



## basic education

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Basic Education  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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### **CIRCULAR S1 OF 2016: CLARIFICATION ON IMPLEMENTATION DATES FOLLOWING CIRCULAR S15 OF 2015**

1. **Circular S15 of 2015** was sent to Provincial Education Departments on 14 December 2015 regarding the promulgation and the implementation dates for Technology subjects and Sign language, change in the offering of subjects in Grades 10 and 11, offering of Mathematics with Accounting and Physical Sciences, and accommodation of Independent schools by means of provisos in the Regulations pertaining to the National Curriculum Statement Grades R-12.
2. This circular is a follow up to the above **Circular** and seeks to provide clarity on the amendments as listed in Circular S15 of 2015 and the implementation date.

#### **2.1 Special dispensation for FET learners regarding a change in the offering of subjects in Grades 10-11**

- 2.1.1 A learner may change a maximum of two subjects in Grade 10, provided this is done by the end of the second term, subject to the approval of the Principal of the school where the learner is registered. Such change must be done before 30 June of the Grade 10 year.
- 2.1.2 A learner may change two subjects in Grade 11, provided this is done before 31 March, subject to the approval of the Principal of the school where the learner is registered.
- 2.1.3 In exceptional cases a learner may change one additional subject in Grade 11, provided this is done before 15 December of the Grade 11-year.

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- 2.1.4 The amendment referred to in paragraph 2.1.3 applies to Grade 11; hence this change can be implemented in 2016. The status quo will apply in terms of paragraph 2.1.1 and 2.1.2.

**2.2 The offering of Mathematics as a compulsory subject with either Accounting and Physical Sciences as one of the major subject**

- 2.2.1 Learners offering Physical Sciences and Accounting as one or more of their optional subjects selected from Group B in the policy document, *National Policy Pertaining to the Programme and Promotion Requirements of the National Curriculum Statement Grades R – 12*; must offer Mathematics as a compulsory subject selected from Group A in the said policy document.
- 2.2.2 Given the fact that Circular S15 of 2015 was issued at a stage when school plans for the 2016 year were already finalized, the implementation dates have been deferred as follows:
- 2017 in Grade 10;
  - 2018 in Grade 11; and
  - 2019 in Grade 12.
- 2.2.3 Schools that have already implemented this change with effect from 2016 should not alter their subject combinations. The extension is granted to accommodate schools that were not able to implement the change in 2016.

**2.3 Accommodation of independent schools by means of provisos in the Regulations Pertaining to the National Curriculum Statement Grades R-12 as identified by the NAISA**

- 2.3.1 Independent schools must comply with the minimum outcomes and standards regarding the programme requirements of the subjects listed in sub-regulation (5)(1)(bA), namely the overview of the relevant subject content, as contemplated in section 2 of the applicable Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statement, provided they have comparable content sequencing principles in place as listed in sections 2 and 3 of the said policy document.
- 2.3.2 Should an independent school's performance not meet the required performance targets as stipulated by the relevant authority, such a school must comply with all subject requirements as stipulated in sections 2 and 3 of the Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statements.
- 2.3.3 These provisos are applicable with effect from 2016.

3. This Circular S1 of 2016 should be read in conjunction with the following policy documents:

- *National Policy Pertaining to the Programme and Promotion Requirements of the National Curriculum Statement Grades R-12*;
- *Regulations Pertaining to the National Curriculum Statement Grades R-12*;
- *National Policy Pertaining to the Conduct, Administration and Management of the National Senior Certificate examination*;
- *Regulations Pertaining to the Conduct, Administration and Management of the National Senior Certificate examination*;
- *Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statements (CAPS)*; and

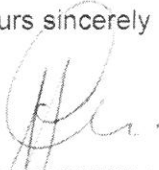
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- Circular S15 of 2015.

The above National policy documents and Regulations are available on the Department website: [www.education.gov.za](http://www.education.gov.za) under Documents Library-Policies.

Circular S15 of 2015 is attached for easy reference. You are kindly requested to bring the contents of this **Circular** to the attention of all provincial and district officials, principals and teachers of both public and independent schools.

Yours sincerely



**MR. HM MWELI**  
**DIRECTOR-GENERAL**  
DATE: 03/03/2016