

Inspiring Teacher of English Leadership Award (2026)

A national award for teachers of English in Singapore schools

THE STRAITS TIMES



The **Inspiring Teacher of English – Leadership Award** recognises Heads of Department (HOD)/Subject Heads (SH)/Level Heads (LH) who have successfully led their departments and schools in the development and implementation of an effective English Language/Literature in English/General Paper curriculum. The award is presented by The Straits Times and the Speak Good English Movement, with the support of the Ministry of Education.

Principals from primary, secondary and integrated programme schools, centralised institute and junior colleges are invited to make a nomination.

There are two categories for the Inspiring Teacher of English Award – the Teaching Award and the Leadership Award. Each school can make only **ONE nomination per award category**. The nomination and endorsement forms for these awards can be downloaded from www.goodenglish.org.sg.

Submit the nomination and endorsement forms via email to:

The Speak Good English Movement at nhb_speakgoodenglishmovement@nhb.gov.sg with the following subject: Inspiring Teacher of English Award 2026.

Nominations open on 2 February 2026 and all forms **MUST** reach the Speak Good English Movement **by 5pm on 6 April 2026**.

The Award

A maximum of 10 Inspiring Teacher of English Teaching/Leadership Awards will be presented every year. The judges reserve the right to present fewer than 10 awards.

Each award recipient will receive a trophy and a cash award. The award recipients' approaches to teaching English Language/Literature in English/General Paper may be published in SPH Media Trust publications.

All endorsed nominees will be eligible for a Singapore Association for Applied Linguistics membership.

For enquiries, please email:

Nhb_speakgoodenglishmovement@nhb.gov.sg

Eligibility of Nominee

1. The nominee must have been with the school for **two** years or more and be in service at the time of award.
2. The nominee should have led in developing and implementing the English Language/Literature in English/General Paper school-based curriculum in alignment with the relevant national syllabuses for **at least two years** in the school in the capacity of HOD, SH or LH of English Language/Literature in English/General Paper.
3. The nominee should have:
 - communicated a shared vision for quality teaching and learning that reflects a strong understanding of the organisational culture and the learning needs of staff and students;
 - planned an English Language/Literature in English/General Paper school-based curriculum aligned with the relevant national syllabuses to meet the readiness, interests and learning profiles of students of the school;
 - effectively implemented the school-based curriculum to develop the English Language/Literature in English/General Paper Learner Outcomes aligned with the syllabuses;
 - developed the teaching competencies of teachers in their departments so that they are able to enact classroom practices in alignment with the syllabuses and curriculum, as well as classroom-based innovations, including the appropriate use of EdTech to enhance teaching and learning; and
 - undertaken classroom inquiry with evidence provided of the impact on students' learning.
4. An HOD/SH/LH who was previously nominated can be nominated again after a lapse of **one** year. For example, if a HOD/SH/LH was nominated in 2024, a re-nomination can be made in 2026. Previous Leadership Award winners will not be eligible for repeat nominations in this same category.
5. The Principal must support the nomination with an endorsement form for the nominee to be eligible.

Selection Process

Part ONE: Submission of nomination forms Parts A and B, and Principal's endorsement.

Part TWO: Interviews for Shortlisted Nominees
Shortlisted nominees will submit their department plans/schemes of work and evidence of their classroom inquiry including self and peer reflections and student work to MOE HQ, prior to the interviews in July/August 2026.

Part THREE: Announcement of award recipients
Award recipients will be announced through the press in October 2026.

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NOMINATION FORM PART A

To be filled in by the nominee

Name:	Salutation	Dr / Mr / Ms / Mrs / Mdm	
	Name as in NRIC:		
Preferred name on certificate / trophy (where applicable). Use capitals.			
Partial NRIC Number: <i>Provide last 4 characters (e.g. 123A)</i>			
Age:			
Designation: (English Language/Literature in English/General Paper)			
School:		Department:	
Telephone:	(Mobile)	(Office)	
Email Address:			
Number of Years of Teaching Experience	In current school:	As HOD/SH/LH:	
	Total number of years of teaching experience:		
Have you been nominated for ITEA previously?	<input type="checkbox"/> No, this is the first time. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I was last nominated in [state year(s)]:		
Signature:			
Date:			

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- a) In no more than 500 words (please adhere strictly to the word limit), describe the design and development of the English Language/Literature in English/General Paper curriculum you have led in your school. Possible points to consider in your response could include how you have:
- led the department in igniting a love for English and in teaching students to communicate well. This may include what you do to lead the department in addressing the key emphases of the subject syllabuses (i.e. English Language/Literature in English/General Paper syllabuses); and
 - developed the teaching competencies of teachers in your department so that the teachers are able to enact classroom practice in alignment with the syllabuses and curriculum, as well as classroom-based innovations.

This section requires a typewritten response.

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Ministry of Education
SINGAPORE

In no more than 300 words, highlight what you have done to lead your department in the design, development and monitoring of a department-wide approach to teaching English Language/Literature in English/General Paper.

This section requires a typewritten response.

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NOMINATION FORM PART B

To be filled in by a peer/a teacher from the English Language/Literature in English/General Paper department who is mentored/supervised by the nominee

Name:	Salutation	Dr / Mr / Ms / Mrs / Mdm	
	First name		
	Last name		
School:			
Telephone:	(Mobile)	(Office)	
Email Address:			
Signature:			
Date:			

In no more than 100 words, highlight what the HOD/SH/LH has successfully done in leading the department in developing and implementing the English Language/Literature in English/General Paper school-based curriculum.

This section requires a typewritten response.

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ENDORSEMENT BY PRINCIPAL

To be filled in by the Principal

Please note that:

- only **one** candidate may be endorsed by each school for the Leadership Award
- the endorsement form must be signed by the Principal

Name:	Salutation	Dr / Mr / Ms / Mrs / Mdm	
	First name		
	Last name		
School:			
Telephone:	(Mobile)	(Office)	
Email Address:			
Signature:			
Date:			

In no more than 100 words, highlight why you think the HOD/SH/LH is deserving of this award in terms of how s/he leads the department in the design, development and monitoring of a department-wide approach to the teaching of English Language/Literature in English/General Paper. Include how the HOD/SH/LH has communicated a shared vision for quality teaching and learning that reflects strong understanding of the school's culture and the learning needs of the staff and students. Give evidence to support your view.