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## **OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT-GENERAL**

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**To: Deputy Directors-General  
Chief Directors: District Coordination and Management  
Chief Director: Examinations and Assessment  
District Directors, District CES: Professional Support  
Sub-District Managers, Circuit Managers  
Sub-District FET & GET Curriculum Coordinators  
Principals, Teachers  
SA-SAMS Administrators  
Teacher Unions**

### **ASSESSMENT INSTRUCTION NO. 19 OF 2021**

#### **SPECIAL MARKS ADJUSTMENT/CONDONATION DISPENSATION FOR LEARNERS IN GRADES 4-9**

This Assessment Instruction serves to mediate National Assessment Circular no. 3 of 2021. Mark adjustments and condonations are used as a special mechanism to address any disadvantage emanating from the implementation of policy changes and other challenges that may be unique to the academic year. In 2021 a special dispensation will apply as in 2020.

#### **1. In 2021, the mark adjustment/condonation dispensation will be as follows:**

- 1.1. Mark adjustments are applicable to Grades 4 to 9.
- 1.2. A mark adjustment of 5% can be applied in three different subjects.
- 1.3. Thereafter, a condonation in Mathematics must be applied. Where a learner has met all the requirements in respect of promotion from one grade to the next, except has not a level 3(40%) or higher in Mathematics and therefore has to be retained, such a learner must be condoned in Mathematics and the learner must be promoted to the next grade.
- 1.4. This condonation in Mathematics is applicable to Grades 4 to 9.
- 1.5. Grade 9 learners who obtain a condonation in Mathematics have the option of continuing with Mathematics or Mathematical Literacy in Grade 10.

**2. Mathematics** remains a compulsory subject taken by all learners but learners may be condoned in Mathematics.

#### **3. Display on the Mark Schedule:**

##### **Adjusted marks**

- 3.1. Adjusted marks should appear on the marks schedule.



## Special Marks Adjustment/Condonation Dispensation for Learners in Grades 4-9

3.2. Schools should keep a record of the original marks and adjusted marks on separate sheets for internal purposes.

### Condoned Mark

3.3. The original marks attained by the learner in Mathematics must be indicated and the letter "C" must be inserted next to the mark to indicate that this mark has been condoned, e.g. 23 C.

## 4. Display on the Report Card

### Adjusted marks

4.1. Adjusted mark must show on the report card of the learner.


### Condoned Mark

4.2. The original mark attained by the learner in Mathematics must be indicated and the letter "C" must be inserted next to the mark to indicate that this mark has been condoned, e.g. 23 C.

4.3. The following statement must appear on the report card: "Mathematics mark has been condoned and the learner is promoted to the next grade."

5. The condonation dispensation does not change the other progression requirements for the Intermediate and Senior Phase as stipulated in Paragraph 21 of the National Policy pertaining to the programme and promotion requirements of the NCS Grade R-12, published as Government Notice No. 1115 and 1116 in Government Gazette No. 36042 of 28 December 2021.

6. These mark adjustments and condonation dispensation is applicable for Grades 4 to 9 in 2021.



Ms S.M. Semaswe  
**Superintendent General**

15/11/2021

**Date**



**BE SAFE  
ACT RESPONSIBLY**

**WASH YOUR  
HANDS OFTEN**

**WEAR A MASK WHEN  
GOING OUTSIDE**

**MAINTAIN SOCIAL  
DISTANCING**



## Special Marks Adjustment/Condonation Dispensation for Learners in Grades 4-9

### Annexure A:

#### A. THE PROCESS:

1. All marks should be captured in SASAMS.
2. Make a printout of the schedules per grade.
3. **Identify all learners in the Schedule who have not met the promotion requirements.**
  - 3.1. Adjustments must only be done to effect a pass of the grade.
  - 3.2. A mark adjustment of 5% is allowed in a maximum of three subjects and not be accumulated to pass one or two subjects.
  - 3.3. Thereafter the condonation in Mathematics must be applied.
  - 3.4. A learner may not remain more than four years in a phase. If adjustments of 5% in three subjects and/or condonation of Mathematics did not allow a learner to be promoted to the next grade and a learner had failed already in the phase, the learner should be progressed to the next grade.

#### B. STEPS TO FOLLOW WITH THE IDENTIFIED LEARNERS WHO HAVE NOT MET THE PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS:

##### 1. Mark Adjustment

###### Step 1

- Identify learners who qualify for an adjustment of 5% or less in a maximum of three(3) subjects

###### Step 2

- Apply the marks adjustment of 5% or less in a maximum of three subjects.
- Start with the fundamental subjects: Home Language, First Additional Language and Mathematics.

###### Step 3

- On the Promotion Schedule indicate the recommended adjustments by scratching a neat line through the mark that should be increased and write the adjusted mark next to it.



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