

CURRICULUM 2005 ASSESSMENT
POLICY AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION
IN
GRADE 9
IN THE LIMPOPO PROVINCE

by

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DECLARATION

I declare that **Curriculum 2005 Assessment Policy and its implementation in Grade 9 in the Limpopo Province** is my own work and that all the sources I have used or quoted have been indicated and acknowledged by means of complete references.

.....
(Solly Thomas)

Date

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SOLLY THOMAS

TO

MY FAMILY

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ABSTRACT

The study investigates the implementation of the Curriculum 2005 assessment policy guidelines in natural sciences in grade nine in five secondary schools selected by judgement sampling in Limpopo Province. Data were gathered by means of a literature study, examination of learner and educator portfolios and interviews with educators. Findings show that most participants were unable to carryout the continuous assessment (CASS) tasks as required. A discrepancy in the quality and quantity of assessment tasks among the schools emerged. All schools replaced the final common tasks for assessment (CTA) with internal examinations due to the late arrival of materials and the level of difficulty. Contributing factors were lack of a well-planned curriculum, proper resource materials, lack of coordination of efforts due to poor curriculum support and management and inadequate professional competence in the Outcomes-based methods of teaching, learning and assessment. Recommendations to address the above problems are made.

Key terms: *Curriculum 2005; assessment policy; guidelines; implementation; Outcomes-Based Education; continuous assessment; common tasks; portfolios; document analysis; interview; educator; learner; senior phase; grade nine; General Education and Training; natural science; South Africa*

LIST OF ACRONYMS/ABBREVIATIONS AND THEIR EXPANSIONS

- 1 CASS Continuous assessment
- 2 CTA Common tasks for assessment
- 3 DoE National Department of Education
- 4 GET General Education and Training
- 5 GETC General Education and Training Certificate
- 6 NPDE Northern Province Department of Education/ Department of Education, Northern province
- 7 NS Natural Sciences
- 8 NQF National Qualifications Framework
- 9 SAQA South African Qualifications Authority
- 10 SO Specific Outcomes

