



basic education

Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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TO: MECs FOR EDUCATION
HEADS OF PROVINCIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENTS
HEADS OF PROVINCIAL CURRICULUM SECTIONS
HEADS OF PROVINCIAL EXAMINATIONS SECTIONS
HIGHER EDUCATION OF SOUTH AFRICA
MATRICULATION BOARD
SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY
INDEPENDENT EXAMINATIONS BOARD
INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS' COUNCIL
UMALUSI
NATIONAL TEACHER ORGANISATIONS

CIRCULAR S10 OF 2015: INCREMENTAL IMPLEMENTATION OF MANDARIN AS A NON-OFFICIAL LANGUAGE FROM 2016-2018

1. On 20 February 2015, the Minister of Education signed Government Notices, 38589 and 38590 respectively, for the listing of Mandarin as a non-official language for the National Curriculum Statement Grades R-12.
2. The Second Additional Language for Grades 4-9 will be regarded as an additional subject not to be taken into account for promotion requirements, as contemplated in paragraph 14 of the National Policy Pertaining to the Programme and Promotion Requirements of the National Curriculum Statement Grades R – 12. Moreover, the offering of Mandarin in Grades 4-9 as a Second Additional Language is outside the contact time and also does not count towards promotion requirements.
3. Schools offering an optional language selected from Table 11 of the National Curriculum Statement Grades R – 12 on at least the Second Additional Language level as contemplated in paragraph 19(9) (National Policy Pertaining to the Programme and Promotion Requirements of the National Curriculum Statement Grades R – 12) may not use the time allocated for the languages listed in Table 18 of the National Policy Pertaining to the Programme and Promotion Requirements of the National Curriculum Statement Grades R – 12. Optional languages may only be offered if the school can make an arrangement for the allocation of additional time to the allocated 27,5 hours of weekly instructional time.

INCREMENTAL IMPLEMENTATION OF MANDARIN AT SECOND ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE LEVEL FOR THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM STATEMENT GRADES R-12

4. The roll-out of Mandarin will be incrementally implemented in schools as follows: Grades 4-9 and 10 will be implemented in January 2016, followed by Grade 11 in 2017 and Grade 12 in 2018.
5. The implementation of an optional language in the Intermediate Phase (Grades 4-6) and in the Senior Phase (Grades 7-9) in public schools in the various provinces is subject to the approval of the Head of Education of the relevant province.
6. For FET (Grades 10-12), subject to paragraphs 28(5) and 28(6) of the National Policy Pertaining to the Programme and Promotion Requirements of the National Curriculum Statement Grades R – 12, a minimum of any three subjects selected from Group B Annexure B, Tables B1-B8 of the mentioned document may be offered. Of the minimum three required subjects, a maximum of two additional languages over and above the two official languages contemplated in subparagraph (a) may be offered from both Tables A1 and B4 of the above document.
7. In preparation for the implementation, relevant CAPS documents are available on the following department of education website: www.education.gov.za under CAPS.
8. This Circular S10 of 2015 should be read in conjunction with the Mandarin CAPS documents.

You are kindly requested to bring the contents of **Circular S10 of 2015** to the attention of all provincial and district officials, and principals and teachers of both public and independent schools.

Yours sincerely



MR SG PADAYACHEE

ACTING DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 2015/07/16