



IN CRUCE SALUS

# HOLY CROSS HIGH SCHOOL

## SUBJECT CHOICE AND CHANGE POLICY

(2018 revision - draft)

This policy is informed by:

- NATIONAL POLICY PERTAINING TO THE PROGRAMME AND PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS OF THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM STATEMENT GRADES R – 12 (NPPPPR)
- CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT POLICY (CAPS)

*Policy Content:*

1. *Subject choices*
2. *Subject changes*

### 1. Subject Choices

- 1.1. The School supports the notion of learners choosing subjects that are attuned to their own personal talents and abilities. There is no wisdom in coercing a learner to take subjects, for which they do not show an aptitude.
- 1.2. Three subject streams are currently offered at the School:
  - Pure Sciences (Physical Science, Life Science)
  - Commercial Sciences (Accounting, Business Studies)
  - Human & Social Sciences (Computer Applications Technology, History, Tourism and Religion Studies)
- 1.3. In the Further Education and Training Phase , compulsory subjects include
  - a) A Home Language (We offer English)
  - b) A First Additional Language (Learner has a choice between Afrikaans or isi-Xhosa)
  - c) Mathematics or Mathematical Literacy
  - d) Life Orientation
- 1.4. The FET phase is a **three-year course** and the school does not allow for subject changes (except for specific exceptions as set out later) for the duration of the course.

1.5. The final assessment in each subject will be calculated as follows

School Based Assessment (25%) Final Exam (75%)

Note that there is a bias toward the final examination mark. This is in contrast to the GET phase, which ended in grade 9.

1.6. Different achievement categories at the end of the FET phase.

<b>National Senior Certificate</b>	<b>Admission for Diploma (Tertiary)</b>	<b>Admission for Bachelor's Degree</b>
English 40%	English 40%	English 50%
2 subjects 40%	3 subjects 40%	3 subjects 50% (not CAT or)
3 subjects 30%	2 subjects 30%	2 subjects 30%

Note that CAT (Computer applications technology) is not considered for B-degree admission purposes.

1.7. Conditions and factors regarding Maths and Mathematical Literacy.

<b>Mathematics</b>	<b>Mathematical Literacy</b>
Minimum mark of 60% on grade 9 final report	No minimum mark in grade 9
Generally a drop of 20% is observed from grade 9 to 12 in Mathematics	Allows for university entrance with non-science degrees
Subject relies to a very large extent on previous years concepts	
It is <b>NOT</b> compulsory for university entrance	

1.8. Conditions and factors regarding the Pure Sciences Stream.

- a) Minimum mark of 60% in grade 9 final report for mathematics.
- b) Minimum mark of 60% in grade 9 final report for physical science
- b) Minimum mark of 60% in grade 9 final report for Natural Sciences.

Generally a very strong background in Maths is required.

### 1.9. Conditions and factors regarding the Commercial Sciences Stream.

For Accounting specifically as a subject the following criteria must be met.

- a) Minimum mark of 60% in grade 9 final report for mathematics.
- b) Minimum mark of 60% in grade 9 final report for Economic Management Science.

Generally, a very strong background in Maths is required.

Business Studies & CAT:

- a) Mathematics grade 9: No Specific requirement.
- b) Economic Management Science grade 9: No specific requirement.

Generally, Business Studies offer a high achievement potential for all learners.

### 1.10. Conditions and factors regarding the Humanities Stream.

No Specific pre-requisites other than a grade 9 pass.

Generally, Humanities offer a high achievement potential for all learners.

Learners are advised that this is a good choice for those who lack of aptitude for higher levels in Mathematics, that is, who do not score a minimum mark of 60% on grade 9 final report in Mathematics

Note that CAT as a subjects is not considered for admission to a B-degree but do qualify at National Senior Certificate and Diploma levels.

## 2. Subject changes

- 2.1. Learners need to make an informed choice in grade 9. A meeting of parents and learners is to be held at the start of the grade 9 year to inform the parents of requirements for certain subject choices. These are given in this policy under point 1.
- 2.2. Once a learner has made her selection of subjects for grade 10 she will be expected to complete term 1 in these subjects and do the required assessment tasks.
- 2.3. A learner may change subjects at the start of term 2 in grade 10 under the following conditions.
  - 2.3.1. It is directly after the holiday in the first week of the Second Term.
  - 2.3.2. Notice to change subject was given by the end of Term 1
  - 2.3.3. The learner will hand in as assignments, the assessment tasks which had been required for term 1 of the new subject. This needs to be done before Term 2 commences.
- 2.4. After Term 1 of grade 10, No learner will be allowed to change subjects at the behest of their parents or on their own. Should this result in a conflict of interest it is advised that the learner register at another school.

- 2.5. The School holds the right to recommend a change from Maths to Mathematical literacy at any point in the FET phase. This change is irreversible and may result in a cascade effect where Physical Sciences or Accounting will need to be changed too.