



Analysis of the 2025 KICD Curriculum Changes for Junior School (Grades 7 and 8)

Introduction

Following the 2024 rationalisation of the curriculum, the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD) made further changes to the curriculum in time for the 2025 school year. These changes affect the way planning, teaching and evaluation is done.

The 2025 curriculum revisions for Junior School (Grades 7 and 8) introduce digital integration, sustainability, interdisciplinary learning, and career readiness across all Learning Areas. The updates reflect a significant modernization of teaching, learning, and assessment methods, aligning education with technological advancements, global awareness, and competency-based learning.

This document is prepared by Verb Education's CBC App Team. The CBC App is an assessment record-keeping and reporting tool designed to simplify work for teachers and school administrators in the implementation of CBC.

1. Digital Literacy and Integration Across Learning Areas

One of the most notable changes is the embedding of digital skills into all learning areas, rather than treating digital literacy as a separate subject.

- Languages (English, Kiswahili, Arabic, and French) integrate digital tools for interactive learning, communication, and media literacy.
- Mathematics introduces financial literacy, coding, and data handling through digital tools.
- Integrated Science incorporates technology-driven experiments and renewable energy projects.
- Religious Education (Christian and Islamic) now emphasizes digital faith resources, modern ethical dilemmas, and global issues.
- Creative Arts and Sports expands ICT-based creativity, entrepreneurship, and digital music production.

2. Strengthening of Career Readiness and Entrepreneurship

The 2025 curriculum prepares students for career pathways through:

- Pre-Technical Studies, which now emphasizes economic development, digital entrepreneurship, and ICT-based industrial applications.
- Creative Arts and Sports, which integrates entrepreneurial skills through digital design, marketing, and creative business opportunities.
- Mathematics, which now includes real-life applications such as financial literacy, budgeting, and problem-solving in economic contexts.

3. Sustainability and Environmental Awareness

A stronger sustainability component has been added to multiple Learning Areas:

- Agriculture now incorporates climate-smart farming, environmental conservation, and digital agricultural tools.
- Integrated Science expands its focus to renewable energy, sustainable technologies, and environmental responsibility.
- Social Studies introduces global sustainability discussions and civic responsibility projects.

4. Shift to Competency-Based and Project-Based Learning

Assessment methods have evolved from traditional knowledge-based exams to collaborative, hands-on, and project-based evaluations.

- Religious Education (Christian and Islamic) now assesses students using community-based projects, ethical debates, and digital portfolios.
- Mathematics and Integrated Science introduce STEM-based assessments, coding, and data-driven problem-solving exercises.
- Social Studies incorporates international awareness, digital civic participation, and project-based assessments.

5. Global Citizenship, Ethics, and Intercultural Awareness

Learning Areas now embed international perspectives, intercultural exchange, and ethical considerations:

- Languages (Arabic, French, Kiswahili, and English) promote multicultural communication, digital collaboration, and intercultural awareness.
- Social Studies emphasizes civic responsibility, governance, and global citizenship.
- Religious Education now addresses modern ethical dilemmas and the role of faith in addressing contemporary challenges.

Summary: 2024 vs 2025 Learning Area Comparisons in the Junior School Curriculum

English and Kiswahili

- 2024: Focused on language mastery, fluency, and comprehension.
- 2025: Adds digital literacy, ethical communication, and media literacy.
- Assessment Shift: Expands to collaborative projects, real-world communication, and digital storytelling.

Mathematics

- 2024: Focused on numeracy, logical reasoning, and calculations.
- 2025: Adds financial literacy, coding, and real-world problem-solving.
- Assessment Shift: Includes data-driven assessments, competency-based tasks, and technology-enhanced problem-solving.

Integrated Science

- 2024: Covered natural sciences and practical applications.
- 2025: Introduces STEM-based learning, environmental technologies, and renewable energy solutions.
- Assessment Shift: Moves to project-based, digital tool integration, and sustainability assessments.

Agriculture

- 2024: Focused on nutrition, farming techniques, and conservation.
- 2025: Adds digital agriculture tools, climate change resilience, and sustainable farming.
- Assessment Shift: Expands to practical sustainability projects and technology-driven assessments.

Pre-Technical Studies

- 2024: Focused on industrial exposure, problem-solving, and technical skills.
- 2025: Introduces economic development, ICT applications, and industrial sustainability.
- Assessment Shift: Moves toward digital-based industrial projects and career-oriented evaluations.

Social Studies

- 2024: Focused on geography, history, and governance.
- 2025: Expands to global citizenship, civic responsibility, and digital participation.
- Assessment Shift: Includes community-based projects and online civic engagement exercises.

Religious Education (Christian and Islamic)

- 2024: Focused on faith-based teachings and moral education.
- 2025: Includes modern ethical dilemmas, community service, and digital engagement.
- Assessment Shift: Moves to interactive discussions, real-life application projects, and digital storytelling.

Creative Arts and Sports

- 2024: Focused on artistic expression, music, and physical activities.
- 2025: Expands to digital creative entrepreneurship, multimedia production, and fitness technology.
- Assessment Shift: Incorporates digital portfolios, business-oriented creative projects, and interdisciplinary collaborations.