



# basic education

Department:  
Basic Education  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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**To: HEADS OF PROVINCIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENTS**  
**CC: HEADS OF PROVINCIAL CURRICULUM BRANCHES**  
**PROVINCIAL LTSM MANAGERS**  
**DISTRICT DIRECTORS AND LTSM OFFICIALS**  
**SCHOOL PRINCIPALS**

## **CIRCULAR S5 OF 2016**

### **REDUCTION OF WORKBOOK TITLES FOR THE 2018 ACADEMIC YEAR AND BEYOND**

The Department of Basic Education (DBE) received the 2017 academic year workbooks order from all nine provinces.

For the past three years, it has been found that there is an annual increase in the demand of workbooks by schools.

The increased quantities have placed increasing demands on the budget for printing and delivery of workbooks to the extent that it is surpassing the available workbook budget. In light of this, the DBE has no alternative but to reduce quantities and titles of workbooks that were delivered by the DBE in previous years. It is decided that the Grades 1 to 3 Life Skills will be removed from the list of subjects receiving workbooks as from the 2018 academic year. In line with this decision, for the 2018 academic year and beyond, the DBE will only be able to print and deliver the following workbooks to public schools:

- Grade R workbooks in 11 languages;
- Grades 1-6 Home Languages in all languages;
- Grades 1-3 Mathematics in Language of Learning and Teaching (LoLT);
- Grades 4-9 Mathematics in English and Afrikaans; and
- Grades 1-6 First Additional Languages in English.

The DBE is confident that the removal of Grades 1 to 3 Life Skills workbooks will not compromise the quality of teaching in this subject as textbooks are provided to learners for this subject. Provinces are advised to opt to use the national workbook tender to print and distribute Grades 1 to 3 Life Skills and other subjects workbooks for their respective schools for the 2018 academic year and beyond, should their budget allow them to do so.

The printing and delivery of workbooks for 2018 and beyond will still be informed by the signed off data set from Provincial Heads of Education Departments.

It would be much appreciated, if through your Office, Circular S5 of 2016 could be brought to the attention of officials in Curriculum Unit, Learning and Teaching Support Materials Directors, District Offices as well as School Principals.



**MR HM MWELI**  
**DIRECTOR-GENERAL**  
**DATE:** 30/08/2016