CBSE/Dir.(SE&T)/2021

Date: 03rd June 2021
Circular No.: 38/2021

To
The Heads of all Institutions Affiliated to CBSE

Subject: Promotion & Development of Skills among School students

Greetings from CBSE!

The National Education Policy-2020 aims to address the many growing developmental imperatives of our country. This policy proposes the revision and revamping of all aspects of the education structure, including its regulation and governance, to create a new system that is aligned with the aspirational goals of 21st century education. NEP-2020 has laid stress on skilling of students. NEP-2020 has recommended that by 2025, atleast 50% of learners (through the school and higher education system) should have exposure to vocational education, for which a clear action plan with targets and timelines will be developed.

CBSE is committed towards the development of skills in school students and aims to develop good human beings capable of rational thought and action, possessing compassion, empathy, courage, resilience, scientific temper and creative imagination with sound ethical moorings and values. It aims at making engaged, productive, and contributing citizens for building an equitable, inclusive and plural society as envisaged by our Constitution.

Currently, the Board offers9 Skill Modules at middle school level, 18 Skill Subjects at Secondary level and 38 Skill Subjects at Senior Secondary level to upgrade the skills and proficiency of the young generation and explore the various career optionsavialable. The list of these Skill subjects may be seen at *Annexures I,III & V,* respectively*. **More than 20 lakhs students are presently studying Skill Subjects at Secondary and Senior Secondary level in approximately 12,000 schools***.

Complying with the recommendations of NEP 2020 and its commitment to promotion & development of skills in students, CBSE has taken the following initiatives from the session 2021-2022:

1. **Introduction of 'Coding' as a Skill Module**: Coding is a creative activity that student from any discipline can engage in. It helps to build computational thinking, develop problem solving skills, critical thinking and exposure to real life situations to solve issues in various realms. Therefore,'Coding' is being introduced as a Skill Module of 12 hours duration in classes VI-VIII. The idea is to simplify the coding learning experience by nurturing design thinking, logical flow of ideas and apply this across the disciplines. The foundations laid in the early years will help the students to build the competencies in the area of AI, Data Sciences and other disciplines.

   Faculty and Student Handbooks have been created with support from Microsoft, so that the students can work on applied projects and integrate coding across multiple subject and make learning fun. Faculty resources will empower the faculty for teaching these concepts.The Handbookscover real life examples on coding, builds exposure to ethics of coding, and provides exercises and applications using the open source MakeCode platform.

'शिक्षा सदन' , 17, राऊज़ एवेन्यू,इंस्टीटूशनल एरिया, नई दिल्ली–110002
'ShikshaSadan', 17, Rouse Avenue, Institutional Area, New Delhi – 110002

फ़ोन/Telephone: 011-23216963, 23214737वेबसाइट/ Website:www.cbseacademic.nic.inई/मेल– e-mail: dirtraining.cbse@gmail.com,directorvoc.cbse@gmail.com

2. **Introduction of 'Data Science' as a Skill Module/ Skill Subject**: In today's world, we have a surplus of data, and the demand for learning data science has never been greater. The students need to be provided a solid foundation on data science and technology for them to be industry ready.

   The objective of this curriculum is to lay the foundation for Data Science, understanding how data is collected, analyzed and, how it can be used in solving problems and making decisions. It will also cover ethical issues with data including data governance and builds foundation for AI based applications of data science. Thus, 'Data Science' is being introduced as a Skill Module of 12 hours duration in class VIII and as a Skill Subject in classes IX-XII.Student and Faculty Handbooks and Teaching Materials have been created with support from Microsoft.

3. **Waiving off the application fee:** To give an impetus to Skill Education to schools, it has been decided by CBSE to waive off the application fee for introducing new skill subjects at Senior Secondary Level. Thus, schools desirous of introducing skill subjects in class XI, can do so without submitting any fee to CBSE w.e.f. the date of release of this circular.

4. **Uniformity in Marks Distribution:** In order to create a uniformity in the marks distribution of all Skill Subjects, it has been decided that w.e.f. session 2021-2022 (for class XI) the marks distribution of all Skill Subjects being offered by the Board at Senior Secondary level shall be 60 marks for Theory (including 10 marks for Employability Skills) and 40 marks for Practicals& Project. However, for the present class XII i.e. for session 2021-2022, there is no change in the marks distribution. The revised Marks distribution shall be effective for class XII from session 2022-2023.

5. **Applicaton for introducing Skill Subjects/ Modules:** As per the revised Affiliation Bye-laws of the Board, a school does not have to apply separately for introducing any additional subject(s) including Skill subject(s). The school shall fill the details in the OASIS form and provide the required details.

   However, for adequate handholding, mentoring and training of the teachers of the schools that have introduced Skill subjects/ Skill Modules w.e.f. the session 2021-2022, the schools should provide the information/ details using the below mentioned links:

Description	Link & QR Code
a) For providing information about the Skill Modules introduced by the school in classes VI– VIII *(Refer to Annexure–I for the list of Skill Modules that can be introduced in classes VI–VIII)*	https://forms.gle/q6MMPneaaFRhdrZG8
b) For providing information about the Skill Subjects offered by the school at Secondary Level i.e. in classes IX–X *(Refer to Annexure–III for the list of Skill subjects that can be inroducedat Secondary level)*	https://forms.gle/vhKVsaFBLoKgcs8o7
c) For providing information about the Skill Subjects offered by the school at Senior Secondary Level i.e. in classes XI–XII *(Refer to Annexure–V for the list of Skill subjects that can be introduced at Senior Secondary level)*	https://forms.gle/ipY6rocWfDW59Fjb9

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For Curriculum, Study Material/ Textbooks, Sample Question Papers and Previous Years' Question Papers of the various Skill Subjects/Modules being offered by CBSE from Classes VI–XII, please visit the 'Skill Education' webpage of the CBSE Academic website (http://cbseacademic.nic.in/skill-education.html).

For any further queries/ feedback please contact Joint Secretary, Department of Skill Education, CBSE at jsse.cbse@nic.in.

(Dr. Biswajit Saha)
Director (Skill Education and Training)

Encl:
  i.   *Annexure-I:* List of Skill Modules in Middle School (Classes VI – VIII)
  ii. *Annexure-II:* Scheme of Studies at Secondary level (Classes IX – X)
  iii. *Annexure-III:* List of Skill Subjects at Secondary level (Classes IX – X)
  iv. *Annexure-IV*: Scheme of Studies at Senior Secondary level (Classes XI – XII)
  v.   *Annexure-V:* List of Skill Subjects at Senior Secondary level (Classes XI – XII)

Copy to the respective Heads of Directorates, Organizations and Institutions as indicated below with a request to disseminate the information to all the schools under their jurisdiction:

1. The Commissioner, KendriyaVidyalayaSangathan, 18, Institutional Area, Shaheed Jeet Singh Marg, Delhi – 110016.
2. The Commissioner, Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, B-15, Sector – 62, Institutional Area, Noida – 201309.
3. The Director of Education, Directorate of Education, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Old Secretariat, Delhi – 110054
4. The Director of Public Instructions (Schools), Union Territory Secretariat, Sector 9, Chandigarh – 160017
5. The Director of Education, Govt. of Sikkim, Gangtok, Sikkim – 737101
6. The Director of School Education, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar – 791111
7. The Director of Education, Govt. of A&N Islands, Port Blair – 744101
8. The Director, Central Tibetan School Administration, ESSESS Plaza, Community Centre, Sector 3, Rohini.
9. The Additional Director General of Army Education, A – Wing, Sena Bhawan, DHQ, PO, New Delhi – 110001
10. The Secretary AWES, Integrated Headquarters of MoD (Army), FDRC Building No. 202, Shankar Vihar (Near APS), Delhi Cantt – 110010
11. DS to Chairman, CBSE – *forkind information of the Chairman, CBSE*
12. All the Heads of Department of the Board.
13. All the Regional Directors/Regional Officers/Head-COEs, CBSE with the request to send this circular to all the Heads of the affiliated schools of the Board in their respective regions for compliance.
14. Head (Media & Public Relations), CBSE
15. Assistant Secretary (IT), CBSE, Rouse Avenue with the request to upload this notification on the CBSE Academic website
16. Incharge, Hindi Cell, CBSE HQ – *for Hindi Translation of this Circular*

Director (Skill Education and Training)

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