



Quality learning @ home

LET'S STOP THE SPREAD

Part 2: Quality Learning @home: Grade 12 resources

Minister Debbie Schäfer | 2 April 2020

In Part 2 of our series “Quality Learning @ home”, I would like to highlight what is on offer for our Grade 12 learners in preparation for the National Senior Certificate.

Grade 12 is already a stressful year for most learners as they complete their schooling career and face their final examinations. With the extended holiday and lockdown period we understand that this can cause further anxiety and distress.

Schools are closed, but learning can and should continue!

All Grade 12 learners are encouraged to do the following:

- Revise the work covered during the first term.
- Work through the tests/assignments completed during the first term with special focus on areas of weakness and the feedback provided by the teacher.
- Prepare for work to be dealt with during this year. Learners are encouraged to look at what is lying ahead. Using their “Tips for Success booklets” or curriculum guidelines (both located on the WCED website), learners can start reading about the topics and concepts that will be introduced before they write their examinations, using different sources and to share good material with fellow learners. Research is an important part of learning. Self-research, analysis of materials, and summarisation are all key skills.
- Read different sections in textbooks. Read prescribed literature and read for leisure!
- Access resources from the WCED ePortal and other sources provided in the guidelines for the different subjects.
- Access past matric papers and exemplars and watch videos on certain themes and topics.

All Grade 12 learners are encouraged to do the following:

- Encourage learners to focus on their schoolwork during the time away from school by planning specific study times. Families should try to respect these times, even in limited spaces.

- Monitor and support learners to complete various tasks as outlined in the subject guidelines.
- Use the Teaching and Assessment Plans available on the ePortal to see what is planned for your children for the remainder of the year.
- Encourage and help learners to find alternative support and teaching options to avoid falling too far behind.
- Encourage learners to read their prescribed literature, textbooks and to read for leisure!
- Check whether your children have completed the tasks set by their subject teachers.
- Most of all – ensure they live healthy lives. Despite these very unusual circumstances, show them that you care and follow the measures to minimise the possibility of infection.

The following resources are available to help make some of the above possible:

1. The Western Cape Education Department (WCED) ePortal

As explained in Part 1 of the series, the WCED ePortal hosts a variety of digital resources for Grade 12 learners. This includes:

- 4 000 resources targeted at Grade 12s specifically.
- A Learner Dashboard for Grade 12 learners where they can register, upload their NSC subjects and have quality content promoted to them to suit their subject needs.
- A list of free resources from various curriculum suppliers during the lockdown period.
- For the above, visit: <https://wcedportal.co.za>.

2. Matric Support Resources

As explained in Part 1 of the series, the WCED ePortal hosts a variety of digital resources for Grade 12 learners. This includes:

- “Tips for Success” which provide advice on preparing Grade 12 learners for the exams, planning their study time and what to cover in each subject.
- Matric revision videos on YouTube covering certain subjects and topics.
- A list of textbooks and prescribed literature.
- For the above, visit: <https://wcedonline.westerncape.gov.za/matric-support>.

3. Grade 12 Revision: Telematics videos

The WCED has a telematics programme that is broadcast to specific schools throughout the year. A variety of these broadcasts have been uploaded onto the WCED website and ePortal for viewing. It covers a number of subjects and specific content and concepts. It also includes English and Afrikaans home language literature and workbooks in various other subjects.

- For the above, visit: <https://wcedonline.westerncape.gov.za/edumedia/revision-dvds-telematics>.

4. Examination papers and memoranda

Question papers and marking memoranda from the National Senior Certificate Examination, dating back to 2013, are available on the WCED website.

- For the above, visit: <https://wcedonline.westerncape.gov.za/grade-12-question-papers>.

5. Mind the Gap Study Series

This study guide series, produced by Department of Basic Education (DBE), provide explanations of key terminology, examples of the types of questions learners can expect to get in an exam, model answers and advice. It is aimed to bridge the gap in learners' understanding of commonly tested concepts to improve pass rates.

- For the above, visit: <https://wcedonline.westerncape.gov.za/mind-gap>.

The DBE also has a Matric Support package with a variety of resources, including TV and radio broadcast timetables, study material, tips for parents and digital resources. This can be accessed at: <https://wcedonline.westerncape.gov.za/dbe-support-package>

We recognise the responsibility of school principals and School Management Teams (SMTs) to provide instructional leadership, even at a time when learners are not at school.

School principals and SMTs are expected to set up home-learning systems which include guidance on using the Teaching and Assessment plans to know what should be covered and using alternative ways to teach.

Teaching and Assessment plans were sent to schools in January 2020 which include guidance on what should be covered, making alternative ways of teaching more convenient, streamlined and organised. Please see the following circular: <https://wcedonline.westerncape.gov.za/circulars/minutes20/CMminutes/B-CM/eb-cm0002-2020.pdf>).

We are aware of several groups that have been created for Quality learning @home by teachers. For example, Evan Papier, a Life Orientation teacher from Groendal Secondary School, has been teaching his Grade 12 class during lockdown via Whatsapp using Google forms, with various assessments being returned using voice notes, videos and text.

We will be providing examples of best practice later in the series and how we are assisting teachers to embrace this new concept of learning. However, it is evident that for those teachers that have embraced e-learning, distance learning during the holiday period is "business as usual". For them, teaching continues, it is only the physical environment that has changed!

A broadcast system involving TV and radio is also being rolled out and developed as part of the Provincial, as well as, National process. Various radio and TV stations have already

come on board. We are currently working actively on SABC RSG. Other community radio stations such as Radio KC, Voice of the Cape, and Bloudruk Media, who host a variety of stations, have all offered slots for learning, which is currently being scheduled.

In partnership with eMedia Investments, the Department of Basic Education is broadcasting educational support for learners and teachers on the Openview HD (OVHD) platform – channel 122. This channel is available free of any subscriptions and will broadcast for a period of six months from 1 April to 30 September 2020.

There is much that can be done during this period of lockdown to keep our Grade 12 learners engaged and focused on the task that lies ahead.

It is often said that the 21st Century requires a workforce that can adapt to a changing world and working environment. The original “21st Century skills” cited were the “4Cs”: Communication, Collaboration, Critical thinking, and Creativity. Unbeknown at the time of conceptualization of these concepts, these 4C skills have become as important as ever.

May we embrace this challenge as we look at new ways to communicate and collaborate, and to stimulate critical thinking by ways and means that are creative in this lockdown period.



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Quality Learning @home: Grade 12 resources

Matric Support Resources

- “Tips for Success” to prepare for exams
- Matric revision videos and prescribed literature
- <https://wcedonline.westerncape.gov.za/matric-support>

The WCED ePortal

- 4 000 resources targeted at Grade 12s learning
- A Learner Dashboard for each subject
- A list of free resources
- <https://wcedportal.co.za>

Examination papers and memoranda

- Revision videos from expert teachers on specific content and concepts
- <https://wcedonline.westerncape.gov.za/grade-12-question-papers>

Grade 12 Revision – Telematics

- Revision videos from expert teachers on specific content and concepts
- <https://wcedonline.westerncape.gov.za/edumedia/revision-dvds-telematics>

Mind the Gap Study Series

- A DBE study guide series on commonly tested concepts
- <https://wcedonline.westerncape.gov.za/mind-gap>

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