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Curriculum FET Minute: 0004/2023

To: Deputy Directors-General, Chief Directors, Directors (Head Office and district offices), Heads: Curriculum Support, Circuit Managers, Heads: Management and Governance, Subject Advisers and Principals of Schools of Skills and ordinary public schools

**Subject: Extension for the piloting of the vocationally oriented curriculum in the approved ordinary public schools and the full implementation in approved Schools of Skill**

1. In 2017, the Council of Education Ministers approved the piloting of the occupational oriented curriculum in Schools of Skill, which ended in 2020. The full implementation for this curriculum commenced in 2021.
2. The Department of Basic Education (DBE) issued Circular S10 of 2020, dated 19 November 2020 (attached as Annexure A), which provides guidance regarding the full implementation of the occupational oriented curriculum in Schools of Skill and the piloting of the vocationally oriented curriculum in ordinary public schools.
3. The purpose of this minute is to inform ordinary public schools that the DBE is not ready for the full-scale implementation and is making provision for the approved schools to continue with the pilot, with an **amendment to paragraph 7 of Circular S10 of 2020** on subject offering.
4. The amendment states that learners in Grades 8 and 9 at ordinary public schools who are involved in the pilot will continue to offer programme requirements for the Senior Phase as stipulated in the *National Policy Pertaining to the Programme and Promotion Requirements for the National Curriculum Statement, Grades R–12*. Schools will continue with Home Language, First Additional Language, Mathematics, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences and Life Orientation but are allowed to **offer up to three subjects from 2024 to replace any of the following three electives**: Technology, Creative Arts, and Economic and Management Sciences.

5. The Western Cape Education Department will inform schools when the policy is finalised and the date for full implementation is received from the DBE. Note that the protocols that will be followed to offer the new subjects will be in line with Circular 0036/2021, dated 18 June 2021.
6. Principals are kindly requested to bring the contents of this minute to the attention of all teachers and relevant staff at the school.

**SIGNED:** H MAHOMED

**DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT MANAGEMENT**

**DATE:** 2023-06-21