



Reference: 20201013-8741
File no.: 13/16/1/2
Enquiries: District Assessment Coordinators

Curriculum and Assessment Management Minute: 0006/2020

To: Deputy Directors-General, Chief Directors, Directors, Heads: Curriculum Support, Heads: Management and Governance, Circuit Managers, Deputy Chief Education Specialists, Subject Advisers and Principals of public and private schools

Subject: Promotion requirements in the Senior Phase (Grades 7–9) in 2020

1. The Department of Basic Education (DBE) released National Assessment Circular 05 of 2020, dated 11 August 2020.
2. Owing to the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic on the 2020 academic year, the DBE provided schools with guidance on how to manage the revised curriculum and assessment programme. Programme directives were issued through Western Cape Education Department Circular (WCED) 0018/2020, dated 03 August 2020.
3. The WCED Circular 0018/2020 directed how schools should manage School Based Assessment in the remaining school terms in the General Education and Training band (Grades R–9) in 2020.
4. Schools were provided with an option of dropping two subjects from the nine subject offerings in the Senior Phase, excluding Home Language, First Additional Language, Mathematics, Natural Sciences and Life Orientation, provided approval of the two dropped subjects was sanctioned by the district director.
5. Schools had the option of dropping any of the two subjects from Social Sciences (SS), Economic Management Sciences (EMS), Technology and Creative Arts.

6. The purpose of this minute is to provide guidance to schools on how to apply promotion requirements in the Senior Phase (Grades 7–9) where schools have dropped two subjects.
7. The following criteria must be applied:
 - 7.1 For schools that have **not opted** to drop two subjects, the current promotion requirements as indicated in the *National policy pertaining to the programme and promotion requirements of the National Curriculum Statement Grades, R–12*, as published in National Curriculum Statement Grades R–12, Government Notices No. 722 and No. 723, Government Gazette No. 34600 of 12 September 2011 remain applicable.
 - 7.2 For schools that have **opted** to drop two of the nine subject offerings, Term 1's marks for the subjects dropped must be used as the final mark in these subjects. The mark obtained by the learner in Term 1 must be upscaled, based on the current criteria on nine subjects.
8. The amended promotion requirements is only applicable in 2020.
9. The WCED is currently investigating the impact of learning losses in the 2020 academic year due to the Covid-19 pandemic and proposals on possible mark adjustments and condonations will be made once the investigation has been completed. A minute will be issued to schools if mark adjustments and condonations are required.
10. The WCED Grades 7–9 recording and reporting programmes will be updated in Term 4 to automate the process once clarity regarding the possible mark adjustments and condonation are received from the DBE.
11. All schools are expected to implement the promotion requirements as stipulated in this minute effectively.
12. Principals of schools offering Grades 7–9 are kindly requested to share the contents of this minute with all teachers.

SIGNED: H MAHOMED

ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT MANAGEMENT

DATE: 2020-10-14