



Province of the  
**EASTERN CAPE**  
EDUCATION

**DIRECTORATE: SECONDARY CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT**

Steve Vukile Tshwete Complex • Zone 6 • Zwelitsha • Eastern Cape • Private Bag X0032 • Bisho • 5605 • REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA  
Tel: +27 (0)40 608 4489 • Fax: +27 (0)40 608 4394 / 086 548 7612 • Website: [www.ecdoe.gov.za](http://www.ecdoe.gov.za)

Enquiries: Ms V.L. Westphal

Email: [vivian.westphal@ecdoe.gov.za](mailto:vivian.westphal@ecdoe.gov.za)

**CURRICULUM INSTRUCTION F03/2020**

**TO:**

- DEPUTY DIRECTORS-GENERAL**
- CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**
- CHIEF DIRECTORS**
- DIRECTORS AND DISTRICT DIRECTORS**
- CHIEF EDUCATION SPECIALISTS**
- EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS**
- DEPUTY CHIEF/ SENIOR EDUCATION SPECIALISTS**
- PRINCIPALS OF ALL PUBLIC AND INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS: GRADES 10 – 12**
- TEACHERS**
- TEACHER UNIONS/ ORGANISATIONS**
- SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES**

**DATE:** 13 JANUARY 2020

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ABRIDGED VERSION OF THE AMENDED SECTION 4 OF THE CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT POLICY STATEMENT**

1. The Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statement (CAPS) is a single, comprehensive, and concise document developed for all subjects listed in the National Curriculum Statement Grades R – 12 and is arranged into four sections.
2. Section 4 of the CAPS deals with various forms of assessments which are developed, administered and assessed by the subject teacher at school level. The Department of Basic Education (DBE) received a number of concerns from teachers, teacher unions and other stakeholders with regard to certain practical challenges in implementing Section 4.
3. Circular S1 of 2017, made provision for Guidelines to strengthen Section 4 of the CAPS, Grades R – 11. The Guidelines were intended to strengthen the implementation of Section 4 of the CAPS and did not seek to amend the current policy. The Guidelines were to be implemented until such

time the policy had been amended and promulgated. The policy amendment process has now been completed and Circular S1 of 2017 is hereby repealed and replaced by Circular S5 of 2019 (attached) with effect 01 January 2020.

4. The National Curriculum and Assessment Task Team (NCATT) undertook the review of Section 4 of the CAPS and an abridged version for all subjects was developed for the GET and FET Bands respectively.
5. The Minister of Education, Hon. A. Motshekga, approved the **implementation of the abridged version of Section 4 of the CAPS for implementation in January 2020 in Grades 1 – 11**, as per section 6A of the South African Schools Act (SASA) (Act No. 84 of 1996) and Section 3(4)(1) of the National Education Policy Act (NEPA), 1996 (Act No. 27 of 1996).
6. The abridged version of Section 4 of the CAPS was subsequently published through Government Notices 1429 and 1430, published in Government Gazette No. 42829 of 08 November 2019.
7. The aforementioned abridged version is available on the DBE website through the link below:  
  
<https://www.education.gov.za/Resources/legislation/GovernmentNotices/GETandFETAbridgedCAPSdocuments.aspx>
8. The South African School Administration and Management System (SA-SAMS) has been updated to align it with the amended Section 4 of the CAPS.
9. You are kindly requested to bring the content of this Curriculum Instruction to the attention of all District officials, Principals of GET and FET schools, relevant stakeholders, parents and learners.
10. Subject Advisors are to mediate this Curriculum Instruction to teachers before 31 January 2020.

.....  
  
MR R. TYWAKADI

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT AND DELIVERY





## basic education

Department:  
Basic Education  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X895, Pretoria, 0001, Sol Plaatje House, 222 Struben Street, Pretoria, 0002 South Africa,  
Tel: (012) 357 3000, Fax (012) 323 0601, [www.education.gov.za](http://www.education.gov.za)

Enquiries: Ms Matsie Agnes Mohale  
Tel: 012 357-4167  
Email : [Mohale.m@dbe.gov.za](mailto:Mohale.m@dbe.gov.za)

**TO: HEADS OF PROVINCIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENTS  
HEADS OF PROVINCIAL CURRICULUM SECTIONS  
HEADS OF PROVINCIAL EXAMINATION SECTIONS  
UNIVERSITIES SOUTH AFRICA  
SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY  
UMALUSI  
INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION BOARD (IEB)  
SOUTH AFRICAN COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT INSTITUTE (SACAI)  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA  
SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES (SGB) ASSOCIATIONS  
NATIONAL TEACHER ORGANISATIONS**

### **CIRCULAR S5 OF 2019**

#### **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ABRIDGED VERSION OF CAPS SECTION FOUR AMENDMENTS**

1. The Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statement (CAPS) is a single, comprehensive, and concise document developed for all subjects listed in the National Curriculum Statement Grades R-12 and is arranged into Four Sections.
2. Section 4 of the CAPS deals with various forms of assessments which are developed, administered and assessed by the teacher at the school level. The DBE received a number of concerns from teachers, teacher unions and other stakeholders with regard to certain practical challenges in implementing Section 4.
3. Circular S1 of 2017, made provision for the Guidelines to strengthen Section Four of the Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statement (CAPS), Grades R-11. The guidelines were intended to strengthen Section 4 of the CAPS and did not seek to amend the current policy. The guidelines were intended to be in place until policy has been amended and promulgated. This process has now been completed therefore Circular S1 of 2017 is hereby repealed and replaced by Circular S5 with effect from 01 January 2020.
4. Through the National Curriculum and Assessment Task Team (NCATT), the review of Section 4 of the CAPS was concluded and an abridged version for all subjects was developed for the FET and GET bands respectively.
5. The Minister approved the implementation of the abridged version of Section Four of the CAPS for implementation in January 2020 in Grades 1 – 11, as per section 6A of South African Schools Act (Act No. 84 of 1996) SASA and Section 3(4)(1) of the National Education Policy Act, 1996 (Act no. 27 of 1996) (NEPA).
6. The abridged version of CAPS Section four was subsequently published through Government Notices 1429, and 1430 published in Government **Gazette No. 42829 of 08 November 2019.**

7. The abridged version of CAPS Section four is approved for implementation in Grades 1 to 11 in January 2020.
8. The aforementioned abridged version is available on the Department website through the link below:

<https://www.education.gov.za/Resources/Legislation/GovernmentNotices/GETandFETAbridgedCAPSdocuments.aspx>

9. You are kindly requested to bring the content of this **Circular** to the attention of all provincial and district officials, principals and teachers of both public and independent schools, and relevant stakeholders.



MR HM MWELI  
DIRECTOR-GENERAL  
DATE: 06/12/2019