



basic education

Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**TO: HEADS OF DEPARTMENT
HEADS OF EXAMINATIONS
HEADS OF ASSESSMENT
HEADS OF CURRICULUM
DISTRICT DIRECTORS
SCHOOL PRINCIPALS
UMALUSI
TEACHER UNIONS
NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS (NAISA)
SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY ASSOCIATIONS**

CIRCULAR NO: E06 OF 2022

**GUIDELINE ON THE QUALITY ASSURANCE OF SCHOOL-BASED ASSESSMENT,
INCLUDING PRACTICAL ASSESSMENT TASKS (PAT) AND LANGUAGE ORAL
ASSESSMENT, FOR GRADES 10-12**

1. The National Curriculum Statement Grades R–12, which articulates the curriculum for the schooling sector also provides the assessment programme for Grades R-12, which comprises School-based Assessment (SBA), Oral Assessment and Practical Assessment Tasks (PATs) for specific subjects and a final Controlled Test/End-of-Year examination. SBA is a compulsory component for progression and promotion in every school phase.
2. The quality assurance of School-based Assessment (SBA), including PATs and Oral assessment, is fundamental in maintaining the standard of this form of assessment, given that it is implemented by the large number of teachers across different learning contexts. The DBE's quality assurance of SBA implemented in all provinces, together with the verification of SBA conducted by Umalusi has revealed the lack of a common understanding and consistency across all PEDs of the quality assurance procedures to be followed at the different levels of the system.

3. Hence, the urgency for the DBE to implement this Guideline on the Quality Assurance of School-based Assessment for Grades 10-12 (**Annexure A**). This Guideline is intended for implementation at all levels of the system, to standardise and regulate the required procedures for the quality assurance of SBA, including PATs and Oral Assessment in the country.
4. This Guideline is based on a Quality Assurance approach that is premised on the principle that the quality of assessment is determined by the inputs to assessment, the process of assessment and the assessment output. Therefore, in ensuring the quality of the assessment outcome, the following five key components of the assessment regime must be evaluated:
 - (a) The school-based assessment system
 - (b) The assessment task
 - (c) The administration of the assessment task
 - (d) The learner evidence
 - (e) The assessment feedback
5. It is the intention of the DBE to receive feedback on the Guideline and on the basis of this feedback, the Guideline will be reviewed and finally developed into a Policy on the Quality Assurance of SBA, including PATs and Oral Assessment.
6. PEDs are required to convene joint sessions that include, Assessment, Examination, and Curriculum officials for all subjects, with all Subject Advisors, to discuss and mediate the Guideline.
7. During implementation of the Guideline, it is of critical importance that feedback from all teachers, subject advisors and other stakeholders is provided to the DBE. The feedback must be provided on the specially designed questionnaire which is attached as **Annexure B**. The completed questionnaire must be emailed to Ms D Laas - Laas.D@dbe.gov.za before 30 October 2022.
8. In the event that further clarity is required, kindly contact Ms D Laas at Tel: (012) 357 3882 or email: Laas.D@dbe.gov.za.



MR HM MWELI
DIRECTOR-GENERAL
DATE: 05/04/2022