



**EASTERN CAPE**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Assessment and Examinations Directorate \* P. O Box 4571 King William's Town \* 5600 \*  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA \* REFERENCE: 13/P  
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**ASSESSMENT INSTRUCTION 26 of 2009**

**TO:**            **DEPUTY DIRECTORS-GENERAL**  
                  **CHIEF DIRECTORS**  
                  **HEAD OFFICE DIRECTORS AND DISTRICT DIRECTORS**  
                  **CHIEF EDUCATION SPECIALISTS**  
                  **EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS**  
                  **DEPUTY CHIEF / SENIOR EDUCATION SPECIALISTS**  
                  **PRINCIPALS OF PUBLIC AND INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS**  
                  **(GRADES 10-12)**  
                  **TEACHER UNIONS / ORGANISATIONS**  
                  **SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES**

**DATE:**        **06 APRIL 2009**

**STATUS OF MATHEMATICS PAPER 3 IN THE  
NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION (NSC)**

1. Assessment Instruction 4 of 2009 dated 5 January 2009 and Circular S1 of 2009 dated 27 February 2009 (and received by the Eastern Cape Department of Education on 1 April 2009) have reference.
2. The Assessment Standards of Mathematics as stipulated in the policy document, Subject Statement for Mathematics, have been divided into Core Assessment Standards and Optional Assessment Standards.
3. The Optional Assessment Standards are currently examined by means of an Optional Examination Question Paper 3.
4. It had been anticipated that from 2011 the Optional Assessment Standards would be compulsory to all learners offering Mathematics.
5. After careful consideration the Department of Education has taken a decision that the Optional Assessment Standards will not, within the foreseeable future, be made compulsory in Grade 12.

6. This means that **Paper 3** remains an optional paper until a review of the *National Curriculum Statement Grades 10 – 12* for Mathematics, if and when necessary.
7. Please note that **Paper 3** will therefore not be compulsory in Grade 10 in 2009 as stated in Assessment Instruction 04 of 2009 dated 5 January 2009.
8. At the same time, schools are encouraged to offer tuition in Mathematics P3 to learners who wish to extend and deepen their knowledge of Mathematics.
9. All education stakeholders, especially Subject Advisors, Teachers of Mathematics, learners and parents, are advised to take note of the contents of this Assessment Instruction.

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**S.P. GOVENDER**  
**CHIEF DIRECTOR: CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT**

**ASSESSMENT INSTRUCTION 26 OF 2009  
STATUS OF MATHEMATICS PAPER 3 IN THE NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE  
EXAMINATION.**

**COMMENTS:**

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<b>Supported / Not Supported</b>
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**E. M. MABONA**

**DIRECTOR: ASSESSMENT & EXAMINATIONS**

**DATE**

**COMMENTS:**

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<b>Approved / Not Approved</b>
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**S. P. GOVENDER**

**CHIEF DIRECTOR: CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT**

**DATE**