



basic education

Department
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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**TO: HEADS OF PROVINCIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENTS
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CIRCULAR S16 of 2024

EXTENSION OF THE PILOT FOR VOCATIONALLY AND OCCUPATIONALLY ORIENTED SUBJECTS IN ORDINARY SCHOOLS AND APPROVED SCHOOLS OF SKILL FOR 2025

1. In 2017, the Council for Education Ministers approved the pilot for occupational oriented curriculum in schools of Skill. The pilot was to be completed in 2020, full implementation was to commence in 2021.
2. Subsequently, Circular S10 of 2020 was issued to provide guidance regarding the implementation of the occupationally oriented curriculum in schools and pilot of vocationally oriented curriculum in ordinary schools.
3. The purpose of piloting the draft occupational and vocationally oriented curriculum was to ensure that the curriculum is effective, and to make changes before it is distributed or offered widely. Piloting a curriculum helps to identify which sections of the curriculum worked and which sections need strengthening.
4. In May 2023, the department released Circular S13 of 2023 informing schools piloting the occupational and vocationally oriented subjects on the extension of the pilot and the increase in programme offering for the pilot.
5. Subsequently, Circular S2 of 2024 was issued informing schools that the Pilot is extended pending finalisation of policy processes.
6. The purpose of this Circular is to inform schools about the deferment of the full roll-out, and the continuation of the pilot in 2025 to allow necessary policy processes to be completed, and to afford schools ample time to prepare for implementation in 2026.

7. The Department is extending the Pilot with the current provisions as communicated through Circulars S13 of 2023 and S2 of 2024.
8. You are kindly requested to bring the content of this Circular to the attention of all provincial and district officials, principals, teachers of both public and independent schools, and other relevant stakeholders.
9. Your support in ensuring compliance with the content of this circular is greatly appreciated.



MR HM MWELI
DIRECTOR-GENERAL
DATE: 15/10/2024