



Vanuatu Minimum Quality Standards for Primary Schools

INTRODUCTION

Vanuatu is unique and so is our education system. We share a culture and a linguistic diversity that is found nowhere else in the world.

As a nation Vanuatu is committed to ensure that all our children are able to enjoy the benefits of completing a quality primary school by 2015.

Completing primary education will help children to acquire the skills, knowledge, values and attitudes which are necessary to become responsible, active and productive ni-Vanuatu citizens.

To provide all children with the opportunity to enroll and complete primary school, the Government of Vanuatu has introduced school grants to all primary schools in 2010 to reduce the financial burden placed on parents by school fees. These school grants are used by School Committees to initiate action to improve the quality of their school.

To ensure that schools can provide all students with a quality education, the Ministry of Education has developed the Vanuatu Minimum Quality Standards for Primary Schools. They have been developed in close consultation with Provincial Education Officers and Board Members, Zonal Curriculum Advisers, School Heads, Teachers, School Committee Members, Parents and Student Representatives. As a result of these consultations a total of 15 standards have been prioritized.

The standards are based on the Vanuatu Road Map and include standards on making sure that all children have access to primary schools, standards on the quality of education and standards focusing on the efficient management of primary schools.



Vanuatu Minimum Quality Standards for Primary Schools



- Standard 1:** Every child enrolls at the age of 6 in primary school and completes Year 6 by the age of 12 regardless of gender, ability or background.
- Standard 2:** Teachers identify students with special needs and take appropriate action to ensure their presence and active participation in class.
- Standard 3:** All teachers must be certified and receive regular feedback on their teaching performance from Zone Curriculum Advisers and School Heads.
- Standard 4:** Teachers use various child-centred methodologies in their lessons that are relevant to the Vanuatu as well as the local context and culture.
- Standard 5:** Teachers use a variety of assessment approaches to monitor and evaluate the academic progress of students.
- Standard 6:** Teachers use the current syllabus from their respective class level for each subject to develop lesson plans and create as well as use teaching and learning materials in their lessons.
- Standard 7:** Students have access to text books and stationery for all subjects.
- Standard 8:** Teachers and students maintain good personal hygiene and mechanisms are in place to support teachers and students to receive medical attention.
- Standard 9:** School buildings meet the MoE Facility Standards, School Head conducts annual safety audits of buildings and a school building maintenance plan is implemented.
- Standard 10:** Teachers and students have access to at least two litres of potable water every day.
- Standard 11:** School policies have been developed and are implemented to protect school staff and students.
- Standard 12:** Boys and girls participate equally in all school activities.
- Standard 13:** Community Members actively participate in school events and teaching activities.
- Standard 14:** The school has an active and gender-balanced School Committee which has developed a School Improvement Plan including a budget which is communicated to all the local stakeholders in education.
- Standard 15:** The School Head effectively manages the daily school administration.