



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AWARENESS OF STANDARDS-BASED EDUCATION

The Department of Education (DOE) is now embarking on improving the standards of education from 2015 onwards. This means that standards in the school curriculum, teacher preparation and professional development, examinations, inspections, school governance and restructuring of the school system and structures are some of the many components of education which will be improved by a Standards-Based Curriculum (SBC). The department will be outlining here SBC issues and developments twice a week to make the public and teachers aware of the changes.

Various means will be used to improve the awareness of the SBC to be implemented in 2015, including

- Minister for Education and Secretary for Education speeches and presentations;
- DOE officers giving presentations to schools and other stakeholders;
- Presentation of SBC documents to schools and other stakeholders; and
- In-service training of all elementary and junior primary school teachers (Grades 3 and 4)

Structure of School System

The Government has embarked on free and compulsory education in 2015 and the level of resources will need to complement the school structure to enhance the standards of education and to keep the children in school.

- Two years of Early Childhood Education;
- 6 years of Primary education — Grade 1, Grade 2, Grade 3, Grade 4 and Grade 5 and Grade 6 and;
- 6 years of High School/ Secondary education — Grade 7, Grade 8, Grade 9, Grade 10, Grade 11 and Grade 12

Elementary syllabuses

• English.

Elementary teachers will teach English as a subject with the emphasis on teaching phonics through scripted daily lessons. The introduction of English as a subject is to address the low literacy rate in the nation.

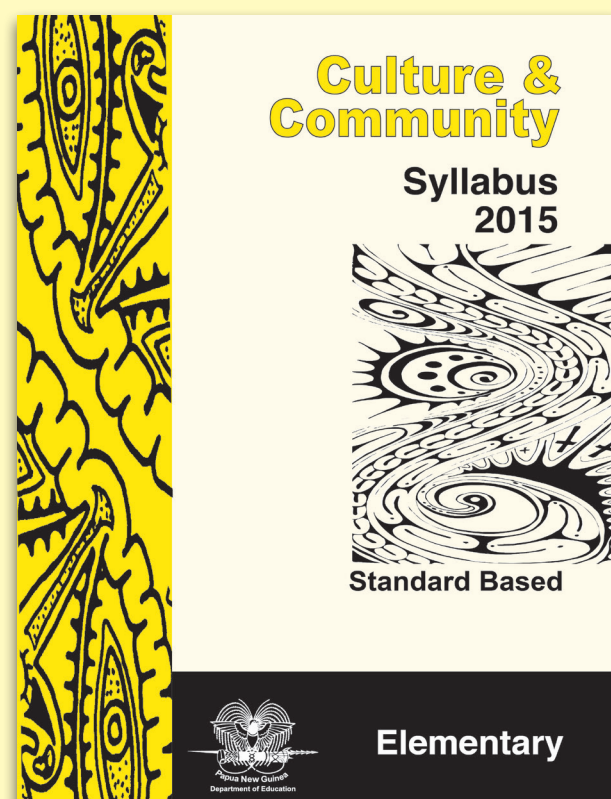
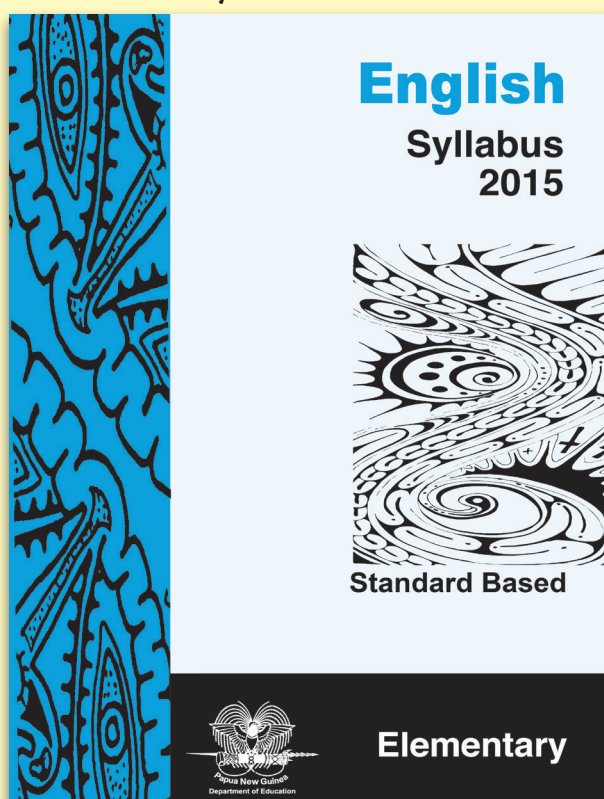
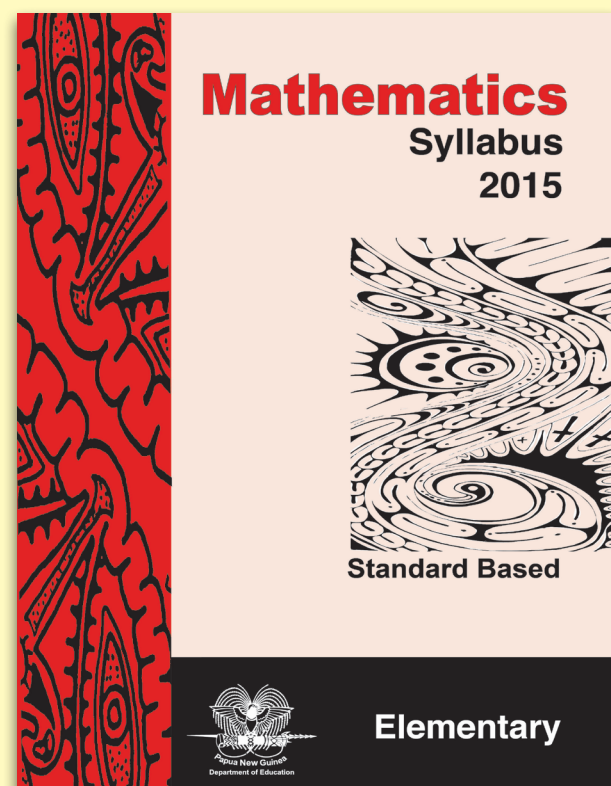
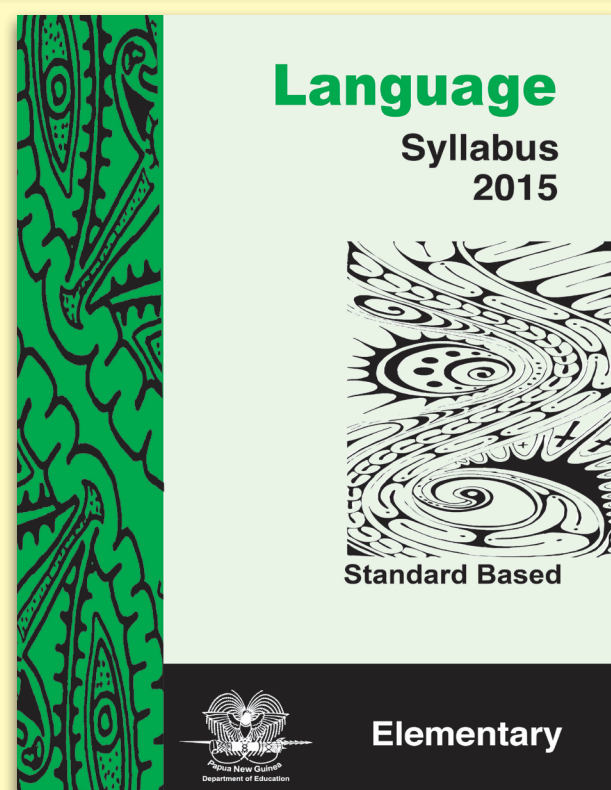
All teachers will use English as a medium of instruction beginning at this level.

• Language

This syllabus is important for two reasons. First it will help current elementary teachers to bridge into teaching English. They have been teaching elementary vernacular for many years and the language syllabus will help them to teach English better. Secondly, the elementary pupils will learn English quickly when Language is used to explain different English words or concepts. It is important for the cognitive and literacy skills development of the child, in preparation for reading and writing.

• Mathematics.

- **Culture and Community**, with science embedded as a subject in this syllabus.





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Increase in time allocation

There will also be an increase in the time allocation for teaching of English, language and mathematics. The new time allocation for English is 300 minutes per week and for language it is 300 minutes per week while mathematics has increased from 210 minutes per week to 240 minutes per week, an increase of 30 minutes at the elementary level.

Use of phonics

In the first 10 weeks of the first term (Term 1) in 2015, every elementary pupil will be taught reading and spelling using phonics, a method based on the sounds of letters, groups of letters and syllables. Elementary pupils will also be prompted to read books that the World Bank-backed READ PNG project has provided for classroom libraries so that every pupil is encouraged to read from the beginning of their school life.

The DOE has produced new curriculum documents in preparation for the teaching of the elementary SBC in 2015.

In OBC, elementary teachers were given samples of big lesson books and asked to develop their own lessons using the language of instruction. Hence, teachers spent too much time developing resources and very little time

on high-quality lesson delivery, resulting in poor education at the elementary level.

The DOE's Curriculum Development and Assessment Division (CDAD) has produced scripted lessons and teacher guides:

- English scripted lessons;
- Mathematics scripted lessons;
- Language scripted lessons; and
- Culture and community teacher guide.

In the SBC scripted lessons, detailed lessons in English have been written by the curriculum writers at CDAD for each elementary subject. What the elementary teacher has to do is simply pick up the lesson plan for each period and teach. The teacher will spend less time preparing lessons and consequently will spend more high-quality time with the elementary pupils in the teaching and learning activities.

Other resources will also be provided to each elementary teacher and class for effective teaching throughout the year.

The DOE has re-introduced Shell Books to be used together with School Journals to encourage

elementary pupils to learn to read English books at an early age. These are produced by the DOE. Shell books are small readers containing stories, with pictures, from Papua New Guinea. They are written in English and Tok Pisin, with space for teachers to translate the stories into their own languages and with questions for the children. These books complement the English and language teaching and can support culture and community and mathematics teaching at the elementary level.

There are also DVDs containing dramas, songs and music. There are also SD cards for mobile phones containing songs to accompany elementary scripted lessons so teaching and learning become playful and fun, in order to allow elementary pupils to enjoy their lessons. The DOE believes that all elementary teachers have private mobile phones with slots for SD cards, to be used during lessons as his/her teaching aid.

In our next editorial we will elaborate on other resources to support and complement the syllabuses.

Dr. Michael F. Tapo, EdD
Secretary for Education



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT & ASSESSMENT DIVISION

MEDIA RELEASE

PART 2 OF STANDARDS BASED CURRICULUM, (SBC)

This is Part 2 of the series of awareness that the department is putting in the media to educate the general public on Standards Based Curriculum, (SBC). In the first part we introduced the different Standards–Based Syllabuses and Teacher Guides for Elementary and English, Mathematics and Environmental Science for Primary school Grades 3–5 that will be implemented in 2015. In this part we will bring to you the different support resources that will complement the Syllabus for Elementary and first three subjects for primary Grades 3–5.

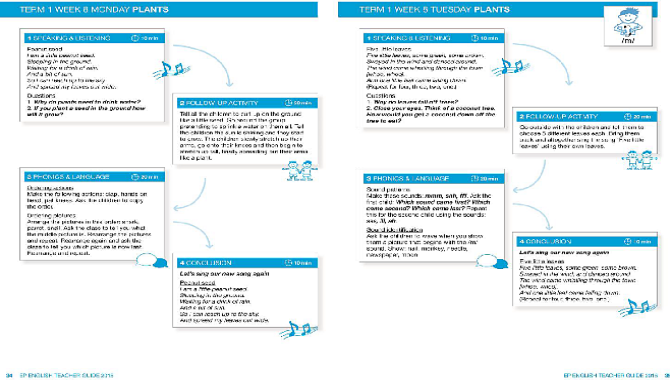
1. Elementary Scripted Lessons

Scripted Lessons will take the place of Teacher Guides to support implement Standards-based Syllabus at the Elementary level. These scripted lessons are day by day lessons that have been set out for teachers to teach each day. Teachers do not have to write their own daily lessons like in the past. In the past they spent a lot of time doing preparations and did not have enough time to teach the lessons they took so much time to prepare. We are hopeful that by doing this we will raise the education level of our students in English, Mathematics, Science and other subjects.

Sample Scripted Lessons

Figure 1 below show a sample scripted lesson for Elementary 1: Term 1, week 8 Monday and Tuesday.

Figure 1: Sample Scripted Lessons



2. Shell books

There will be shell books that will complement the Syllabus and Scripted lessons. These shells books used to be very popular in the 1980s. It went dead for many years but have been reactivated as part of the SBC to promote reading at an early grade. It has texts in English, and then Tok Pisin and spaces provided for child's own Language. These reading books can be used while teaching Language subjects as well as English.

Sample Shell books

Figure 2 below show a sample shell books for Elementary.

Figure 2: Shell books



3. School Journals

Again School Journals were very popular in the past and were sent to schools on annual basis with the support of New Zealand Government. However, starting 2012, PNG Government has sustained this and will continue to develop and send them to schools. Again it will help raise standards in education, particularly in English.

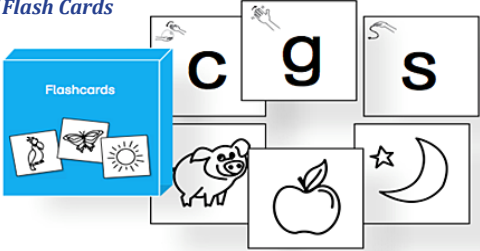
Figure 3: Sample of School Journals



4. Flash Cards

These flash cards will help teacher to teach the lessons well. There will also be Number Cards for Mathematics.

Figure 4: Sample of Flash Cards



5. CD Songs and Legends

These CD contains songs and legends that teachers play for students to hear. This is good for speaking and listening. The stories from the past or lessons will also help to preserve their culture and traditions. The main aim of this is to help students improve their literacy level.

Figure 4: Sample of Flash Cards



ALL RESOURCES TO BE SUPPLIED TO SCHOOLS

All in all the following resources will be supplied to all Elementary schools throughout the country.

Elementary Resources to be used in the implementation of SBC in 2015

1. English Syllabus
2. Language Syllabus
3. Mathematics Syllabus
4. Culture & Community Syllabus
5. English Teachers Guide scripted lessons for Elementary Prep.
6. English Teacher Guide scripted lessons for Elementary 1
7. English Teacher Guide Scripted lessons for Elementary 2
8. Language Teacher Guide for Elementary Prep
9. Language Teacher Guide for Elementary 1
10. Language Teacher Guide for Elementary 2
11. Mathematics Teacher Guide Scripted Lessons for Elementary Prep
12. Mathematics Teacher Guide Scripted Lessons for Elementary 1
13. Mathematics Teacher Guide Scripted Lessons for Elementary 2
14. Culture & Community Teacher Guide for Elementary Prep
15. Culture & Community Teacher Guide for Elementary 1
16. Culture & Community Teacher Guide for Elementary 2
17. Shell Book Grade 1- Animal Stories 1
18. Shell Book Grade 1 – Animal Stories 2
19. Shell Book Grade 1 – Animals Stories 3
20. Shell Book Grade 1 – Animals Stories 4
21. Shell Book Grade 1 – English only: Animals Stories 1
22. Shell Book Grade 1 – Nature Stories
23. Shell Book Grade 1 – English only: Animals Stories 2
24. Shell Book Grade 1 – English only: Animals Stories 3
25. Shell Book Grade 1 – English only: Stories
26. Shell Book Grade 2 – Animals Stories
27. Shell Book Grade 2 – Nature Stories
28. Shell Book Grade 2 – Stories from PNG
29. Shell Book Grade 2 – Stories from PNG 2
30. Shell Book Grade 2 – Traditional Stories
31. Creative Phonics Trainers Manual
32. Creative Phonics Teachers Manual
33. English Syllabus and Teacher Guide In-Service Training Manual
34. Mathematics syllabus and Teacher Guide In-Service Training Manual
35. Culture & Community Syllabus and Teacher Guide Training Manual
36. Language Syllabus and Teacher Guide Training Manual

Mathematics Resources for Elementary Schools

For Mathematics the following materials will be purchased and delivered to the schools to compliment the Mathematics syllabus, Scripted Lessons and Text books . The implementation of these resources will help improve student learning and raise their standards in Mathematics at this level.

A class will be provided with a Class Set of:

1. Counting beads: 20 beads per string in two (2) colours.
2. Numeric Dice Set: Set contains 2 dice numbered 0 – 10
3. Pattern Blocks Set: Set contains 120 pieces in six (6) shapes
4. Linking Cubes Set: Set contains 50 cubes
5. Storage Container: 1

All in all these materials will help improve student performance and raise standards at the Elementary level. Additional student and teacher resources will be developed and or purchased and delivered to the schools in 2015 and onwards. It is the department's aim to have adequate teaching and learning resources readily available in the schools and this is the beginning of many more resources to come.

In the next part, we will discuss more about resources for Primary and “Time Increase for English and Mathematics” at the Elementary and Primary level.


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Secretary for Education