



basic education

Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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**TO: HEADS OF PROVINCIAL EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENTS
HEADS OF PROVINCIAL CURRICULUM SECTIONS
HEADS OF PROVINCIAL EXAMINATION SECTIONS
UNIVERSITIES SOUTH AFRICA
SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY (SAQA)
UMALUSI
INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION BOARD (IEB)
SOUTH AFRICAN COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT INSTITUTE (SACAI)
NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS ASSOCIATIONS
SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY (SGB) ASSOCIATIONS
NATIONAL TEACHER ORGANISATIONS**

CIRCULAR NO. S9 OF 2025

UPDATING OF COMPUTER APPLICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (CAT) AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT POLICY STATEMENT (CAPS)

1. The Computer Applications Technology (CAT) and Information Technology (IT) Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statement (CAPS) have been updated to align with current technological advancements and trends.
2. The CAT and IT curricula were last updated in 2016. Given the rapid pace of technological change, the Computer Studies Subject Committee identified an urgent need to update content, particularly the theoretical components, to ensure curriculum relevance and learner preparedness.
3. It is also important to note that the matter of updating the content is provided for in both the CAT and IT CAPS stating:
 - "It is important that the specific technologies in the teaching plans are revised at regular intervals to phase out old technologies and to include new technologies."
 - Each theory section states: "...be aware of new trends and developments."
4. Updating the curriculum was done through the Computer Studies Subject Committee, where all nine Provincial Education Departments (PEDs) are represented as well as the members of the DBE Examination Panel and the Umalusi External Moderators.
5. The updates include
 - Adding emerging technologies (AI tools, cloud computing, cybersecurity practices)
 - Removing outdated information (legacy software versions, discontinued hardware)

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- Refreshing examples to reflect modern technological trends
- 6. The curriculum updates will affect approximately 5-7% of the theory section.
- 7. The content updates are aligned to the changes made to Section 4 of CAPS. Changes to Section 4 of the CAPS were articulated in Circular S33 of 2023, which is attached as Annexure A for ease of reference.
- 8. The Annual Teaching Plans (ATPs) have also been amended by the Computer Studies Subject Committee to accommodate the curriculum update.
- 9. The updated CAT and IT CAPS will be implemented in **Grades 10, 11 and 12, with effect from January 2026.**
- 10. Supporting material (ATPs, notes on updated concepts) will be distributed to PEDs by the end of November 2025. Provincial CAT and IT Subject Advisors will ensure implementation of updated content.
- 11. Regular updates will in future occur every three years to maintain curriculum relevance, following international best practices for computer-related subjects.



DR G WHITTLE
ACTING DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE:

25/09/25