

PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS: GRADES 8–12 (CAPS, SOUTH AFRICA)

1. Introduction

The promotion and progression requirements for the Senior Phase (Grades 8–9) and the Further Education and Training (FET) Phase (Grades 10–12) are set out in the **National Policy Pertaining to the Programme and Promotion Requirements (NPPPR)** and the **Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statement (CAPS)**.

These requirements ensure academic consistency across the system and guide schools in determining learner progression and promotion.

2. Promotion Requirements per Grade

Grades 8–9 (Senior Phase)

- **Home Language (HL):** Minimum **Level 4 (50–59%)**
 - **First Additional Language (FAL):** Minimum **Level 3 (40–49%)**
 - **Mathematics:** Minimum **Level 3 (40–49%)**
 - Any other 3 subjects: Minimum **Level 3 (40–49%)**
 - Remaining subjects: Minimum **Level 2 (30–39%)**
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Grades 10–12 (FET Phase / NSC)

A learner must achieve the following:

- **Home Language (HL):** Minimum **Level 3 (40–49%)**
- **Two other subjects (excluding Life Orientation):** Minimum **Level 3 (40–49%)**
- **Three other subjects (excluding Life Orientation):** Minimum **Level 2 (30–39%)**
- **Life Orientation:** Must be completed but does not contribute to promotion requirements.

Additional Requirements (NSC rules):

- Learners must **offer 7 subjects**: 4 compulsory + 3 electives.
 - To be awarded the **National Senior Certificate (Grade 12)**:
 - Must achieve **40% in 3 subjects (including HL)**.
 - Must achieve **30% in 3 other subjects**.
 - May fail **only 1 subject**, provided the language of learning and teaching (Home Language) is passed at 40%.
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3. Levels of Achievement

Code	Descriptor	Percentage
7	Outstanding	80–100%
6	Meritorious	70–79%
5	Substantial	60–69%
4	Adequate	50–59%
3	Moderate	40–49%
2	Elementary	30–39%
1	Not Achieved	0–29%

5. Legislative References

- National Policy Pertaining to the Programme and Promotion Requirements (NPPPR), 2012 (as amended).
- Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statement (CAPS), Grades 7–12.
- National Senior Certificate (NSC) Examination Regulations.
- South African Schools Act (Act 84 of 1996).