



Subject Choices & Subject Change Policy

Grade 9 Subject Choices:

In order to qualify for a National Senior Certificate, a learner must achieve:

- A minimum rating of 3 (i.e. 40% or more) in 3 subjects.
- One of the 3 subjects must be an official language at Home Language level.
- A minimum rating of 2 i.e. 30% or more, in 3 other subjects.

Compulsory Subjects:

1. English
2. Afrikaans or isiZulu
3. Life Orientation
4. Mathematics or Mathematical Literacy.

In order to take Mathematics, we recommend that the Grade 9 students should achieve a minimum overall year mark of at least 50%.

Students intending on taking Physical Sciences must choose Mathematics, rather than Mathematical Literacy.

A learner is required to choose 1 subject from each package in table 1 below. This ensures that students have the required 7 subjects as per requirements.

The taking of an 8th subject

Should a student wish to take an 8th subject, the new subject would have to not interfere with the day-to-day lessons (e.g. a student who has Accounting as a subject and wants to take Geography as an extra subject). At this time, the only course that can be offered as an 8th subject by the school is IT since the subject is taught online through Hatfield Christian School (SSIR).

These are the IEB requirements for Matric Examinations

Subject Package		
Accounting	Geography	Drama
EGD	Life Sciences	IT
Science	Bus. Studies	Visual Arts

Table 1. RBCS Subject Packages

Further Studies Afrikaans, Further Studies English, Further Studies Mathematics and Further Studies Physics are not registered NSC subjects and hence will not be taken into account when determining whether a learner has met the requirements for any of the categories of achievement in the NSC. The IEB will issue a separate statement of results and a separate IEB certificate for these subjects.

Information on the subject packages in the FET phase will be made available to students and parents through a Subject Evening or an informative Google Site containing recordings by different subject teachers. The recordings will have enough information on the subject to be able to give a good understanding of the requirements and learning outcomes.

SUBJECT CHANGES:

As per IEB requirements, students are allowed a **maximum** of:

- 2 subject changes in Grade 10,
- 1 subject change in Grade 11, and
- No subject changes in Grade 12.

The only reason a student can deviate from this rule is if the subject change is advised by a subject teacher on account of a student not achieving the required minimum requirements for passing the subject. There needs to be evidence of detailed and consistent intervention in the subject before a teacher can then ask for a subject change.

Preferred course of action for students taking Physical Sciences and Mathematics: There almost always is a positive correlation between marks achieved in the two subjects and therefore, should a student be under achieving in both subjects, it is always advised that the student first changes from Physical Sciences, allowing enough terms to see if there is an improvement in marks.

The procedure, should any student wish to change subjects:

1. Communicate the desire to change subjects with the current subject teacher, who will then have a conversation with a Subject Head/Academic Head. This is to determine the need for a parent-teacher conference.
2. The learner's parents should email the request for subject change to the Phase coordinator / Academic Head.
3. The Subjects coordinator / Academic Head will forward the email to the relevant subject teachers as well as the Finance liaison (the person who coordinates the books) so that they can get the administration sorted and issue new books, should the school have, or order new books for the student. (in the case where there are financial implications, the email communication serves as official notice).
4. The coordinator will liaise with the student if the change has been granted and only then, will a student move to the new subject.

Students need to adhere to these steps to ensure that a clear record of students in all the subjects is kept and correlates to the number of students per grade.

Contact for queries:

Should students/parents wish to get further clarification on the subject choices/changes procedure, they will contact the subject coordinator / academic head.