KENYA INSTITUTE OF CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

A Skilled and Ethical Society

OVERVIEW OF BASIC EDUCATION AND ORGANISATION OF LEARNING

AUGUST 2025

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

The National curriculum is developed by KICD as empowered by Act of Parliament the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD) Act, 2013 (Revised 2019). Basic Education Curricula include:

a) Pre-primary education
b) Primary education
c) Junior School
d) Senior School
e) Special Needs Education
f) Teacher Education
g) Adult and Continuing Education
h) Technical and Vocational Education and Training.

Core Competencies in the Basic Education

1. Communication and Collaboration
2. Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
3. Citizenship
4. Imagination and Creativity
5. Digital Literacy
6. Learning to learn
7. Self Efficacy
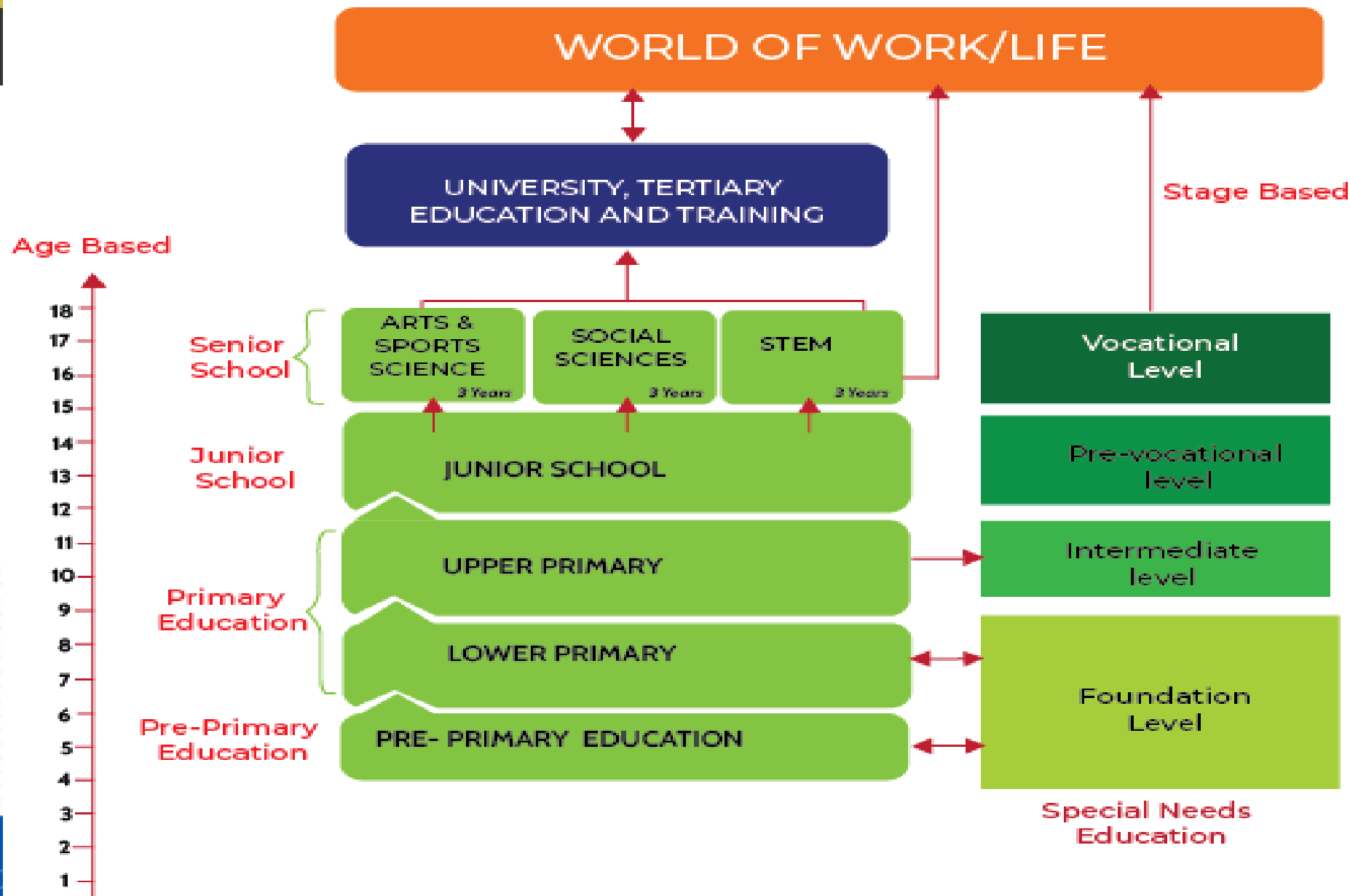
Values in the Competency Based Curriculum

The eight values in the curriculum are:

- **Love**
- **Responsibility**
- **Respect**
- **Unity**
- **Peace**
- **Patriotism**
- **Social Justice**
- **Integrity**

How Values are Integrated in the Curriculum mainly through:

- Infusion in the learning experiences
- Guidance and Counselling programmes
- Whole-School Approach- involving learners, teachers, support staff, Board of Management, family members, wider school community and relevant stakeholders.

Organisation of Basic Education

FOCUS OF BASIC EDUCATION LEVELS

KICD

CBC Different levels and the main focus

🎯 **Senior School**
Focus on
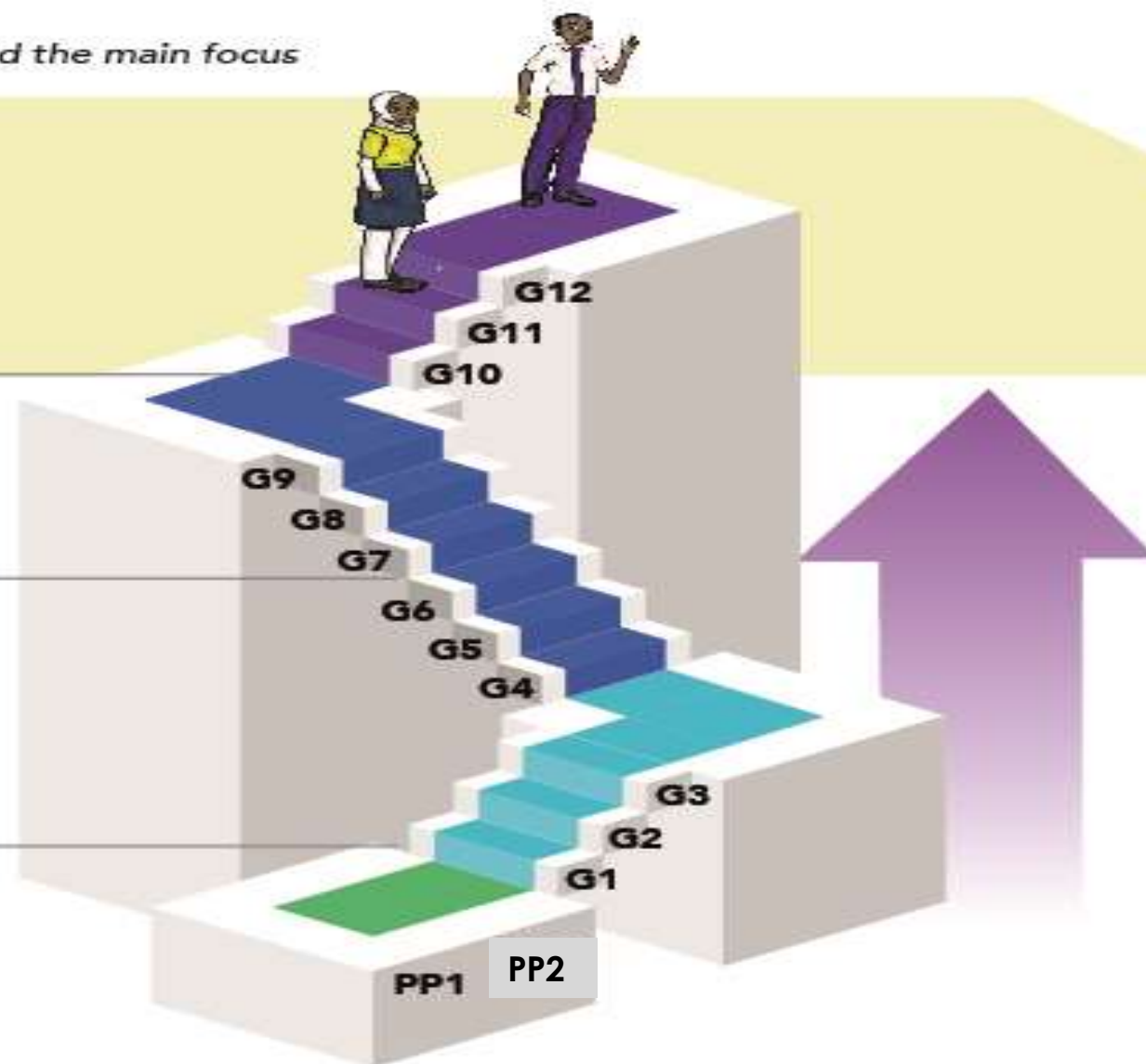Pre Career skills
(Specialization)

🎓 **Junior School**
Focus on
exploration

🏠 **Primary**
Focus on
Socialization
skills

💡 **Pre Primary**
Focus on
Interaction Skills

G12
G11
G10
G9
G8
G7
G6
G5
G4
G3
G2
G1
PP1   PP2

LEARNING AREAS: PRE-PRIMARY (PP1 & PP2)

The five learning areas in pre-primary curriculum are:

S/no	Activity learning area
1	Language activities
2	Mathematical activities
3	Creative activities
4	Environmental activities
5	Religious activities
	Pastoral/Religious programme of instruction

LOWER PRIMARY (GRADES 1, 2 & 3)

The seven learning areas in lower primary curriculum are:

1. Indigenous Language Activities
2. Kiswahili Language Activities / Kenya Sign Language Activities
3. English Language Activities
4. Mathematical Activities
5. Religious Education Activities
6. Environmental Activities
7. Creative Activities
Pastoral/Religious Programme of Instruction

The curriculum is adapted for *Hearing Impaired*, *Visually Impaired* and *Physically Impaired*.

A stage based curriculum for the *Mentally challenged* for *foundational level*

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The eight learning areas in the upper primary curriculum are:

1. English
2. Kiswahili/ Kenya Sign Language
3. Mathematics
4. Religious Education
5. Science & Technology
6. Agriculture
7. Social Studies
8. Creative Arts
Pastoral/Religious Programme of Instruction

The curriculum is adapted for *Hearing Impaired*, *Visually Impaired* and *Physically Impaired*.

A stage based curriculum for the *Mentally challenged* for *intermediate level*

JUNIOR SCHOOL (GRADES 7, 8 & 9)

The nine learning areas in the Junior School curriculum are:

1. English
2. Kiswahili/Kenya Sign Language
3. Mathematics
4. Religious Education
5. Social Studies
6. Integrated Science
7. Pre-technical Studies
8. Agriculture
9. Creative Arts and Sports

Pastoral/Religious Programme of Instruction

The curriculum is adapted for *Hearing Impaired*, *Visually Impaired* and *Physically Impaired*.

A stage based curriculum for the *Mentally challenged* for *pre-vocational level*

SENIOR SCHOOL (GRADE 10, 11 & 12)

Senior school comprises **three years** of education for learners between 15 and 18 years.

It lays the foundation for further education and training at the tertiary level and the world of work.

Learners will specialise in a career path of choice based on their potential, interests and personality.

Learners will undertake core subjects and elective subjects based on career choice, interests, personality and aptitude.

ARTS AND SPORTS SCIENCE

SPORTS SCIENCE
- Sports and Recreation

ARTS
- **Music and Dance**
- **Theatre and Film**
- **Fine Arts**

SOCIAL SCIENCE PATHWAY
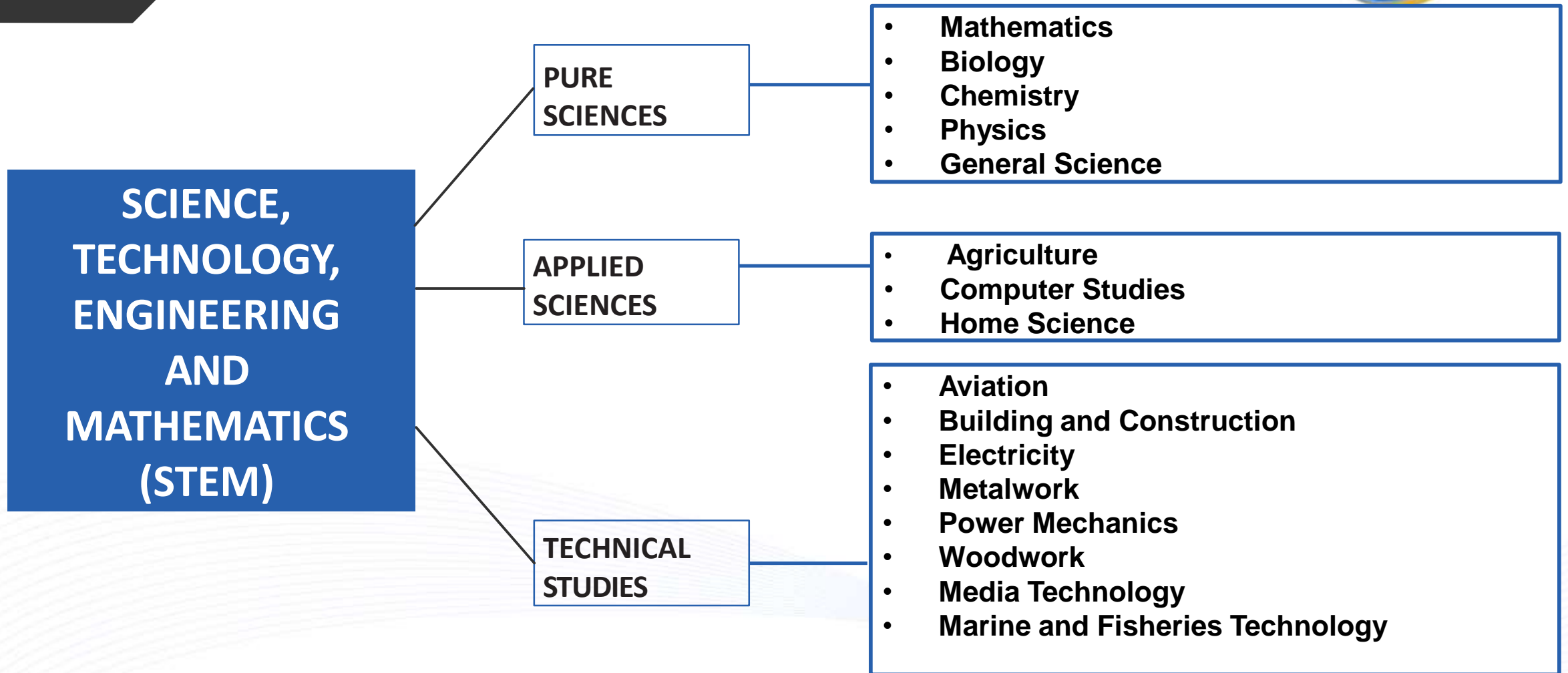
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SOCIAL SCIENCES

LANGUAGES & LITERATURE

- Literature in English
- Indigenous Languages
- Fasihi ya Kiswahili
- Sign Language
- Arabic
- French
- German
- Mandarin Chinese

HUMANITIES & BUSINESS STUDIES

- Christian Religious Education
- Islamic Religious Education
- Hindu Religious Education
- Business Studies
- History and Citizenship
- Geography

STEM PATHWAY

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS (STEM)

PURE SCIENCES
- Mathematics
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- General Science

APPLIED SCIENCES
- Agriculture
- Computer Studies
- Home Science

TECHNICAL STUDIES
- Aviation
- Building and Construction
- Electricity
- Metalwork
- Power Mechanics
- Woodwork
- Media Technology
- Marine and Fisheries Technology

Scope of Learning in Senior School

Core Subjects
1. English
2. Kiswahili /KSL
3. Mathematics/Essential Mathematics
4. Community Service Learning (CSL).
Pastoral / Religious Programme of Instruction

Support Subjects
1. Physical Education
2. Information Communication Technology(ICT)

ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

1. Elective subject 1

2. Elective subject 2

3. Elective subject 3

NB: Schools will get official communication on this scope of learning later this year.

LIST OF ALL SUBJECTS AT SENIOR SCHOOL

- English
- Kiswahili/KSL
- Core Mathematics/ Essential Mathematics
- Physical Education (PE)
- Community Service Learning
- ICT

- Sports and Recreation
- Music and Dance
- Theatre and Film
- Fine Arts

- Literature in English
- Indigenous Languages
- Fasihi ya Kiswahili
- Sign Language
- Arabic
- French
- German
- Mandarin Chinese
- Christian Religious Education
- Islamic Religious Education
- Hindu Religious Education
- Business Studies
- History and Citizenship
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- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- General Science
- Agriculture
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- Home Science
- Aviation
- Building Construction
- Electricity
- Metalwork
- Power Mechanics
- Woodwork
- Media Technology
- Marine and Fisheries Technology

"Curriculum is never static.

It is ever-changing and needs to adapt to the needs of society."

Linda Darling-Hammond

THANK YOU