



## EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT CHIEF DIRECTORATE

Steve Vukile Tshwete Complex, Zone 6 Zwelitsha, 5608, Private Bag X0032, Bisho, 5605 REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA:  
Enquiries: Ms T Mabengu Tel: 083 214 5643 Email: [thandiswa.mabengu@ecdoe.gov.za](mailto:thandiswa.mabengu@ecdoe.gov.za) Website: [www.eceducation.gov.za](http://www.eceducation.gov.za)

### ASSESSMENT INSTRUCTION 16 OF 2026

**DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL  
CHIEF DIRECTORS  
HEAD OFFICE DIRECTORS AND DISTRICT DIRECTORS  
CHIEF EDUCATION SPECIALISTS  
CIRCUIT MANAGERS  
DEPUTY CHIEF/SENIOR EDUCATION SPECIALISTS  
PRINCIPALS OF ALL PUBLIC AND INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS  
TEACHER UNIONS/ORGANISATIONS  
SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES**

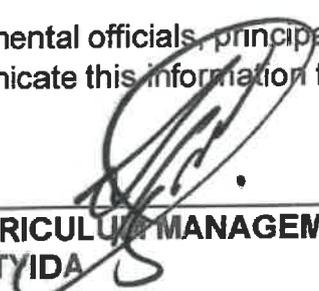
**DATE: 10 MARCH 2026**

#### **CHANGE OF SUBJECTS IN GRADES 10 AND 11**

1. This Assessment Instruction must be read with Assessment Instruction No. 7 of 2026. (Subject Choices)
2. The National Senior Certificate Examination is administered and conducted in terms of the Regulations Pertaining to the Conduct, Administration and Management of the National Senior Certificate Examination Notice No. R872 in Government Regulation Gazette No 31337 of August 2008 and as amended.
3. The Regulation states that,
  - A learner may change a **maximum of two (2) subjects in Grade 10**, provided this is done by the end of the second term, subject to the approval of the principal of the school where the learner is registered. Such change must be done before **30 June** of the Grade 10 year.
  - A learner may change a **maximum of two (2) subjects in Grade 11**, provided **this is done before 31 March**, subject to the approval of the Principal of the school where the learner is registered.



4. Approval for changing subjects must be obtained from the Head of the Assessment Body, or his or her representative provided the following are furnished:
  - A letter of motivation from the learner's parent or guardian.
  - A letter from the principal either supporting or providing reasons for not supporting the change; and
  - A letter from the subject teacher, outlining the programme to be followed to assist the learner in covering those aspects of the Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statements for the previous grade that were not covered.
  - Copy of the school schedule.
5. Subject changes should not be imposed on learners by schools for example, subject change to fit the school curriculum stream, improvement of the matric pass rate etc.
6. All District Heads of Examination should ensure that the contents of this Assessment Instruction are brought to the attention of all district officials, principals and teachers at Schools with Grade 10 and 11 learners, parents and relevant stake holders.
7. All District Offices (Examination and Assessment) must adjudicate these requests and if required documents have been attached, **the change may be approved. Approval letters must be signed by the District Director. A composite list of approved subject changes per Grade** must be done by each district so that it can be availed during the Examination System Review meetings or at any stage that the PED Examination Office needs it.
8. Principals are requested to complete the attached template provided as Annexure A, for subject change and submit it with the required documents stated in paragraph 4, before **31 March 2026 for Grade 11 and 30 June 2026 and for Grade 10**, to the District Examination Offices.
9. Departmental officials, principals of schools and all stakeholders are requested to communicate this information for the benefit of all learners who qualify.

  
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DDG: CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT AND DELIVERY  
MR TJZ MTYIDA

11 March 2026  
DATE



**CHIEF DIRECTORATE: EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT**

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**Annexure: A**

**Template for Subject Changes – 2026 Grade 10 & 11 – To be utilised by school when submitting at District Examination Office**

No.	Candidates' Names (Alphabetically)	Identity Number	Subject dropped (Subjects must be written in full)	New Subject (Subjects must be written in full)	Reason for change	Documents Required (Only 1 Subject change allowed in Grade 12)	Principals' letter	Parent /Guardian	Catch -Up Plan from teacher	School Schedule
1.										
2.										
3.										
4.										