



## SUBJECT CHOICE INFORMATION

### 1. INTRODUCTION

In grade 10 a learner has to take seven recognised subjects to attain the National Senior Certificate at the end of grade 12. Four of these are compulsory and three are choice subjects.

#### Compulsory subjects:

- A learner has to take at least one language at Home language level (English or Setswana) The other language may be taken at First Additional language level. (English or Afrikaans First additional language)
- A learner has to take either Mathematics or Mathematical Literacy.
- A learner must take Life Orientation
- A learner must take Tourism

#### Choice Subjects:

- Learners have to choose three of the other subjects offered in grade 10.

#### Procedure:

- Kindly read through this document with your child, to make an informed decision on their subject choices.

### 2.1 COMPULSORY SUBJECTS

#### 2.1.1 LANGAUGES:

##### Description

Language is central to our lives. We communicate and understand our world through language. Language proficiency is central to learning across the curriculum as learning takes place through language.

##### Why is it an important subject?

In view of the linguistic and cultural diversity of South Africa, its citizens must be able to communicate across language barriers and foster cultural and linguistic respect and understanding.

The study of Languages serves a variety of purposes and enables learners to:

- Broaden and deepen language competencies
- Use language appropriately in real life contexts
- Use language as a tool for critical and creative thinking.

##### What does it consist of?

- Inclusivity: Teaching and assessment of languages should make provision for the inclusion of all learners, and strategies should be found to assist all learners to access or produce language texts.
- Language levels: All languages can be offered at the following levels:

- 1) Home language The learner's home language needs to be strengthened and developed so as to provide a sound foundation for learning additional languages.
- 2) First additional Language: Learning a first additional language promotes multilingualism and intercultural communication.

#### **How will this subject help a learner to get into the world of work or further studies?**

Language is a gateway subject. The study of languages can lead to language- oriented careers such as journalism, translation, language teaching, marketing, advertising and diplomacy.

### **2.1.2 MATHEMATICAL LITERACY**

#### **Description**

Mathematical literacy is intended to address the low level of numeracy that generally prevail in our society. As such it will be a subject driven by life related applications.

#### **Why is Mathematical literacy an important subject?**

Mathematical Literacy should not be seen as a watered down form of mathematics. It is a subject in its own right. Its intentions are to develop knowledge, skills, values and attitudes that will enable learners to participate in, contribute to, adapt to and survive in a complex driven society. Mathematical literacy develops logical thinking, problem solving skills and will instil a critical awareness of functional relationships.

#### **What is the subject about?**

Mathematical Literacy enables creative and logical reasoning about problems in the everyday environment in which people operate.

Using available technology such as calculators and computers it will enable learners to:

- Use numbers and number operations to solve mathematically related problems in real life, including financial aspects of personal and community life.
- Apply the techniques of functional relationships and graphs to create models for problem solving in a variety of everyday context.
- Collect, use and interpret data using techniques of descriptive statistics and probability.

#### **How will this subject help a learner to get into the world of work or further studies?**

Mathematical Literacy provides a basis for tertiary studies in field such as social science, life science and economic and economic management sciences. Mathematical Literacy will enable learners to embark on careers in industrial and technical fields as well as commercial and management related occupations etc.

### **2.1.3 MATHEMATICS**

It is important to note that there will be no Higher or Standard grade options. Learners will only have a choice between Mathematics and Mathematical Literacy.

#### **Description**

Mathematics is a subject that is based on observing patterns and formulating general theories using logical thinking. This is done by means of numerical and symbolic models using language and symbols

## Why is Mathematics an important subject?

Mathematics provides the foundation for access to further studies in a variety of fields in an academic as well as vocational direction. It develops knowledge, skills, values and attitudes that will enable learners to participate in, contribute to, adapt to and survive in a complex information-driven society. Mathematics develops logical thinking as well as problem solving skills. Studying Mathematics will instil a critical awareness of functional relationships. In this way Mathematics plays an important role in the scientific as well as economic development that is needed to build a prosperous South African society. The learners will be able to play their part in a globalised world.

## What is the subject about?

Mathematics enables creative and logical reasoning about problems in the real as well as the scientific environment in which people operate.

Using available technology such as scientific calculators and computers it will enable learners to:

- Use numbers and number relationships to solve problems in Mathematics as well as in real life, including financial aspects of personal and community life.
- Apply the rules and processes of Algebra to create models for problem solving in a variety of contexts.
- Describe, analyse and represent the geometrical properties of space, including natural and man-made objects and structures.
- Collect, use and interpret data using techniques of descriptive statistics and probability.

## How will this subject help a learner to get into the world of work or further studies?

**Further studies:** Mathematics provides a basis for tertiary studies in the fields of Mathematics, all the different sciences as well as the economic and management sciences.

**Careers:** A study of Mathematics will enable learners to enter different careers such as teaching, engineering, medicine, and other technically related occupations, commercial and management related occupations, e.g. chartered accountancy, etc.

## Requirements in grade 9

Learner need 50% in Maths in grade 9 to take mathematics in grade 10.

## 2.1.4 LIFE ORIENTATION

### Description

Life Orientation is the holistic study of the self in relation to others and to society. It deals with the personal, social, intellectual, emotional, spiritual, motor and physical growth and development of learners, and the way in which these dimensions are interrelated and expressed in life.

### Why is Life Orientation an important subject?

Life Orientation equips learners to engage on personal, psychological, neuro-cognitive, motor, moral, spiritual, cultural, socio-economic and constitutional levels, to respond to the demands of the world, to assume responsibilities, and to make the most of life's opportunities. Life Orientation promotes knowledge, skills, attitudes and values that prepare learners to respond effectively to the challenges that confront them as well as the challenges that they will have to deal with as adults, and to play a meaningful role in society and on economy.

## What does it consist of?

Life Orientation is a unique subject at the Further Education and Training level. It focuses on the diversity of learners as human beings in their totality. The scope of the subject embraces the following features:

- **Personal Well-being** - This aspect is central to fulfilling one's potential. It enables learners to engage effectively in inter-personal relationships, community life and society. This area focuses on self-concept, emotional literacy, social competency and life skills.
- **Citizenship Education** - Personal and individual needs have to be placed into a social context to encourage acceptance of diversity and to foster commitment to the values and principles espoused in the Constitution. Discrimination on the basis of race, religion, culture, gender, age, ability and language, as well as issues such as xenophobia, is addressed.
- **Recreation and Physical activity** - Knowledge of healthy practices and nutrition, participation in games, sport, recreational and leisure time activities, and the understanding of the relationship between health, physical activities and the environment can improve the quality of life and well-being of all learners.
- **Careers and Career Choices** - Learners must make critical decisions regarding career fields and further study. In order to help learners to make these decisions, they will be exposed to study methods and skills pertaining to assessment processes, information about institutions of higher education, and preparation for job applications and interviews.

## How will this subject help a learner to get into the world of work or further studies?

Life Orientation prepares learners to realise their expectations by teaching them how and where to access additional and higher education, and preparing them to take their place in society. Learning outcomes have been written specifically for this purpose. It will provide learners with knowledge, skills, values and attitudes that will enable them to pursue different careers.

## 3. CHOICE SUBJECTS

### 3.1 ACCOUNTING

#### Description

Accounting focuses on the processing and communicating of financial information. It ensures that ethical behaviour, transparency and accountability are adhered to. It deals with the logical, systematic and accurate selection and recording of financial information as well as the compilation, analysis and interpretation of financial statements and reports.

#### Why is Accounting an important subject?

Accounting develops learners' knowledge, skills, values, attitudes and ability to make meaningful and informed personal and collaborative financial decisions in economic and social environments. Learners develop characteristics like ethical behaviour, sound judgement, thoroughness, orderliness, accuracy and neatness.

#### What is the subject about?

This subject encompasses accounting knowledge, skills and values focusing on the financial, managerial and auditing fields. The scope of the subject embraces the following features:

- **Financial Accounting**  
The logical, systematic and accurate recording of financial transactions as well as the Analysis interpretation and communication of financial statements

- **Managerial Accounting**  
Concepts such as costing and budgeting. Emphasis is placed on interpretation and communication of financial and managerial information for decision making
- **Tools in managing resources**  
Basic internal controls and internal audit processes, and code of ethics. Emphasis is placed On the knowledge, understanding and adherence to ethics in financial and managerial activities.

#### How will this subject help a learner to get into the world of work or further studies?

Accounting provides a basis for further studies at tertiary institutions. It enables learners to develop skills, knowledge, values and attitudes to pursue different career pathways.

Accounting in grades 10-12 will provide learners with knowledge, skills, values and attitudes that will enable them to pursue different careers.

#### Requirements in grade 9

Learner need 40% in maths and 50% in EMS in grade 9 to take Accounting in grade 10.

### 3.2 BUSINESS STUDIES

#### Description

Business Studies deals with the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values critical for informed, productive, ethical and responsible participation in the formal and informal economic sectors. The subject deals with business principles, theory and practice that underpin the development of entrepreneurial initiatives, sustainable enterprises and economic growth.

#### Why is Business Studies an important subject?

The subject intends to build the capacity of learners towards being informed, imaginative, participative, contributing and reflective business practitioners who can dynamically perform a range of interdependent business operations. The development of business roles will put learners in a position where they are able to effectively apply knowledge and skills to analyse and deal with different business environments, to initiate and carry out business ventures and successfully carry out business operations.

#### What is the subject about?

Business Studies builds learners' capacity for promoting excellence and contributing towards sustainable business enterprises. It embraces constitutional goals and objectives through promoting accessible, legitimate entrepreneurial business opportunities. Skills such as decision-making, problem solving, creative thinking, systems thinking and effective communication in a competitive and constantly changing environment are critical to this subject.

This subject has the following core features:

- **Business Environment** - This feature focuses on the different elements of the macro, micro and market business environments, as well as the complex and diverse nature of business sectors.
- **Business Ventures** - This feature focuses on the development of important factors that contribute towards the creation of sustainable business enterprises. A key feature is the development of creative entrepreneurs who can identify and responsibly pursue productive business opportunities.
- **Business Roles** - This feature covers the essential roles that learners need to perform in a variety of business contexts.

- **Business Operations** - This feature should equip learners with the knowledge and skills to effectively manage essential business operations such as human resources, public relations, marketing and production within the context of relevant legislation and contemporary issues.

### How will this subject help a learner to get into the world of work or further studies?

Business Studies equips learners with a sound foundation to participate in business, commerce and management studies, or to enter business or create employment for themselves and others.

## 3.3 Economics

### Description

Economics isn't a single topic, but rather many topics. It's an approach that lends itself to many different fields, from microeconomics to industrial organization, government, econometrics, game theory and dozens of other fields.

### Why is Economics an important subject?

Economics is important in guiding us about how we behave, how businesses behave and how the government behaves.

Economics teaches how to make well-informed decisions. A large part of the subject is decision making: what should the government do to cut the budget deficit; what should a business do to raise profit margins. It teaches us how to go about making choices, which is vitally important in business

What does it stand for?

**Economics** is the social science that studies the production, distribution, and consumption of products and wealth. It states that everything has a cost. Cost is what you give up to get something that you need. However, when we choose one thing over another it means that that which we forego will lose an income. For business to survive, they constantly need to find new and innovative ways to retain their current customers and attract new ones. However, in so doing, businesses need to make sure that they do so in a sustainable and ethical way.

### What is the subject about?

Economics is a very broad subject that focusses on many areas. Not only does it focus on the economy but also how individuals, business and society influence and react to any changes in the economy. It is a subject that focuses on how the nature of humans influences business operations as a whole both negatively and positively.

This subject has the following core features:

- Macro Economics (Focuses on the circular flow, business cycles, the public sector and foreign exchange markets)
- Micro Economics (its main focus is on perfect and imperfect markets and market failures)
- Economic Pursuits (Focus is on growth and development, industrial development policies economic concepts and social performance indicators)
- Contemporary Economic issues (causes and consequences of inflation, tourism, environmental sustainability)

### **How will this subject help a learner to get into the world of work or further studies?**

There are many opportunities for economics graduates. With an economics degree, you can work in a variety of different fields from finance and banking to public policy, sales and marketing, civil service (government departments, the Federal Reserve, etc.), insurance and actuarial work. You can also go on to do further studies in economics, political science, business, or a variety of other fields.

Economics will help the learner project consequences of current decisions in the future of businesses and economies, it helps project possible outcomes of business models, whether they will be successful or not. Economists help in identifying business opportunities for existing and upcoming small business and they also guide businesses in industrial relations issues. They also act as consultants and help the government in drawing up economic policies.

Economics helps learners to calculate, solve problems, organise information, make calculated risk decisions, identify investment opportunities and find ways of dealing with unforeseen problems.

Mathematical skills are applied in the everyday workplace in a more practical way. Theories of economics are applied and of course the principles of ethical business practices accompanied by responsible citizenship

## **3.4 GEOGRAPHY**

### **Description**

Geography is a science that studies physical and human processes and spatial patterns on Earth in an integrated way over space and time. It examines the distribution of people and their activities, physical and man-made features, ecosystems and interactions between humans, and between humans and the environment in a changing world.

### **Why is Geography important?**

Geography enables learners to: explain processes and patterns; make decisions about changing environments and surroundings, think more critically and creatively about what it means to live sustainably, recognise how values and attitudes influence and affect the environment, and apply a range of geographical skills and techniques to issues and challenges in a rapidly-changing world. Geography in the Further Education and Training Band also aims to:

- develop skills to research, interpret, analyse and make decisions about the environment (physical and human).
- develop knowledge and an understanding of the changing nature of the Earth (world).
- to understand the relationship between humans and their environment.
- prepare learners to become informed, critical and responsible citizens who can make effective decisions and take actions that will contribute to equal and sustainable development of human society and the physical environment.
- to teach learners insight in all world affairs and to utilise and expand the learner's general knowledge.

### **What does it consist of?**

Geography deals with:

- The composition and functioning of the Earth and all the processes that form and change the Earth internally and externally - Geomorphology.

- The composition of the atmosphere and the processes that affect our weather and climate - Climatology.
- The distribution of people within a country and the processes of settlement as well as human interaction with the Earth on which they live - Settlement and Population.
- The sustainable use of the environment and our natural resources together with the import and export of these products – Economic, Resources and Development.
- Understanding and interpretation of maps as well as Geographic Information Systems (electronic map work) - Map work.

#### **How will this subject help a learner to get into the world of work or further studies?**

- Geography is the basis for any natural science or business field of study at university.
- It benefits learners who learn through the use of computers and they will develop a mind-set for the twenty-first century.
- Learners are able to do research, calculate, write, save and organise their assignments logically.
- Geography provides a number of career opportunities including the following: aviation, geology, geological engineering, economy, environmental impact studies, architecture, mining, cartography, eco-tourism, land surveying, meteorology, nature conservation, rural and urban planning, water and land affairs as well as geographical information systems also known as GIS.

Geography is mandatory if overseas studies are considered (they require social science as a subject) as well as for all agricultural studies.

### **3.4 HISTORY**

#### **Description**

History is a study of change and development in society over time and space. It is a fascinating exploration of human behaviour, choices and consequences of those choices as well as the power relations that operate in any society, present or past. History is not just about memorising reams of content, but uses content as a context for developing the skills of enquiry, interpretation and knowledge construction. A new aspect of History is the exploration and analysis of heritage and public representations of the past, such as monuments, memorials, museums, buildings, heritage sites and community history and memory.

#### **Why is History important?**

History contributes to the development of life skills. These include the ability to analyse and organise a wide range of information, to develop logical arguments supported by evidence, and to understand and evaluate different points of view. Learners will develop an understanding of issues in our world today and of the importance of the past for understanding the present and building the future. History also teaches young people the skills and thought processes so necessary to becoming responsible citizens in a democracy. History teaches us that we have choices and that we can all make a difference.

#### **What does it consist of?**

The content in History is organised to answer two important key questions:

- How do we understand our world today?
- What legacies of the past have shaped the present?

By the time learners reach the end of Grade 12 they will have explored issues of globalisation, the role of civil society, of human rights, race, gender, class, xenophobia and genocide and the impact that these have had in the past and are still having on our lives today.

### **How will this subject help a learner to get into the world of work or further studies?**

Through the study of History, young people will learn the art of oral debate and the ability to express and justify a clear personal point of view. These are invaluable skills for any job or further education. The skills, processes and understanding built into the Learning Outcomes prepare learners for managing themselves and their studies at a tertiary level. History prepares learners for a wide range of careers. In the current rapidly changing world employers want people who are independent thinkers, open-minded, disciplined, good at problem solving, able to pick out the essential from the trivial. History is an excellent preparation for very many jobs.' The study of History supports independent, critical thinking, valued in today's world in all careers.

## **3.5 TOURISM**

### **Description**

Tourism has rapidly developed into an interdependent network of activities, facilities and services provided and maintained to keep up with the ever-changing needs of travellers in their own country and worldwide. People travel for reasons of business, conferences, health, leisure, interest in and concern about nature or their heritage, and shortly even into outer space! This subject is meant to open up the world of tourism and an understanding of what makes tourism 'tick' in a modern world.

### **Why is Tourism an important subject?**

The media continuously tell us that Tourism is a major role player in the economy of countries worldwide as far as income and job creation is concerned. It is sometimes seen as wonder cure for economic ailments without understanding the sensitive nature of tourism and all the related factors, as well as the major positive and negative impact of tourism on people and their environment.

It is therefore important to study Tourism with an open mind when being introduced to the elements that make it a sustainable human activity in the interest of our country and of the world at large.

### **What does it consist of?**

A learner who studies this subject will have an overview of how the tourism industry operates and will understand why tourism is considered a major economic sector in countries all over the world. Such a learner will study the requirements for and the impact of sustainable tourism from an ecological, economic, heritage and community perspective. Modern environmental and social issues, for example, conservation, and the role of host communities in tourism development will be explored. Interpersonal communication in rendering service excellence is an important skill to be developed, closely linked to a positive attitude and a sense of self-worth.

### **How will this subject help a learner to get into the world of work or further studies?**

A learner should consider selecting complementary subjects such as, Business Studies, Computer Applications Technology and Geography to make up a meaningful package of knowledge and skills to follow up with a variety of higher education certificates, diplomas and degrees in tourism development, management or marketing.

Complemented by good business sense, advanced computer literacy, a solid foundation in entrepreneurship and the ability and willingness to work hard and smartly, a successful learner will find it possible to open a door in one of the many niche markets in tourism on a community level and beyond.

### **3.6 COMPUTER APPLICATIONS TECHNOLOGY**

#### **Description**

Computer Applications Technology teaches how computers, cell phones, the Internet, e-mail, networks and similar technologies are used by people to do their daily tasks in all sectors of life on already available computer programmes.

#### **Why is Computer Applications Technology important?**

Learners will gain the knowledge and know-how to work with information and make it available by using different tools. They will be able to gather all sorts of data, study and analyse it, and show their findings to the different sections of our society.

#### **What does it consist of?**

Learners will learn how to use computer programmes to help them do their daily tasks, such as typing their homework assignments, letters or CVs on a word-processing programme. They will learn how to calculate all their marks for tests (on a spreadsheet), make lists of their CD and video collection so it can be more organised (on a database), or send messages via e-mail to learners in other countries. When they need to do projects they will learn how to search the vast network of computers, called the Internet, for information.

Learners will learn about the different parts of the computer, what the parts do and how they work. They will learn about computers in everyday life, including ATMs, and how computers are used in hospitals, restaurants, libraries, etc. They will learn how computer use affects our lives (such as e-commerce and Internet banking) and our health (eyesight and posture). They will learn how to use computers responsibly and ethically.

#### **How will this subject help a learner to get into the world of work or further studies?**

A learner with all this knowledge and skill is placed in a favourable position to be employed. Most jobs require people to be computer literate.

With the knowledge and skills gained in Computer Applications Technology learners can study further in many other fields: education, computer science, economics, geography, technology, engineering, statistics, and tourism.

Computer Applications Technology allows learners to develop basic to advanced computer skills. This places learners in a position to enter different careers in a number of fields. Learners could also apply these and related skills to create employment for themselves and others.

### **3.7 LIFE SCIENCE**

#### **Description**

Life Sciences is the systematic study of life in a changing natural and human-made environment. This study involves critical inquiry, reflection and the understanding of concepts and processes and their application in society.

#### **Why is Life Sciences an important subject?**

Life Sciences enables learners to

- Understand the biological, physiological, environmental, technological and social processes that impact on the environment.
- Explore those concepts that are essential for understanding basic life processes and the interrelationships and interdependence of components of the living and the physical world.
- Debate and address the ethical, social and technological issues confronting people in the field of life sciences.

Learners will develop inquiry, problem solving, critical thinking and other scientific skills, and will use them to interpret and use Life Sciences concepts in explaining phenomena.

### **What does it consist of?**

Life Sciences develops the following competencies:

- Scientific inquiry and problem solving skills.
- Understanding and application of Life Sciences knowledge; and
- Understanding the interrelationship of Life Sciences, technology, the environment and society, and of different attitudes and values.

The competencies which will be developed within the following knowledge areas:

- Tissues, cells and molecular studies.
- Structures and control of processes in basic life systems.
- Environmental studies; and
- Diversity, change and continuity.

### **How will this subject help a learner to get into the world of work or further studies?**

Life Sciences prepares learners for additional Higher Education and Training, vocational careers, and the world of work and self-employment. It caters for careers such as medicine, virology, microbiology, biochemistry, bioengineering, psychology, nursing, education, marine biology, genetics and environmental sciences.

## **3.8 PHYSICAL SCIENCE**

### **Description**

Physical Sciences is a study of Physics and Chemistry, providing learners with knowledge about scientific laws and principles, and the properties of matter. By doing experiments learners are introduced to the scientific method of exploring and explaining phenomena.

### **Why is Physical Sciences an important subject?**

This subject is important because of its investigative nature. Through scientific investigation existing scientific knowledge is verified and new scientific knowledge is created that benefits humankind, our future and the future of our planet. Through scientific investigation, our desire to understand the world around us, and how to care and benefit from it, is therefore accomplished.

### **What does it consist of?**

In the Physical Sciences learners will learn about motion, force, work, energy, waves, sound, colour, electricity, magnetism, electronics, materials, chemicals, chemical reactions, mining, plastics and chemical industries.

## How will this subject help a learner to get into the world of work or further studies?

There is a demand in many companies for persons with a scientific background. A learner with scientific knowledge and skills is considered rare and is thus in a more favourable position to find employment.

Learners who study Physical Sciences will be able to follow:

- **Academic** career paths at institutions such as universities and universities of technology that will result in them obtaining degrees in physics and chemistry, and related subjects.
- **Professional** career paths at institutions such as colleges and universities to become teachers, nurses, medical doctors, dentists, chemical engineers, pharmacists, and so on.
- **Vocational** career paths at universities of technology to become science technicians, technologists, beauty therapists, and so on.
- **Requirements in grade 9**  
Learner need 50% in Maths and 50% in Natural Science in grade 9 to take Physical Science in grade 10.

## SUBJECT SELECTION FORM

Name of Learner: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name and Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Nr: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Career Choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please look at the following groups of subjects and SELECT ONE IN EACH GROUP.**

**Physical Sciences** - Mathematics and NOT Mathematical Literacy is required. Learners must have an average of 50% in Mathematics in Grade 9 in order to take Pure **Maths**

**CAT has space for 28 learners** – Learners must have an average of 60% for Technology in order to qualify.

**Accounting** - Learner need 40% in maths and 50% in EMS in grade 9 to take Accounting in grade 10.

**Life Orientation will be COMPULSORY subjects**

	<b>Commerce</b>	√	<b>Science</b>	√	<b>General</b>	√
<b>Group 1</b>	Economics		Life Sciences		Tourism	
<b>Group 2</b>	Accounting		Geography		CAT	
<b>Group 3</b>	Business Studies		Physical Sciences		History	
<b>Group 4</b>	Mathematics		Mathematical Literacy			

**Please also indicate your preferred language group: Either Group 1 or 2.**

<b>GROUP 1</b>	√	<b>GROUP 2</b>	√
English Home Language		Setswana Home Language	
Afrikaans First Additional Language		English First Additional Language	

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Learner Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed off by: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_