



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

**PRESS STATEMENT ON THE  
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ABRIDGED  
CURRICULUM FOR PRIMARY AND  
SECONDARY LEVELS OF EDUCATION**

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**By the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of  
Education and Sports**

**15<sup>th</sup> February, 2022**

## **PRESS STATEMENT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ABRIDGED CURRICULUM FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY LEVELS OF EDUCATION**

I want to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy new year and I thank God for having enabled our country to reopen schools that were closed since June 2021, due to the Covid-19 pandemic. As you may be aware, not all learners were learning during the lock down due to various reasons. I therefore, thank all those who contributed towards our children's continued learning during the lock down.

In order to ensure equity in access and inclusive education, the Ministry of Education and Sports developed policies that aim at leaving no learner behind. In that spirit, the Ministry through the National Curriculum Development Centre (NCDC) embarked on developing an abridged curriculum for all classes, except Primary 1, Senior 1, and 5; because these are just beginning their cycle of education.

The curriculum is aimed at recovery of lost time and enabling all learners to be brought on board as schools open. It was also meant to enable the learner to cope, with the demands and learning rigour of the next level following the automatic promotion. It is postulated that the abridged curriculum will further help the Ministry, to ensure quality across all schools since what is taught has been standardised to avoid disharmony and inconsistencies across the country.

My hope is that this intervention will promote learner progression with ease, without missing out on the critical concepts and competencies.

The abridged curriculum is not a new curriculum, but a shortened or repackaged form of the standard curriculum. It focuses on the critical concepts and competencies to ensure learner progression.

It was developed by reorganising the scope and sequence of the content in the standard curriculum, so that learners can cover more content in a relatively short span without compromising quality. Content for some topics was compressed or merged. This curriculum will be in use for a period of 1 to 3 years, to allow a safe transition to the standard curriculum. It can be accessed on the UNEB portal, and on the NCDC and MoES websites.

The Ministry trained master trainers and teachers from across the country, to support the other levels of training in the respective regions targeting various teams consisting of; Head Teachers, District Education Officers, Ministry of Education and Sports, Directors of Studies, District Inspector of Schools, School Based Supervisors and Centre Coordinating Tutors where applicable.

These are expected to train the subject teachers across the country to deliver the abridged curriculum to the learners.

The MoES is <sup>in the process of</sup> conducting continuous professional training of teachers on the abridged curriculum using various approaches as highlighted above. I call upon the school administrators to allow and facilitate the teachers to attend such trainings when called upon. In addition, I encourage all teachers and Head teachers to be at school at all times to undertake the assigned teaching, supervision and administrative duties.

Regarding the matter of abridged curriculum in relation to the end-cycle examinations, Uganda National Examinations Board is preparing to examine the content and skills that are currently being taught. As it were, examinations are absolutely informed by the curriculum and UNEB is bound by this practice even in this forthcoming examinations.

Therefore, the abridged curriculum should be implemented as designed; as it is the curriculum that will be assessed by the Uganda National Examinations Board at the end of cycle.

The teachers should make use of all the available instructional materials they have been using while teaching the standard curriculum, in addition to the self-study materials and any other relevant reference material.

Teachers are encouraged to observe learners and conduct diagnostic assessment to guide the remediation for the slow learners to help them to catch up. The guidance on how to remediate has been provided in the curriculum.

The primary curriculum, allows learners to have 2 periods of Creative Arts and Physical Education (CAPEs) per week. Learners may also engage in sports and games at school level to allow them to relax their minds. This arrangement should be adhered to.

Continuous Assessment (CA) modalities; both formative assessment (regular class exercises) and summative (end of topic/months exercises), should be used to assess the learning as guided by the abridged curriculum within the classroom setting.

Assessment records for each end of the topic exercises, should be used as the basis for developing the end of term and end of year report cards. This is intended to develop learners' confidence about learning without worrying about the burden of exams.

I appeal to head teachers to stop stressing the learners with over assessment. However, they should just ensure that effective preparation, teaching and continuous class-based assessment is done.

I call upon the District Education Officers, Ministry of Education and Sports, District Inspector of Schools and Head Teachers, to ensure that the curriculum is taught as prescribed.

I encourage all stakeholders, to support the implementation of the abridged curriculum to help learners recover the lost time and progress; as one of the ways of reducing on the effects of the Covid-19 learning loss.

It is my hope that the successful implementation of this curriculum, will restore the confidence of all stakeholders in the education Sector of our country at Basic and Secondary levels.

I thank the Government of Uganda, the Education Development Partners, the Private Schools Association of Uganda, <sup>ASSHU</sup> and all other stakeholders; for the support towards the development of this curriculum and training of teachers.

Thank you for listening,

For God and my Country

*Yours*  
KEITY LAMARO