



Western Cape
Government

Education

Directorate:
Assessment Management



Parent Guide for
Progression and Promotion

Progression and Promotion

'progression' – means the advancement of a learner from one grade to the next, excluding Grade R, in spite of the learner not having complied with all the promotion requirements. Progression can be used to prevent a learner from being retained in a phase for a period exceeding four years as stipulated in the *Admission policy for ordinary public schools as published as Government Notice 2432, Government Gazette, Vol. 400, No. 19377* of 19 October 1998, provided that the underperformance of the learner in the previous grade is addressed in the grade to which the learner has been promoted.

'Promotion' – means the movement of a learner from one grade to the next when that learner meets the minimum required level of achievement per subject in a particular grade, as well as complying with the promotion requirements of that grade as contemplated in the policy document: *National policy pertaining to the programme and promotion requirements of the NCS Grades R – 12*.

Scale of achievement for all grades

The following Scale of Achievement will be used for recording and reporting from Grades 1 to 12:

Achievement level	Achievement description	Percentage %
7	Outstanding achievement	80 – 100
6	Meritorious achievement	70 – 79
5	Substantial achievement	60 – 69
4	Adequate achievement	50 – 59
3	Moderate achievement	40 – 49
2	Elementary achievement	30 – 39
1	Not achieved	0 – 29

Foundation Phase

➤➤ Progression Guidelines for Grade R

A learner should achieve the following minimum standards:	
Home Language (HL)	Level 4 (Adequate Achievement) (50% – 59%)
Mathematics	Level 3 (Moderate Achievement) (40% – 49%)
School Based Assessment = 100% of total mark/final progression mark	

As far as possible, all learners should progress from Grade R to Grade 1 provided they are in the correct age cohort.

➤➤ Progression Guidelines for Grades 1 – 3

A learner must achieve the following minimum standards:	
Home Language (HL)	Level 4 (Adequate Achievement) (50% – 59%)
First Additional Language (FAL)	Level 3 (Moderate Achievement) (40% – 49%)
Mathematics	Level 3 (Moderate Achievement) (40% – 49%)
School Based Assessment = 100% of total mark/final progression mark	

Should a learner in Grades 1 to 3 not meet the minimum guidelines in all three of the required subjects in the Foundation Phase, such a learner may be retained only once in the Foundation Phase, excluding Grade R, in order to avoid the learner being retained in this phase for longer than four years.

Intermediate Phase

>> Progression Guidelines for Grades 4 – 6

A learner must offer six (6) subjects AND achieve the following minimum standards:	
Home Language (HL)	Level 4 (Adequate Achievement) (50% – 59%)
First Additional Language (FAL)	Level 3 (Moderate Achievement) (40% – 49%)
Mathematics	Level 3 (Moderate Achievement) (40% – 49%)
Any TWO (2) other subjects	Level 3 (Moderate Achievement) (40% – 49%)
School Based Assessment component = 75%	
End of year examination = 25%	

If a learner in Grades 4 – 6 does not meet the minimum requirements in all five of the required subjects for progression, such a learner may be retained only once in the Intermediate Phase in order to avoid the learner being retained in this phase for longer than four years.

Senior Phase

➤➤ Promotion Requirements for Grades 7 – 9

A learner must offer nine (9) subjects AND achieve the following minimum standards:	
Home Language (HL)	Level 4 (Adequate Achievement) (50% – 59%)
First Additional Language (FAL)	Level 3 (Moderate Achievement) (40% – 49%)
Mathematics	Level 3 (Moderate Achievement) (40% – 49%)
Any THREE (3) of the other required subjects	Level 3 (Moderate Achievement) (40% – 49%)
Any TWO (2) of the remaining subjects	Level 2 (Elementary Achievement) (30% – 39%)
School Based Assessment of all nine subjects must be completed.	
School Based Assessment component = 40%	
End of year examination = 60%	

A learner may be retained only once in the Senior Phase in order to avoid the learner being retained in this phase for longer than four years.

Further Education and Training (FET) Band

Programme and Promotion Requirements for Grades 10 – 12

A learner must offer the following seven (7) subjects and achieve the following minimum requirements:
Home Language: 40%
Two (2) other subjects: learner must achieve a minimum of 40% in each subject.
Three (3) other subjects: learner must achieve a minimum of 30% in each subject.
School Based Assessment = 25% End of year examination = 75%
Life Orientation is 100% school based assessment in grades 10 and 11. In Grade 12, the final mark for Life Orientation will be based on the internal assessment and an externally set Common Assessment Task.

Minimum Requirements for admission to Higher Education qualifications	
Type of HE qualification	Minimum requirements
Higher Certificate	NSC with a minimum 30% in language of learning and teaching (LOLT) of the higher education institution.
Diploma	NSC with a minimum 30% in language of learning and teaching (LOLT) of the higher education institution AND 40% in four NSC 20-credit subjects.
Bachelor's Degree	NSC with a minimum 30% in language of learning and teaching (LOLT) of the higher education institution AND 50% in four NSC 20-credit subjects from a designated subject list.

Immigrant Learners

Immigrant learners are classified as children of diplomats, a learner who first enrolled in a school in South Africa at grade 7 or higher levels or a learner who started schooling in South Africa but left after grade 3 for two or more years.

Promotion requirements

Grades 4 – 6	
Must offer all the subjects as normal AND	
Pass one of the two official languages required at First Additional Language (FAL) level	Level 3 (Moderate Achievement) (40% – 49%)
Mathematics	Level 3 (Moderate Achievement) (40% – 49%)
THREE (3) of the remaining subjects.	Level 3 (Moderate Achievement) (40% – 49%)
Must complete the school based assessment requirements.	

Grades 7 – 9	
Must offer all the subjects as normal AND	
Pass one of the two official languages required at First Additional Language level	Level 3 (Moderate Achievement) (40% – 49%)
Mathematics	Level 3 (Moderate Achievement) (40% – 49%)
Any THREE (3) of the other required subjects	Level 3 (Moderate Achievement) (40% – 49%)
In all THREE (3) of the remaining subjects	Level 2 (Elementary Achievement) (30% – 39%)
Must complete the school based assessment requirements.	

Grades 10 – 12	
May offer only one official language on at least First Additional Language level which must be the language of learning and teaching.	
Must pass the one official language on at least First Additional Language level and at 30%.	
Must complete the school based assessment requirements and NSC requirements.	

Further Education and Training (FET) Band

National Senior Certificate with endorsement for learners who experience Barriers to Learning: Programme and Promotion Requirements for Grades 10 – 12

Learners with extensive barriers to learning, who are in a special school or identified as eligible for this endorsement, may offer the National Senior Certificate with Endorsement. This qualification has the following promotion requirements:

Promotion requirements

A learner must offer five (5) subjects and obtain 30% in all five subjects offered.

Subjects include:

- >>> One official language at least at First Additional Language level providing that the language is the language of learning and teaching
- >>> Mathematics or Mathematical Literacy
- >>> Life Orientation
- >>> Minimum of two (2) subjects from Group B.

>>> *School Based Assessment = 25%*

>>> *End of year examination = 75%*

Life Orientation is 100% school based assessment in grades 10 and 11. In Grade 12, the final mark for Life Orientation will be based on the internal assessment and an externally set Common Assessment Task.

Concessions for Learners with Barriers to Learning

Deaf, Aphasic or Dyslectic Learners

Promotion requirement
Grades 1 – 3 Must offer all the subjects as normal and may pass one of the two required official languages by achieving a Level 2 (Elementary Achievement) (30% – 39%).
Grades 4 – 6 Must offer all the subjects as normal and may pass one of the two official languages by achieving a Level 2 (Elementary Achievement) (30% – 39%), provided the school based assessment has been completed.
Grades 7 – 9 Must offer all the subjects as normal and must pass one of the two required official languages on at least First Additional Language level and obtain a level 3 (Moderate Achievement) (40% – 49%) in that language. Must also obtain a level 2 (Elementary Achievement) (30% – 39%) in the second official language.
Grades 10 – 12 May offer one (1) official language at First Additional Language level which is the language of learning and teaching, provided that another subject from Group B of the policy is offered in lieu of the one official language that is not offered. Candidate must comply with the promotion requirements. i.e. 3 subjects passed at 40%, 3 subjects passed at 30%.

Mathematical Barrier to Learning

Promotion requirement
Grades 10 – 12 May be exempted from the offering of Mathematical Literacy or Mathematics, provided that another subject from Group B of the policy is offered in lieu of Mathematical Literacy or Mathematics. Candidate must comply with the promotion requirements. i.e. 3 subjects passed at 40% (one of which must be a Home Language), 3 subjects passed at 30%.