

# Wider Subject Choice

## Frequently asked questions

### 1. When will the wider subject offering be available?

The wider subject offering, which started earlier this year, will be rolled out to all Curro and Curro-managed schools and incorporated into the normal school hours in 2022.

### 2. Where will this be available?

At all Curro and Curro-managed schools across the country; IEB and DBE curriculum (should their technological infrastructure allow for this).

### 3. What are the admissions criteria?

- Learners should be responsible.
- Learners should be able to work at their own pace.



Subjects on offer					
Subject	Grades				
Accounting			Grade 10	Grade 11	
AP English			Grade 10		
AP Maths			Grade 10	Grade 11	
Business Studies			Grade 10	Grade 11	
CAT			Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Design Studies			Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Economics			Grade 10		
Engineering Graphics and Design			Grade 10		
French Conversation	French Delf A1/A2	French Delf A1/A2	French Delf A1/A2	French Delf A1/A2	French Delf A1/A2
French Second Additional Language			Grade 10		
Geography			Grade 10	Grade 11	
History			Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
isiXhosa	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
isiZulu	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
IT			Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Life Sciences			Grade 10	Grade 11	
Mathematical Literacy			Grade 10	Grade 11	
Physical Sciences			Grade 10	Grade 11	
Sesotho	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	
Tourism			Grade 10	Grade 11	



#### **4. How will the content be delivered?**

Synchronous (online contact teaching) and asynchronous (online non-contact teaching) teaching will take place, with lessons being conducted through Microsoft Teams and Moodle. All lessons will also be recorded and uploaded to Moodle so that, if need be, learners may watch or review the lesson at a later stage at their own pace.

#### **5. Who are the teachers?**

Curro's subject specialists create the content and asynchronous lessons, and our tech-savvy, innovative teachers teach the synchronous lessons. In some cases, external service providers (such as Alliance Française) also conduct lessons.

#### **6. When will lessons be conducted?**

During dedicated lessons that are timetabled and synchronised across the Curro group.

#### **7. If the classes are available during normal school hours, how will this fit into my child's daily timetable at school?**

We will synchronise certain lesson periods on our school timetable across all our Curro schools for our teachers to offer this subject online to the learners. Lots of work and research was done and with the help of Curro's curriculum management division we have set up a timetable consisting of a seven-day cycle with six (6) lesson periods.

#### **8. Can you give me an example of how the online learning would fit into a normal day at school?**

When taking a subject as part of the seven subjects, the learner will have six lessons for that specific subject. Two of those lesson periods will be presented by Curro's live online teachers to the learners taking this subject. The remaining four lessons will follow these two live lessons. If the subject is taken as an additional eighth, ninth or tenth subject, the classes are all recorded and available to the learner to work through on his/her own.

#### **9. Will there be supervision in a dedicated classroom?**

Yes, there will be either a teacher or a tutor appointed to do supervision in the class while your child is working online.

#### **10. How will discipline be maintained via the online learning platform?**

The established school discipline methods, policies and processes will apply as the learner is still part of their school.

#### **11. What is the difference between online contact and online non-contact teaching?**

Online contact teaching (synchronous lessons) means that there is a teacher available who presents the subject live to the class. Non-contact teaching (asynchronous lessons) are pre-recorded lessons that learners follow online and complete at their own time in that specific lesson period. This work will be done under the supervision of a tutor or teacher in a classroom at the school.

#### **12. Can the learner take AP Mathematics and Core Mathematics as part of their core seven subjects?**

Yes, they can.

#### **13. Can the learner take AP Mathematics instead of Core Mathematics?**

No, the requirement from the DBE is still that a learner should take Core Mathematics.

#### **14. What equipment will the learners need?**

The learners will require a device and earphones.

#### **15. Which platforms will be used?**

Microsoft Teams will be used for the online classes. Moodle will be used to deliver the subject content. The Microsoft Office suite of products, including Word, PowerPoint and Excel, will be used for assignments and projects. Microsoft OneNote will be used for group assignments so that the teacher can see each learner's contribution.

### 16. What is Moodle and how will that work?

Moodle is a platform for online learning that enables a teacher to create online courses, add assignments, and track a learner's progress. Moodle also enables communication with learners and encourages communication between learners in forums and discussions.

### 17. I don't have time to check the Moodle dashboard, how will I be notified if my child missed anything that was said in class?

Learners will be taught by a real teacher, although not physically in the classroom at their school. The teacher will be able to monitor progress via a dashboard and will give the school feedback on the learner's performance. The learner stays part of his/her school and as such the school will keep you up to date with the learner's progress.

### 18. Will the learner use the school's Wi-Fi?

The learner will use their current device and Curro is improving connectivity across all Curro schools.

### 19. What happens when there is no Wi-Fi at school due to factors such as load-shedding?

The lessons are all recorded and available on Moodle to be watched anytime at the learner's convenience.

### 20. How would technical support work?

Technical support is in place at all schools through peer coaches, site technicians and node technicians.

### 21. Do I pay extra if the online subject is part of the learner's core seven subjects and not an additional subject?

If the subject is taken as one of the seven subjects, the class will occur during normal school hours and will be timetabled as such and there will be no additional cost. If the subject is taken as an additional subject, it will be available as an asynchronous lesson – after normal school hours at an additional cost. The cost will be added to the learner's monthly school-fee account.

### 22. Will two key classes for a complex subject such as EGD be enough for the learner to sufficiently understand the subject?

Apart from the two classes with the online teacher, there are also four other lesson periods where the learner will have to complete tasks and assignments on the content of the subject. This work will be done under the supervision of a tutor or teacher in a classroom at the school. The learner's performance is closely monitored to track performance and establish if the learner needs additional assistance. Extra classes are also available if needed.



### **23. How would it work for subjects such as Design Studies and EGD (Engineering Graphics and Design) that have a practical component?**

EGD has developed a fully online course that includes practical work that the learner has to upload. We currently run Design Studies (Grades 10 to 12) and learners work on their practical work in their own time (at school or at home) and submit a weekly virtual diary (PowerPoint) to demonstrate their progress. They have dedicated online contact lessons with the teacher to get input on their practical work and progress. The matric exhibition is still done at school with guidelines from our teachers (an experienced IEB internal moderator).

### **24. How will assessments be done?**

All the necessary school-based assessments are done by all learners at school or at home, but formal assessments (tests and examinations) must be done at school under strict supervision. All learners are required to compile a subject portfolio as is custom in all the subjects (IEB/DBE). Everything is managed as per a traditional school. All assessments are moderated and form part of cluster or national moderation, as usual, with the additional benefit of immediate feedback in the online assessment. This allows learners to alter outcomes quicker without having to wait for feedback from teachers before altering their responses.

### **25. How will feedback on academic performance be managed?**

Learners, parents and teachers should have access to real-time diagnostics, as is the case in global trends. Not only are you provided with normal reports, you also get weekly feedback from the Moodle platform on how you are doing.

- Module progress reports are available live to parents via Moodle to track ongoing progress.
- Term reports provide detailed progress feedback.
- Learners track their progress on their Moodle dashboard and receive feedback from tutors and teachers in each lesson.
- Heads of schools and phase heads will receive feedback on the performance of learners at their school via the administrative team or through the Moodle dashboard.

### **26. How regularly will academic performance be measured?**

Marks for all necessary SBA assessments and tests during terms one and three, as well as the terms two and four examinations, need to be captured every term.

### **27. Who is responsible for tracking academic performance?**

The Curro teachers and tutors track the learners continuously using the tech tools available to them.

### **28. Who should I contact for more information on the wider subject choice offering?**

You are welcome to contact the head of high school at your school or Mrs Marelet Moolman (Curro Operational Head) at [marelet.m@curro.co.za](mailto:marelet.m@curro.co.za).

