



Three sports – swimming, shooting and modern pentathlon – will be contested at the Singapore Sport School's seven-hectare Woodlands campus. TODAY FILE PHOTO

## 2010 YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES

# Game for a move

Sports School will shift to temporary home to ensure smooth running of YOG

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**SINGAPORE** – Some 400 student-athletes from the Singapore Sports School will move to a temporary home in the run-up to and the duration of the inaugural Youth Olympic Games (YOG) from Aug 14 to 26.

This is because three sports – swimming, shooting and modern pentathlon – out of the 26-sport Games calendar will be contested at the school's seven-hectare Woodlands campus.

Students and staff will vacate the premises, including the boarding facility, on July 19 and return on Aug 30. All local students will move back home, while the handful of foreign pupils will stay with their guardians.

Classes will be conducted at the Chinese International School Singapore at Dunearn Road and sports training will be held at the Ministry of Education's Co-Curricular Activities Branch (CCAB) at Evans Road, while the school's golfers and bowlers will practice at Orchid Country Club from July 19 to 30.

After that, students will participate in the annual Thailand Sports School Games and community service project from Aug 1 to 10.

E-lessons will be conducted in the second week of August.

"The Singapore Sports School supports YOG as a national project of huge international significance and interest ... We understand the need to have full use of all

the school facilities to ensure successful running of the events," principal Deborah Tan told MediaCorp yesterday.

"We will try to minimise any inconvenience to staff, students and parents, for example through the provision of transportation between training venues and the Chinese International School."

### STAND UP FOR SINGAPORE

In a landmark move to allow its students to participate in the Youth Games, the school will adjust the month-long (May 29 to June 27) mid-year break to just two weeks. The remaining two-week holiday will coincide with the Games.

"This will allow our staff and students to participate in, volunteer at and support the YOG," said Tan.

Youth Games hopeful Goh Wei Ning, 15, is already looking forward to the move.

"We usually spend the whole week in boarding and school, so these two weeks, we'll get to experience what the mainstream school pupils go through, and it's exciting for me and my friends," said the runner, who smashed the national girls' Under-17 100m hurdles record with her time of 15.01sec last week.

Parents like Martin Ng are supportive of the move, despite having his daughter, Marissa, commute from their Ang Mo Kio home to Dunearn Road and the CCAB for badminton practice.

"Yes, there will be inconvenience, but the school is making arrangements and everything is well thought out," he said. "This is the first ever YOG and, as Singaporeans, we should support this.

"Besides, I think the move will be refreshing for the kids."