

File no.: 21/2/5/2/GR:3-4 BRIDGING
Reference: 20231010-8701

Curriculum GET Minute: DCG 0011/2023

To: Deputy Directors-General, Chief Directors, Directors, Heads: Curriculum Support, Heads: Management and Governance, Circuit Managers, Deputy Chief Education Specialists, Intermediate Phase/GET Coordinators, Intermediate Phase Subject Advisers, and Principals of all ordinary public and independent schools

Subject: Suggested bridging strategy for learners from Grade 3 to Grade 4

1. Progressing to a new school phase can often be a traumatic experience for learners. With younger learners it seems even more challenging. The Western Cape Education Department (WCED) is concerned that with the background of learning losses, bridging from Grade 3 to 4 may pose a huge challenge for learners in 2024.
2. The Directorate: Curriculum General Education and Training of the WCED has also identified development and support to Grade 4 learners and teachers in 2024 as a high priority objective. The first level of development and support will focus on the smooth transition of learners from Grade 3 to Grade 4, followed by guidance and support to Grade 4 teachers in 2024.
3. The process will commence in Term 4 with suggested structured bridging and will be unpacked to guide different levels and stages:
 - Term 4 of 2023 planning;
 - Preparations for the week of 27 November 2023;
 - The handover process of learners from Grade 3 to Grade 4 teachers;
 - Preparations for the Grade 4 Open Day for learners;
 - Procedure on the Open Day; and
 - Mediation of the Grade 4 parent booklet.
4. The bridging process is explained in detail in **Annexure A**.

5. Principals are kindly requested to bring this minute to the attention of School Management Teams and Grade 3 and 4 teachers.

SIGNED: H MAHOMED

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT MANAGEMENT

DATE: 2023-10-19