



ASSESSMENT & EXAMINATION

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ASSESSMENT INSTRUCTION 06 of 2012

TO: DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL
CHIEF DIRECTORS
HEAD OFFICE DIRECTORS AND DISTRICT DIRECTORS
CHIEF EDUCATION SPECIALISTS
EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS
DEPUTY CHIEF / SENIOR EDUCATION SPECIALISTS
PRINCIPALS OF ALL SCHOOLS OFFERING GRADE 12
TEACHER UNIONS / ORGANISATIONS
SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES

DATE: 05 JANUARY 2012

**GOVERNMENT NOTICES PERTAINING TO
NEW AND EXISTING NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY FOR
MUSIC, COMPUTER APPLICATION TECHNOLOGY, INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY AND IMMIGRANT CANDIDATES.**

1. The contents of this assessment instruction are as per National Department of Basic Education Circular S5 of 2011 dated, 01 November 2011.
2. On 12 September the *National Curriculum Statement* Grade R-12, comprising the following policy documents, was promulgated in Government Gazette No. 34600 of 12 September 2011.
 - Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statements for all approved subjects for Grades R-12;
 - The Policy document, *National policy pertaining to the programme and promotion requirements of the National Curriculum Statement Grades R-12*; and;
 - The *National Protocol for Assessment Grades R-12*.



3. An important policy stipulation emanating from the policy document, *National policy pertaining to the programme and promotion requirements of the National Curriculum Statement Grades R-12* pertains to:
- (a). Subjects choices in Grades 10-12 in terms of the new curriculum in 2012; and
 - (b). two changes to the current policy document, *National Senior Certificate: A qualification at Level 4 on the National Qualification Framework (NQF)*, namely:
 - (i). An amendment to the definition of an immigrant candidate in the Further Education and Training Phase; and
 - (ii). The offering of the Music programmes of the accredited and approved external Music examination bodies under restricted conditions as part of the National Senior Certificate programme.
4. **National Senior Certificate qualification as stipulated in the policy document, *National policy pertaining to the programme and promotion requirements of the National Curriculum Statements Grade R-12***

From 2012 learners in Grade 10, following the *National Curriculum Statement Grades R-12*, **may offer the subjects Computer Application Technology and Information Technology in combination** to comply with the seven-subject package for the National Senior Certificate.

It is however, **important to note that those learners in Grade 11 in 2012 and in Grade 12 in 2013, must still comply with the existing policy** as stipulated in *paragraph 10(8)* of the policy document, *National Senior Certificate: A qualification at Level 4 on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF)*, namely, that learners may not offer both Computer Application Technology and Information Technology for National Senior Certificate purposes.



5. **National Senior Certificate qualification as stipulated in the interim policy document, *National policy pertaining to the programme and promotion requirements of the National Curriculum Statements Grade R-12***

Two aspects emanating from the policy document, *National policy pertaining to the programme and promotion requirements of the National Curriculum Statement Grades R-12* will have an influence on Grade 11 and 12 during the interim period, 2012-2013. This necessitated the following amendments to the current policy document, *National Senior Certificate: A qualification at Level 4 on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF)*, namely:

- (a). *Paragraph 12:* An amendment to the definition of an immigrant candidate in the Further Education and Training Phase; and
- (b). *Paragraph 20:* The offering of the Music programmes of the accredited and approved external Music examination bodies, namely the Associated Board of Royal Schools of Music, Trinity College of London and UNISA under restricted conditions as part of the National Senior Certificate programme.

The above amendments to the interim policy were promulgated in *Government Gazette No. 34669* of 10 October 2011.

(a). **Paragraph 12:**

The existing *Paragraph 12(1) (a) (ii)* “having begun his or her schooling at a school in South Africa, has attended school outside South Africa for two or more consecutive years after **Grade 6 or its equivalent**” has been **substituted** with following new paragraph *12(1) (a) (ii)*:

“having begun his or her schooling at a school in South Africa, has attended school outside South Africa for two or more consecutive years after **Grade 3 or its equivalent and before Grade 9 or its equivalent**, and has subsequently returned to South Africa.”

The amendment to the definition of an immigrant learner as stipulated in the new paragraph 12 is applicable with immediate effect.

(b). Paragraph 20:

Paragraph 20 is amended by the addition of a new *sub-paragraph 8* following *sub-paragraph (7)*-

“(8) Subject to paragraph 28(7) of the policy document, *National policy pertaining to the programme and promotion requirements of the National Curriculum Statement Grades R-12* the Associated Board of Royal Schools of Music, Trinity College of London and UNISA (Grades 6 – 7) Practical Music Examinations listed as Group C subjects to be offered by National Senior Certificate learners should be incrementally phased out as follows:

- (a). Grade 10 in December 2011;
- (b). Grade 11 in December 2012; and
- (c). Grade 12 in December 2013.

(c). This means that there may be **no new enrolments in Grade 10 in 2012 for any one of the above-listed external Music programmes.** Learners in Grade 12 in 2014 may offer one of the above-listed external Music programmes as an eighth subject under restricted conditions as explained in **Circular S3 of 2011. (Refer Assessment Instruction 50 of 2011).**

6. District Officials are kindly requested to bring the above policy changes pertaining to the National Senior Certificate qualification to the attention of all schools and teachers involved. School Principals are required to ensure strict adherence to the policy prescripts.
7. The co-operation of all stakeholders in the process is appreciated.



S.P. GOVENDER
CHIEF DIRECTOR: CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT