
Mathematics

Lower Primary Syllabus



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Acknowledgements

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Teachers, inspectors, tertiary educators, community members, representatives from non-government organisations and the Mathematics Subject Advisory Committee have developed this syllabus through meetings, workshops and consultations.

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Secretary's Message

Education Reform has been in progress since 1992. The Education Reform has emphasised community-based schooling, the use of bilingual education and bridging to English from vernacular languages, the introduction of Elementary schools, the expansion of Primary schooling to Grade 8 and increased access to Secondary schools at Grades 9 and 10.

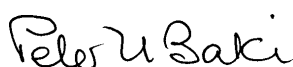
This syllabus is to be used by teachers to teach Grades 3, 4 and 5 students throughout Papua New Guinea. The syllabus builds upon concepts, skills and attitudes from Elementary and links to concepts, skills and attitudes in Upper Primary.

Students' language abilities, already gained in their home environments and during the previous years of schooling, must be respected, built upon and extended. Vernacular languages have a large part to play in our students' formative years and their first language should be used to promote a deeper understanding of difficult concepts when this is appropriate.

This syllabus contributes significantly towards achieving Integral Human Development. Without a sound working knowledge of Mathematics, a person's ability to function effectively is severely restricted. This Mathematics course is designed to promote a firm understanding of practical everyday mathematics, so that students become useful members of society, and gain a theoretical basis to support higher learning. By studying Mathematics, students will take an active role in building their societies by using the acquired numeracy skills.

At Lower Primary, students focus on developing numerical, analytical and investigative skills to solve real life problems likely to be encountered in their societies and in the outside world. Community involvement in school and classroom activities is very important and emphasises the relevance of curriculum to students' everyday lives.

I commend and approve this syllabus as the official curriculum for Mathematics to be used in all Lower Primary schools throughout Papua New Guinea.



PETER M. BAKI, CBE
Secretary for Education