



GUIDELINE FOR NATIONAL SCIENCE CHALLENGE (NSC) 2026 PRELIMINARY LEVEL

The NSC 2026 Preliminary Level will be conducted as an online quiz according to zones starting from **27 April to 9 May 2026**, from **7AM to 7PM**. Please avoid answering the quiz at the last minute to prevent any possible system errors.

A **Mock Quiz session** will be conducted from **20 to 24 April 2026** with the same allocated time, for participants to familiarise themselves with the quiz platform. Participants may choose to answer the mock quiz between any of these dates. Each participant is given **one attempt only**.

The **zone distributions** are shown in the table below:

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	Mock Quiz (20 – 24 April)					
	All 16 States					
	Zone A (27 April)	Zone B (28 April)	Zone C (29 April)	Zone D (30 April)	Public Holiday	
	Pahang	Selangor	W.P Kuala Lumpur, Sabah & Perlis	Pulau Pinang		
	Zone E (3 May)	Zone F (4 May)	Zone G (5 May)	Zone H (6 May)	Zone I (7 May)	
Terengganu	Perak, N. Sembilan & W.P Labuan	Sarawak & Kelantan	Kedah & Melaka	Johor & W.P Putrajaya		

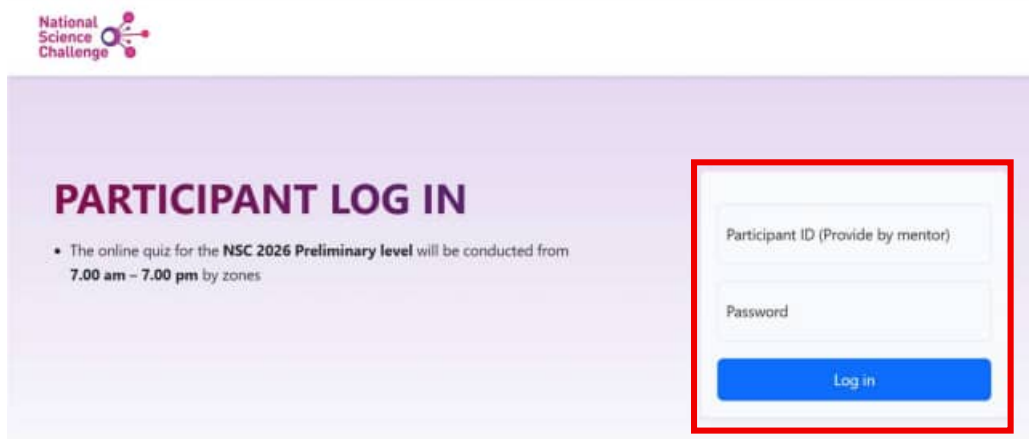
If there are any issues with the zone distribution, Mentor Teachers may contact us at nsc@akademisains.gov.my to request for changes or time extensions by **22 April 2026 (subject to approval).*

A. HOW TO ACCESS THE QUIZ PLATFORM

1. Go to the NSC Website at www.nsc.my and click 'Participant Login'.

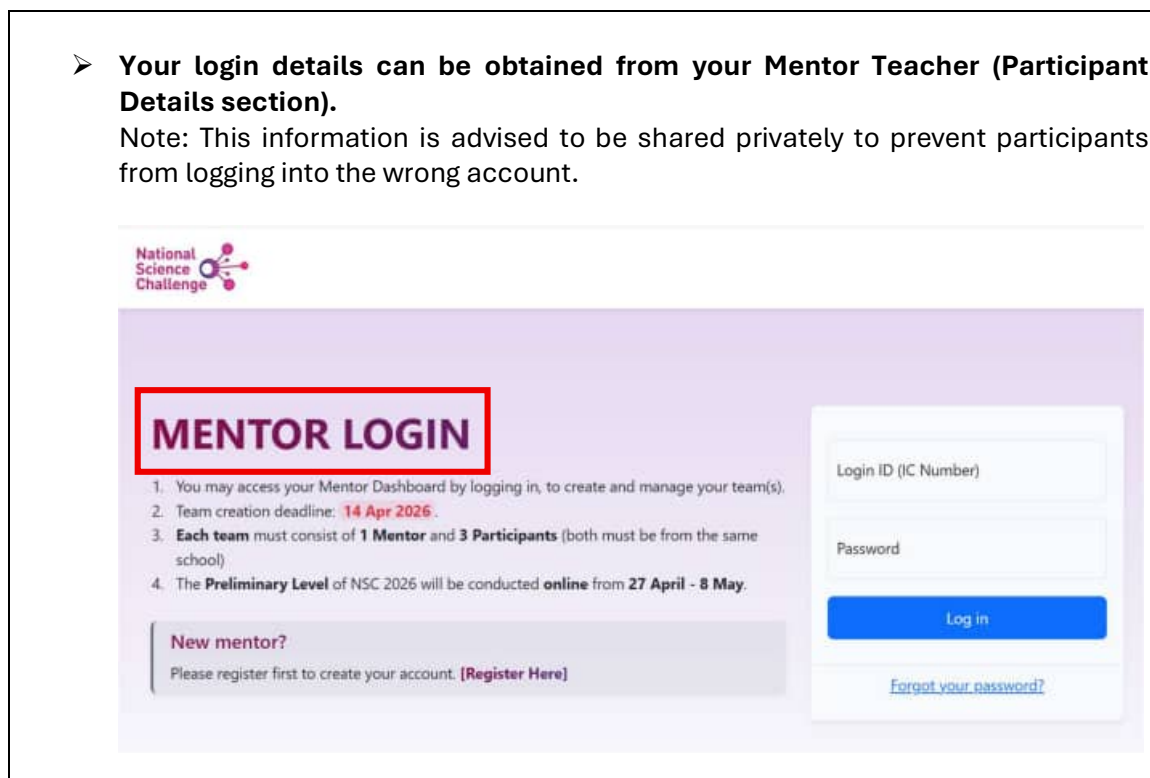


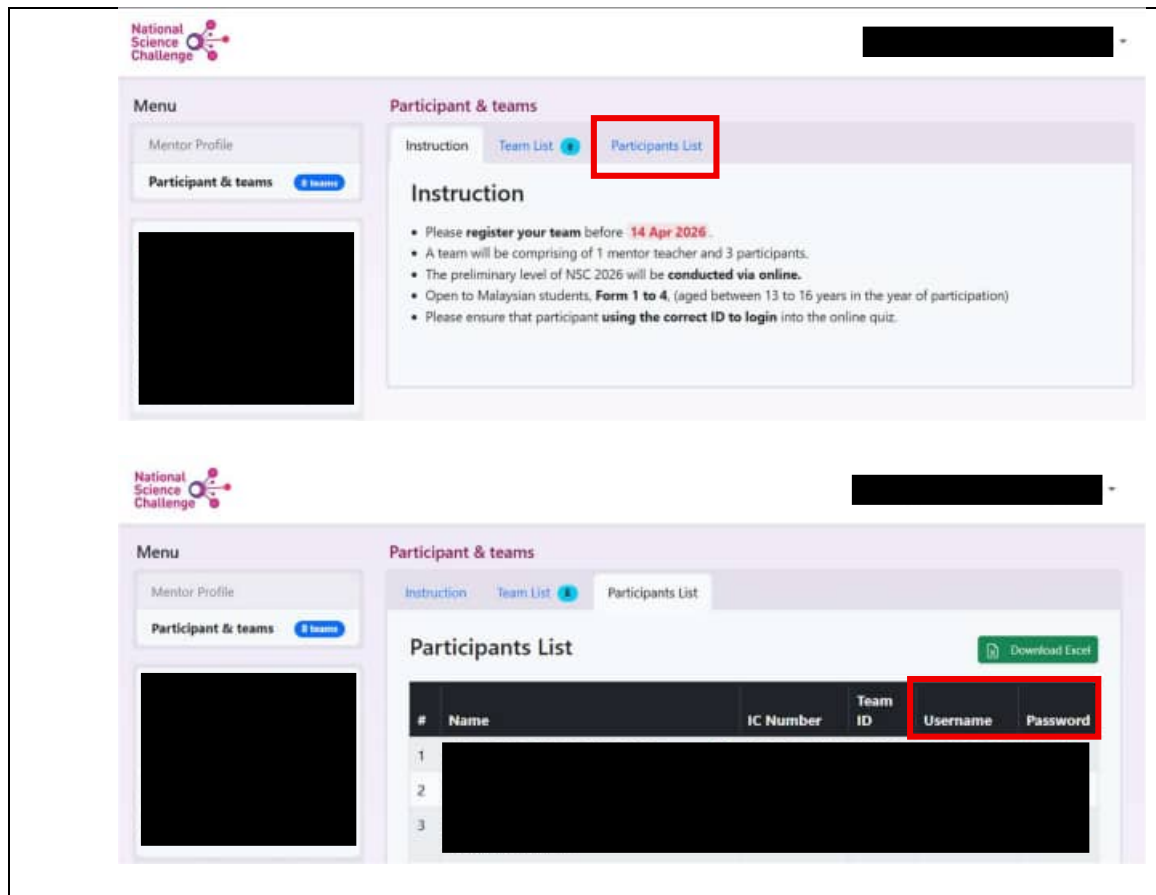
2. Log in using your Participant ID and Password provided by your Mentor Teacher.



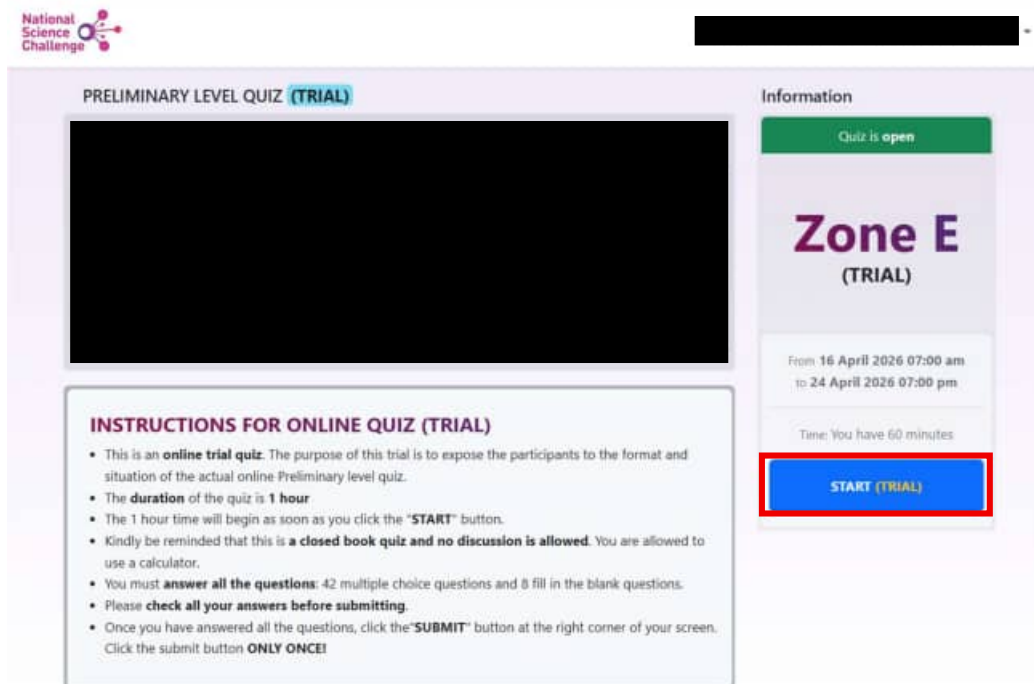
- **Your login details can be obtained from your Mentor Teacher (Participant Details section).**

Note: This information is advised to be shared privately to prevent participants from logging into the wrong account.

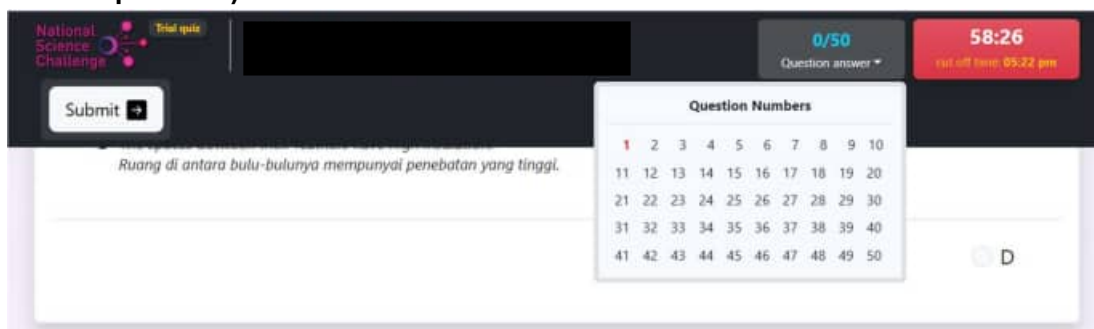




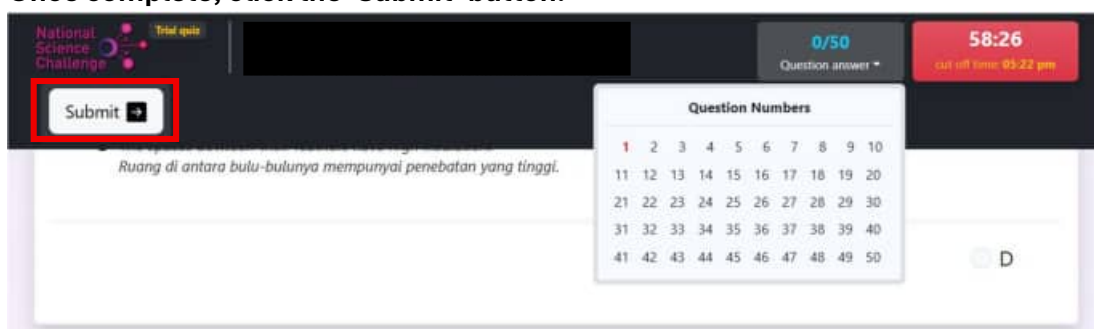
3. Once logged in, read the instructions carefully and verify your name and school details. Click “Start” to begin the quiz.



4. You may now begin answering the quiz using a laptop, tablet or mobile device (in landscape mode).



5. Once complete, click the 'Submit' button.



6. Certificate of participation can be downloaded from the mentor's profile after the end of the Preliminary Level. Only students who complete the quiz will receive a certificate of participation.

B. QUESTION FORMAT

- i. The quiz consists of randomly arranged questions and will cover the topics of Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics.
- ii. There are 50 questions in total; 42 multiple-choice questions and 8 fill-in-the-blank questions.
- iii. All participants are only given **one (1) hour** to answer all questions.
- iv. The questions will be displayed in English and Malay.
- v. The breakdown of the questions is as follows:

Question Type	Syllabus Coverage
Easy	KSSM Forms 1-4
Higher Order Thinking Skills (HOTS)	KSSM Forms 2-4
Application	KSSM Forms 3 & 4 (May also include reference from the ASM Estidotmy platform, https://esti.my/)

C. HOW TEAMS ADVANCE TO THE STATE LEVEL

- i. The overall score of each team is calculated cumulatively from the scores of the members.
- ii. The time taken during the quiz will be considered in the event of two teams having the same overall score.
- iii. 80 teams will be selected from **13 States and 3 Federal Territories (five teams from each State/ Federal Territory)** to compete at the State Level.
- iv. The states and Federal Territories are Johor, Kedah, Kelantan, Melaka, Negeri Sembilan, Pahang, Perak, Perlis, Pulau Pinang, Sabah, Sarawak, Selangor, Terengganu, W.P. Kuala Lumpur, W.P. Labuan, and W.P. Putrajaya.
- v. The **top five (5) teams** with the **highest overall scores** from each state will advance to the State Level.

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