How can parents support students to prepare for NSS Liberal Studies (LS)?
LS helps students:

- **A**: deepen their **awareness** of contemporary issues, and develop positive values
- **B**: broaden their knowledge base and perspectives
- **C**: connect knowledge of different disciplines and strengthen their **critical thinking** skills

**Diagram:**
- Chinese Language
- Elective 1
- Issues in English Language
- Elective 2
- Elective 3
- Mathematics
- Other Learning Experiences
Cultivate children’s concern for people & issues around them

- Discuss life experiences with children (A)
- Discuss current affairs from more than one angle (A,B,C)
- Become models for children by caring for the neighbourhood (A)
Broaden children’s horizons

- Encourage children to take part in more than one type of extra-curricular activities
- Accompany them to visit museums
- LS does not demand them to “know everything”, but instead helps them to connect knowledge of different domains
- Broadening horizons does not require extensive travelling…
Support reading to learn

Since reading can broaden one’s horizons and allow one to savour life experiences of others, parents need to

- subscribe newspapers, esp. student editions (A,B)
- encourage children to read materials of different formats, not limiting oneself to comics, romance novels (B)
- accompany children to libraries to borrow/read books related to different disciplines (B,C)
Develop critical thinking (C)

- encourage children to express views and question, give ample time and praise (C)
- listen to children’s views, do not give premature negative judgements → cultivate confidence in critical thinking (C)
- let them know when their views change our thinking (C)
- let them know that critical thinking does not mean criticising everything
Some forms of support are unnecessary

Project learning:

- Are the children really incapable in searching for information/designing the cover? Or is there a habitual dependence?
- Poor work planning → seeking help from parents in the last minute
- Junior secondary students need to develop skills of self-directed learning required in NSS LS