

SECTION : **SCHOOLS**



8 Dec [The Guardian] Coronavirus study that found US school closures cut life expectancy criticised by epidemiologist Lead author of controversial paper making the claims says it has been 'through rigorous peer review'. [LINK](#)



8 Dec [The Star] Black or white school shoes? Both allowed from next year, says Education Ministry. The shoes need to be made of canvas or other breathable synthetic materials such as nylon and polyester, while taking into consideration comfort, safety and health. [LINK](#)



9 Dec [School News AU] A year without NAPLAN has given us a chance to re-evaluate how we gauge school quality. After the changes COVID brought to education, policymakers have an opportunity to rethink our national "high-stakes" testing system that focuses on literacy and numeracy skills. It often leads teachers to "teach to the test", rather than ensuring students leave school with a well-rounded set of skills. [LINK](#)



9 Dec [School News AU] We don't need banks teaching kids about money. Schools have it covered. The Victorian government this week announced it would ban all banking schemes from operating in public schools from 2021.. This includes the controversial Dollarmites program, run by Commonwealth Bank, which teaches primary school children to save money and develop banking habits. Often, this is done by opening an account with the bank. [LINK](#)



9 Dec [Hindustan Times] Education Minister suggests no homework up to class 2, regularly weighing school bags. As per the suggestions, which are in line with the new National Educational Policy (NEP), the weight of school bag for students between classes 1-10 should not be more than 10 per cent of their body weight. [LINK](#)



9 Dec [The Straits Times] School fees unchanged for S'poreans, PRs next year; small rise for non-ASEAN foreign students. There will be an increase of about 3 per cent in fees for non-Asean foreign students in government and government-aided schools, which takes effect from January 2021. These students will pay \$25 to \$50 more per month. The revision is part of MOE's regular review of school fees. [LINK](#)

SECTION : **HIGHER EDUCATION**



5 Dec [Japan Times] 25% of university students receiving financial support contemplated quitting school amid pandemic. Asked to what extent they had thought about quitting, 20.9% said "somewhat," while 4.1% replied "very much." Those who were "seriously considering" doing so accounted for 0.7%, according to the online survey by the Tokyo-based Ashinaga. [LINK](#)



6 Dec [Channelnews Asia] UK universities will lose cachet post-Brexit, EU students warn. The biggest hurdle for future students from the EU will be money once Britain is no longer bound by the bloc's rules from Jan 1. [LINK](#)



8 Dec [The Straits Times] NUS launches new interdisciplinary College of Humanities and Sciences. Students will still graduate with a bachelor's honours degree in arts, social sciences or science within four years. But a key difference is that they will have to take 13 common modules in areas that cut across different fields of study, such as design thinking, artificial intelligence and scientific inquiry. [LINK](#)

SECTION : **EXAMINATION**



4 Dec [BBC News] GCSEs and A-levels: Extra measures 'to ensure fair exams next summer. More generous grading, advance notice of exam topics and additional papers are promised by the Department for Education to make up for the disruption faced by students during the pandemic. [LINK](#)



7 Dec [Channelnews Asia] Why the percentage of pupils going from primary to secondary school has remained the same over 5 years. In response to CNA's queries on the consistent results in recent years, the MOE spokesperson said bell curve grading is not used in any of the national exams. [LINK](#)



8 Dec [BBC News] Covid: What's happening with next year's exams? Scotland has announced that next year's school exams will not go ahead as normal. In England, next summer's A-levels and GCSE exams are due to go ahead. But content will be reduced for some subjects and most exams will now start from 7 June, rather than mid-May [LINK](#)

SECTION : TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION (TVET)



3 Dec [The Straits Times] Maliki Osman to lead review to ensure ITE and poly graduates' skills are matched to interests, jobs. It will be important to ensure that the graduates acquire deep skills and competencies that are well matched to their interests, and also the needs of employers and the industry. [LINK](#)



8 Dec [The Straits Times] ITE to offer 6 more work-study technical diploma courses, total 30 courses from next year. The six new courses are in the areas of aircraft cabin engineering, aircraft maintenance engineering, cloud management and operations, event management, fitness management, and optician. [LINK](#)

SECTION : BUSINESS AND FINANCE



7 Dec [Financial Times] France dominates FT European Business Schools 2020 ranking. Four institutions in and around Paris — HEC Paris, Insead, Essec and ESCP — are all in the top 10 of the FT's annual assessment of 90 European business schools, which includes a total of 22 French schools. [LINK](#)

7 Dec [Financial Times] Why cosmopolitan classmates matter at business school. A cosmopolitan mix, along with the opportunity to obtain a work visa and pursue an international career have been the big draws of European business schools. This multicultural offering, however, is being hit by coronavirus travel restrictions. [LINK](#)

SECTION : EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY



7 Dec [Ed Surge] Smart Technology Offers a New and Fun Approach to Language Learning. As augmented reality and virtual assistants find their place in the classroom, educators must strike a balance between innovation and safety. [LINK](#)



7 Dec [Ed technology UK] Report shines light on tech that has steered the sector through COVID complications. On top of revealing the devices and solutions that have allowed educators to navigate the ongoing pandemic disruption, the report highlights the tech that should be prioritised over the next 12 months. [LINK](#)



8 Dec [Ed Surge] Fostering Empathy and Equity in the Remote Classroom. In the learn-at-home world, ed tech helps teachers build connections and bridge the digital divide for K-12 students. [LINK](#)



8 Dec [Ed technology UK] Half of US schools did not implement cybersecurity protection following shift to remote working. On top of a lack significant training relevant to the new remote working environment, there are clear and considerable discrepancies between students and IT decision-makers when it comes to threatening experiences such as cyber-attacks. [LINK](#)

SECTION : SPECIAL EDUCATION



2 Dec [Disability Scoop] This Company Reinvented The Computer Mouse For Kids With Special Needs. The Hoglet — which takes its name from its resemblance to a baby hedgehog — is specially designed with elements from a fidget toy to increase focus for those with developmental disabilities and autism spectrum disorders. [LINK](#)

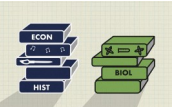


8 Dec [CT Mirror] Challenges to delivering special education have increased during the COVID era. At the start of the pandemic, parents and advocates expressed concerns about how difficult or impossible it is for some students with disabilities to learn from home. [LINK](#)



9 Dec [BBC news] Special needs education: 'Unacceptable delays' in school support. Across the board, principals reported inappropriate and unacceptable delays in accessing assessment and diagnosis by an educational psychologist as well as intervention from external agencies. [LINK](#)

SECTION : STEM EDUCATION



3 Dec [Daily Pennsylvanian] Penn to reclassify economics as STEM major, easing path to visas for international students. While most student visas are valid up to one year after graduation, international students majoring in STEM-designated programs can become eligible for an additional two-year work extension in their Optional Practical Training. [LINK](#)



8 Dec [Phys Org] Racial microaggressions contribute to disparities in STEM education. A study found when students of color in STEM majors felt excluded, invisible, or isolated on their college campus because of their race, sometimes combined with discouraging experiences in academic settings, they were less likely to continue in STEM. [LINK](#)