

SCHOOL POLICY FOR SUBJECT CHOICE AND SUBJECT CHANGE

PREAMBLE

Ideally children should choose subjects at the end of Grade 9 and continue with these subjects until they matriculate. Unfortunately this does not happen all the time. Children often choose subjects only to realise that they either are not interested in the subject anymore or that a subject demands too much effort with not a lot of reward. Often, this happens at a stage when a lot of catching up has to be done and this prejudices their performance in the newly chosen subject/s.

The sole purpose of this policy document is to ensure that the school acts in the best interest of its learners while not losing sight of the above scenario.

SUBJECT CHOICE

1. Grade 9, learners are required to make their subject choice before the end of the 3rd term each year.
2. Parents will be invited to a meeting early in term 3 that will assist them in helping their children make the right choice.
3. Policy matters pertaining to subject choice must be communicated to all Grade 9 learners and parents at the beginning of every year.
4. Learners are compelled to do the following subjects:
 - a. English Home Language
 - b. Afrikaans First Additional Language
 - c. Life Orientation
 - d. Mathematics ^{***}(see conditions below) or Mathematical Literacy

(Variations in the above will only be allowed under exceptional/special circumstances and must be approved by the GDE)

5. Learners may choose any three of the following subjects:
 - a. Physical Sciences ^{***}(see conditions below)
 - b. Life Sciences ^{***}(see conditions below)
 - c. Accounting ^{***}(see conditions below)
 - d. Business Studies
 - e. Geography
 - f. History
 - g. Visual Arts
 - h. Tourism

*****Conditions: Only learners who obtain an overall mark of at least 40% in each of the related subjects in Grade 9 will be permitted to do these subjects.**

The related subjects regarding the above condition are as follows:

Mathematics - Mathematics

Physical Sciences – Natural Sciences

SUBJECT CHANGE

1. Learners in Grade 10 who do not obtain an overall mark of at least 40% in Mathematics and Physical Sciences at the end of the June Exam will be compelled to change to Mathematical Literacy and any other subject in the case of Physical Sciences.
2. Learners who were not permitted to do Mathematics in Grade 10 due to their Grade 9 mark being less than 40%, will be allowed to change to Mathematics on condition that their overall Mathematical Literacy mark is above 70% after Term 1.
3. If a child is unhappy in a particular subject or is not coping in that subject, in spite of a concerted effort on his part, a change should be considered. This may come from the pupil or may be recommended by the teacher or Grade Tutor.
4. The matter is discussed and an alternative subject proposed. The Grade Tutor then consults the Subject Head of the proposed new subject and, if he/ she approves, the timetable team is asked if this change is possible.
5. The teacher of the new subject, in consultation with the Subject Head must set down a plan of action for the child stating what work must be done, what tests/exams must be written in order for him to catch up, the text books and stationery required and the due date for this to be completed.
6. All compulsory and/or requested changes **must** be signed by the following before the timetable change will be effected:
 - a. Parent
 - b. Learner
 - c. New Subject Head and Teacher
 - d. Old Subject Head and Teacher
 - e. Deputy Principal
7. Timelines
 - a. Subject changes will only be permitted in the 1st two weeks of each term except for Term 4, when no changes will be allowed.
 - b. Learners in Grade 10 are only permitted to change two subjects.
 - c. Learners in Grade 11 are only permitted to change one subject.
 - d. Learners in Grade 12 will, under exceptional circumstances, only be able to change one subject before 31 January.



SUBJECT CHANGE FORM

NAME OF LEARNER					
REGISTER CLASS					
Current Subject	Key	Teacher	New Subject	Key	Teacher
Reasons for Change (To be filled in by the Grade Tutor)					
Designation		Signature		Date	
Learner					
Parent					
New Subject Teacher					
Old Subject Teacher					
New Subject Head					
Old Subject Head					
Grade Tutor					
Deputy Principal					

N.B. Timetable changes are not to be effected unless all signatures appear on this form

Compiled by the School stakeholders and ratified by the School Governing Body at a General Governing Body meeting held on

Signatories : Chairman
..... Treasurer
..... Parent representative
..... Teacher representative
..... Learner representative
..... Principal

Ratified by IDS