international schools like UWCSEA, Canadian School, Tanglin Trust, SJI International & Dulwich College in the early years.

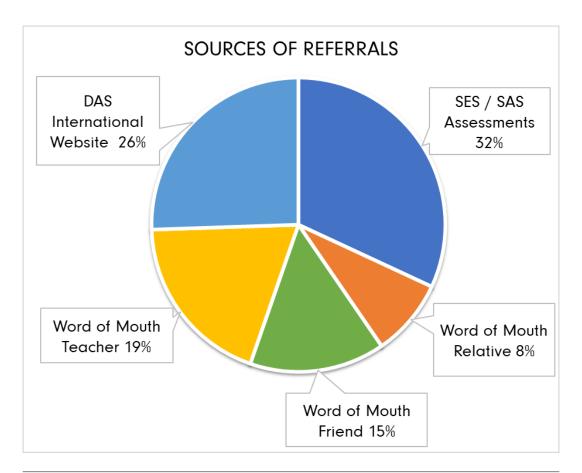
However, toward 2015 onwards we saw an exodus of expats that were on expat terms of employment. The trend we have seen is for more students from MOE schools access the services of Specialist tutoring. A crop of "no frills" however have emerged in recent years that aim through significant reduced fees the international community who require international schools for their children. This would include schools such as Middleton International, One World International, Chatsworth International all promoting lower published fees with less features such as no swimming pools or running tracks.



#### SOURCES OF REFERRAL

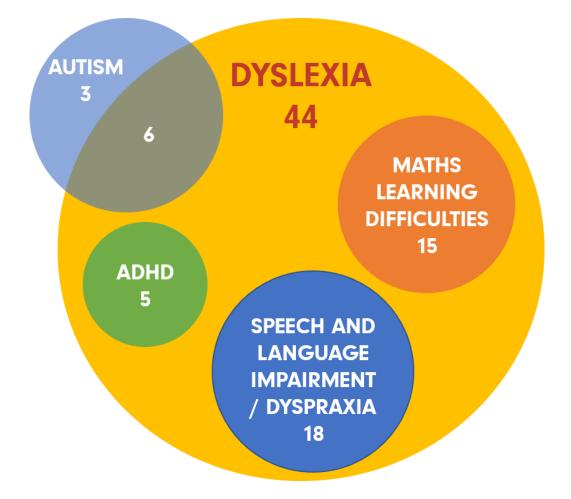
Referrals for Specialist tutoring continued for 2019 to be coming through from the DAS International website or referrals from psychological assessments conducted by SAS assessments.

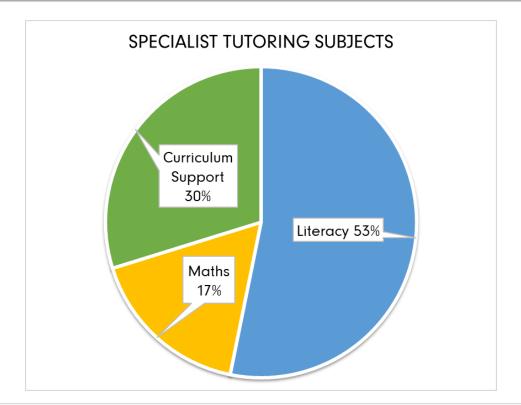
SOURCES OF REFERRAL TO SPECIALIST TUTORING	NUMBER
DAS SpLD Assessments Services	27
Word of Mouth–Relatives & Friends	7
Word of Mouth—Teachers	22
DAS Website	28

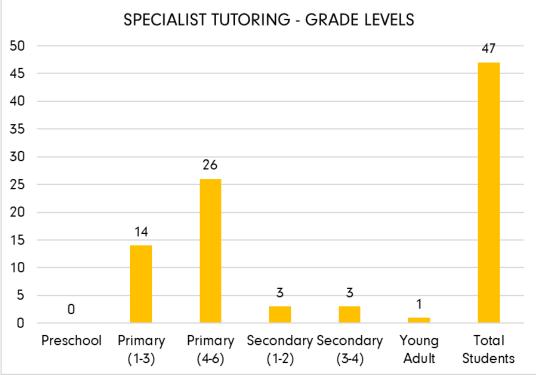


#### **PROFILE OF SPECIALIST TUTORING STUDENTS**

DYSLEXIA	44
DYSLEXIA / MATHS LEARNING DIFFICULTIES	15
DYSLEXIA / SPEECH & LANGUAGE IMPAIRMENT / DYSPRAXIA	18
DYSLEXIA / AUTISM	6
DYSLEXIA / ADHD	5
AUTISM	3





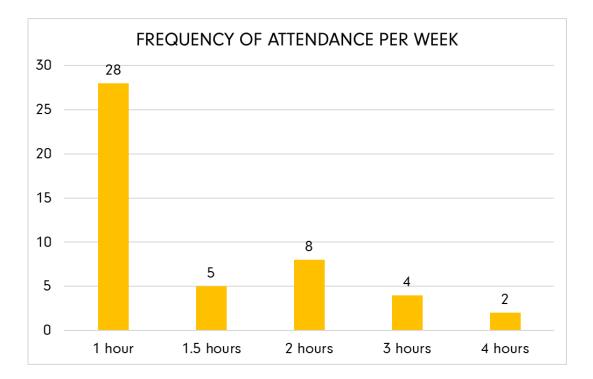


Grade levels for Specialist tutoring reflect the main grade levels of Primary 4 to 6 having the most number of students at 26 reflecting the parents concern as they reach upper primary and the demands of the curriculum are increased for Maths and Literacy.

#### FREQUENCY OF ATTENDANCE ON SPECIALIST TUTORING

In 2019/20 we saw an increase in the number of students requesting for more than 2 hours of specialist tutoring. This is a positive indication that parents see the benefit of the programme

For the 47 students who attended specialist tutoring the frequency of attendance per week at March 2020 is as follows



#### SPECIALIST TUTORING VERSUS REGULAR TUITION

SPECIALIST TUTORING		TUITION	
•	One on one delivery by qualified professionals	•	One on one or group classes
•	Back-ground information is gathered from relevant sources- Parents and school.	•	Parents are more often the only source of information.
•	Active communication is established.		
•	An Individual Education Plan (IEP) is customized for the child	•	Teachers may not have the background and training to teach children with SpLD.
•	Being trained in teaching students with SpLD the Specialist Teacher has strategies to maximize the student's potential and by individualizing the learning/teaching.	•	' Teaching/learning is predominantly based on performance in tests and exams.
•	Follows the OG principle of diagnostic and prescriptive, structured and cumulative.		
•	Focuses on the students feel good aspect of learning and thus increasing self-esteem.		
•	Parents and schools as partners in child's learning		

### DAS INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH



**REINFORCE DAS INTERNATIONAL'S** brand positioning as a **trusted and credible specialist** tutoring institution for students with Specific Learning Differences (SpLDs) that encourages empowerment through evidence-based practices and learning strategies.



PROMOTE DAS INTERNATIONAL and its services in Singapore and in the Asian region; targeting English-speaking countries and expatriate communities.

#### **OUTREACH / INFORMATION SHARING**

In total from April 2019 to March 2020 18 outreach efforts with the International Schools were conducted through:

- Ongoing awareness talks,
- Information sharing
- Case meetings with the heads of department and learning support

#### **QUALITY ASSURANCE**

Classroom observations for all DAS International Specialist teachers are conducted once every financial year to ensure that our teachers uphold the standards of quality teaching set out by the organization. All Specialist Teachers are evaluated on their Individual Education Plan (IEP), lesson planning, lesson execution, communication, and classroom management to meet the IEP objectives. A total of 8 Specialist Teachers were assessed for quality assurance in classroom teaching practices in 2019-2020. The observations were conducted by the Head of DAS International and contributing members for Specialist Tutoring who are Senior Educational Therapists. The observations were conducted either through in-class or video observations of their lessons.

#### **TEACHER TRAINING**

A total of 4 educational therapists, with at least 2 years of experience teaching literacy to students with dyslexia, were trained and they underwent the 15-hour Certificate in Individualized Education Programme (IEP) Planning for an SpLD Learner by DAS Academy, followed by a 5-week practicum with 2 informal and formal observations. In addition, they attended 2 insets conducted by the Head of

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS	AWARENESS TALK	INFORMATION SHARING	TEAM MEETING WITH LEARNING SUPPORT & TEACHERS
One World International	$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$
Overseas Family School	$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$
Eton International East Campus	$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$
Eton International West Campus	$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$
Chatsworth International (Orchard)			$\checkmark$
Chatsworth International (West)			$\checkmark$
SJI International			$\checkmark$
ACS International		$\checkmark$	
Canadian International School West Campus			$\checkmark$
Canadian International School East Campus			$\checkmark$
Dulwich College			$\checkmark$
United World College		$\checkmark$	
Middleton International School		$\checkmark$	
UWCSEA East & West Campus		$\checkmark$	
Insworld		$\checkmark$	
Australian International			$\checkmark$
Dover Court Preparatory			$\checkmark$
Tanglin Preparatory School			$\checkmark$

DAS International. These inset sessions addressed issues such as IEP planning, parent communication, and translating what they had learnt into meeting the one to one IEP short term and long-term goals for their students.

#### DESCRIPTION OF INITIATIVES TAKEN THIS FINANCIAL YEAR

In line with the DAS International key efforts to outreach to likeminded organizations in the Asia Pacific Region, we initiated at the Unite SpLd 2019 conference, the hosting of a highly successful International session. We had an impressive and diverse line up of speakers from the Dyslexia Association of Kenya Phyllis Wamucii Munyi-Kariuki Founder and director of the Dyslexia Organization, Kenya (DOK), President of the Indonesia Dyslexia Association Dr. Kristiantini Dewi, Sp.A and Masarrat Khan is the Chief Executive Officer of the Maharashtra Dyslexia Association (MDA) to share their invaluable experiences and journey in support of students with Specific Learning Differences to a captive audience of international participants and speakers.

Through networking efforts, this has since translated into overseas training contracts with several organisations for FY 2019/20. DAS International training conducted several training assignments in China on "Understanding Dyslexia and Supporting Learners in Chinese" on 30 June to 1 July 2019 at Shenzhen Children's hospital and "Supporting your child in Chinese" on 14 and 15 December 2019, in Shenzhen and Guangzhou. The training sessions were well attended by parents, educators and researchers.

The trainings were delivered and led by Ms Priscillia Shen Peixi, Assistant Head of DAS Academy. DAS Academy lecturers received positive feedback for their innovative and hands-on style of delivery. One of the participants from Guangzhou mentioned: "This is just one of the positive feedback we got from the participants. We are really happy to see that our knowledge and experience could help parents and educators there. The training is indeed meaningful". DAS International looks forward to 2020 in facilitating future training opportunities in China and the Asia Pacific Region.





#### PARENT & SCHOOL TEACHERS BOUQUESTS FOR SPECIALIST TUTORING

Minutes of Meeting re OB 13th September 2019

Present: Ana Oehlers-Jean and Veena Jayanth from DAS, G, F and K.

Purpose of meeting today to ensure consistency across DAS and school and ensure ongoing communication between DAS, school and home Ongoing communication between school, DAS and home. Will provide opportunity to celebrate successes. To review at end of November

KB (Chatsworth International School Bukit Timah Campus)

Senior Specialist Teacher: Ms Gladys Wee

To whom it may concern,

Teacher Gladys Wee-Bourne has been working with Luke for the past 2 years. We have seen tremendous progression in his literacy skills as she prepped him for St. Andrew's P1 entry in 2018. He has also emerged to be more confident and outspoken. She has been very patient working with L who is prone to tantrums and has instilled in him a more methodical and disciplined approach in how he tackles each piece of work.

We truly appreciate her dedication and effort in working with Luke.

Yours sincerely,

SS

Senior Specialist Teacher Ms Bhavani Jeganathan

"Dear Bhavani,

Thanks you have been absolutely wonderful to work with in bringing out the best in Stephen":

DAS International parent

Mohamed Samunn : Senior Educational Therapist

#### Hi Mr Samunn

I would like to update the progress from the school PTM, regarding Gregory's work in school. Teachers are very pleased and happy for Gregory's improvement and he shows more effort in his work lately. Gregory is able to score higher marks compare to his previous records.

We are very happy and really thankful to your guidance during this pandemic period, through zoom lessons Gregory is able to concentrate more and understand more, which really helped him a lot.

We hope Gregory can continue to progress, together with your help and guidance. Thank you, Stay Safe & God Bless

Mother of Gregory

Teacher : Senior Educational therapist Ms Shilpa Madane

Dear Ana,

Ms Shilpa, his Education Therapist, has done an excellent job with Zac. There is no doubt that Zac has shown improvement in his English literacy skills. He has shown a better understanding of reading and writing rules and concepts that he previously had some difficulty in grasping. There is now a consistency in his application that we see in his school assignments and tests. For that, we have Ms Shilpa to thank for.

Please extend our gratitude to Ms Shilpa for us. It was warming to see the close relationship that she has fostered with John rather than an effortless teacher-student one. We will endeavour, to the best of our abilities, to build on the foundation she has laid for John

Thank you again for your kind assistance.

Warm regards,

Mr X

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**



#### ANABERTA OEHLERS-JAEN

Head of DAS International and Programme Director for On-site School Based Programmes

Ms Anaberta Oehlers-Jaen started her career at DAS in 2005 as an Educational Therapist and has since held various portfolios. For 4 years, she was the Preschool Manager of the DAS Preschool Service and was actively involved with children at risk of literacy delay and helped to launch the service at the DAS. She assumed the position of Head of DAS International in 2011 in order to support both the local and expatriate international community of students, who may be experiencing learning differences through Specialist tutoring and Assessments. In her role as Maths Programme Director in 2014, Anaberta has presented at International conferences delivered in Singapore, ASEAN region and the UK.

She is also actively involved in research and has published articles in the Asia Pacific Journal of Developmental Differences. She holds a Masters Degree in Special Needs from NTU, BA(English Language and Literature) from SUSS, a Postgraduate Certificate in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education from the London Metropolitan University as well as a Cambridge International Diploma for Teachers and Trainers (Dyslexia), along with Early Childhood Diplomas. She is also a qualified trainer with the Advanced Certificate in Training and Assessment (ACTA) by the Singapore Workforce Skills Qualification (WSQ). She has Fellow status at RETA, Register of Educational Therapists (Asia), and is also a Senior Educational Therapist. Delivering a professional service to the families of students with Specific Learning Differences is high on her priority and hopes to continue to serve this community both in Singapore and the region.



DAS INTERNATIONAL SERVICES—SPECIALIST TUTORING

www.dasint.org.sg Scan me to find out more



#### INTENSIVE SPECIALIST TUTORING

Sessions	Block Sessions: 10 or 20 hours Monday to Friday Ideal for students who are on vacation break.
Recommended for	<ul> <li>Intensive tutoring is aims to support children who have or are currently attending an International school.</li> <li>Students who want to be better prepared for the next grade level</li> </ul>
Unique features of the Intensive Programme	Individual Education Plan (IEP)     Sessions are customised to meet the needs of an individual child.     In consultation with parents, a learning schedule is planned for the duration of the sessions.
Programmes Offered All lessons can be customised for the learner	Reading Comprehension, Reading Fluency, Spelling and Writing     Maths (Primary 1 to 6) Modular topic-based where parents can choose a block delivery on a Maths topic that they want their child to master.     PREP2PSLE The necessary study skills such as active listening, note-taking and grammar concepts needed to give your child a head start in the English exams.     Curriculum-Based Remediation for International and MOE students in supporting homework.

DELIVERED BY SENIOR EDUCATIONAL THERAPISTS

## **REGISTRATION DETAILS**

#### Available all year round



To register, **scan the QR code** to access the Specialist Tutoring form or visit **das.org.sg/apply-for-services** 

**LIMITED SLOTS!** First come first served basis only.

#### WANT TO KNOW MORE?



To find out more about our programme and fees, go to **www.dasint.org.sg/** or **scan the QR code!** 

For enquiries, call 6643 9600 or email us at enquiry@dasint.org.sg



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