



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 EXAMINATIONS
ASSOCIATION OF PRIVATE PROVIDERS
HIGHER EDUCATION OF SOUTH AFRICA
MATRICULATION BOARD
SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY
INDEPENDENT EXAMINATIONS BOARD
INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS' COUNCIL
UMALUSI
NATIONAL TEACHER ORGANISATIONS

CIRCULAR S7 OF 2015: INCREMENTAL IMPLEMENTATION OF TECHNOLOGY SUBJECTS IN TECHNICAL SCHOOLS FROM 2016-2018

1. In 2008, the then Minister of Education Ms Naledi Pandor convened a meeting of principals of technical high schools to address the concerns expressed by industries, Technical Schools and the Department of Basic Education partners about the role of technical subjects.
2. The concern expressed was the compulsory offering of pure Mathematics and Physical Science in Technical Schools for learners who will pursue vocational pathways as they require a different type of Mathematics and Physical Science as opposed to pure Mathematics and Physical Science.
3. Emanating from the discussions at this meeting, the Department of Basic Education established a Reference Task Team (RTT) in 2009 that studied the current design of the Technology subjects and compared the findings to the country's requirements on skills training for artisans.

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4. Approval was granted for the revision of *Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statement (CAPS)* for Technical subjects.
5. In September 2012, HEDCOM approved the Terms of Reference for the appointment of the Ministerial Task Team (MTT) to among others; oversee the writing of Technical subjects, referred to as CAPS 2.
6. In July 2014, the Minister of Basic Education after consultation with the Council of Education Ministers, approved the amendment to national education policy as stipulated in the *Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statements* for the following new technology subjects to be listed in the National Curriculum Statement Grades R-12:
 - (a) Civil Technology;
 - (b) Electrical Technology;
 - (c) Mechanical Technology;
 - (d) Technical Mathematics; and
 - (e) Technical Science.
7. The CAPS Technical subjects will be incrementally implemented in schools from 2016-2018 as follows:
 - 2016 for Grade 10;
 - 2017 for Grade 11; and
 - 2018 in Grade 12.
8. These subjects will only be offered in a Technical school declared and approved by the head of the Provincial Education Department.
9. Schools wishing to the Technology subjects to learners should consider the following requirements that should be met in order to successfully implement the subject into the school curriculum:
 - Availability of a teachers offer all the chosen areas of specialisation;
 - Availability of an equipped workshop to cater for the areas of specialisation; and
 - The possibility of catering for different groups within school time-tabling;

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10. Schools wishing to offer more than one field of specialisation are not allowed to mix groups, reference on programme requirements and subject combinations are available in the Technical Subjects CAPS documents, Section 2 and as stipulated in the Regulations Pertaining to the National Curriculum Statement Grades R-1, sub-regulation (4a): study pathways for grades 10 -12.
11. This Circular S7 of 2015 should be read in conjunction with the new Technology CAPS documents available on the department website: www.education.gov.za under CAPS.

You are kindly requested to bring the contents of **Circular S17 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: 2015/06/10