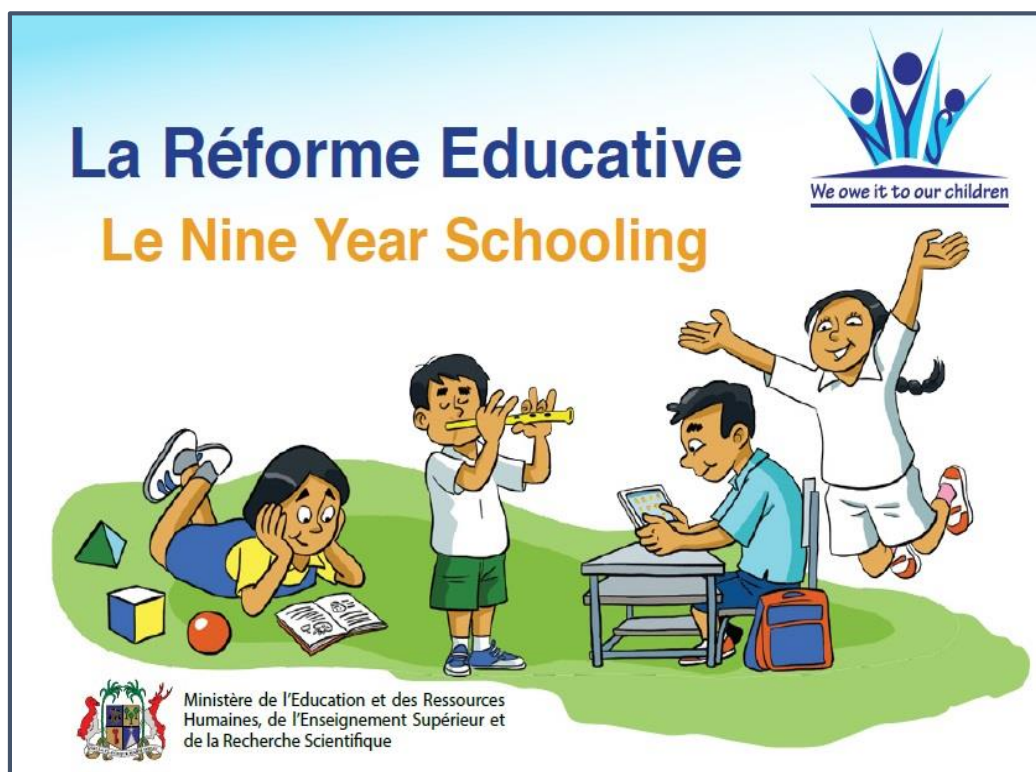


## 2. SECONDARY EDUCATION



Source: NYS Brochure - Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific

### A. NINE YEAR SCHOOLING

Nine-Year Schooling is the new educational concept developed in Mauritius by the Ministry of Education and Human Resources. The perspective of this approach is to favour holistic learning which aimed at the future of the Mauritian workforce. The main intention behind this concept is to be a strategy that aligns Mauritius with international learning standards.

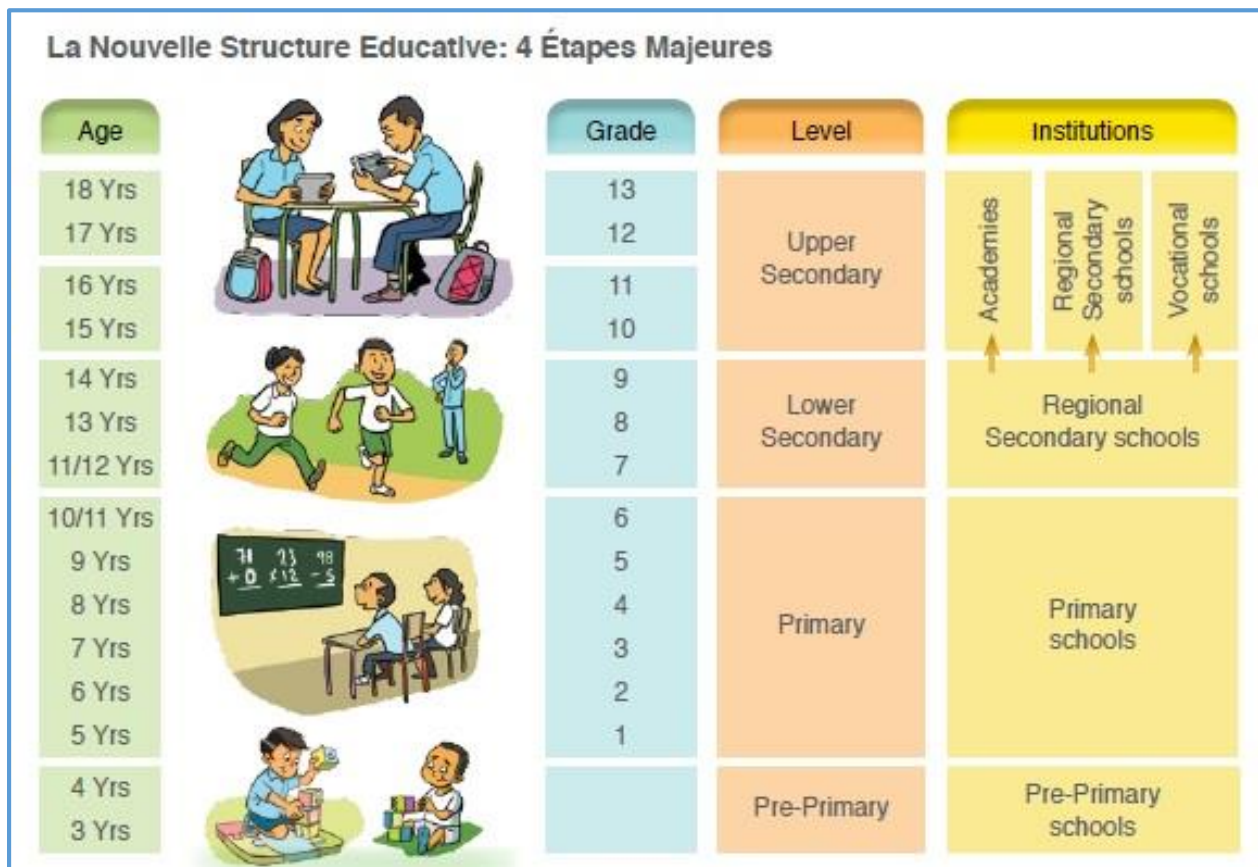
This model should be an effective one. The assumption laid behind the NineYear Schooling is that higher learning might be affected in terms of competences and skills that are likely to be developed by learners.

The research work analyses how Nine-Year Schooling will impact higher education in terms of prerequisites developed by existing learners, the new paradigm of secondary school education and the new challenges of tertiary education. It also analyses the challenges that the Nine-Year Schooling might pose to higher education.

## Objectives of the Nine Year Basic Education

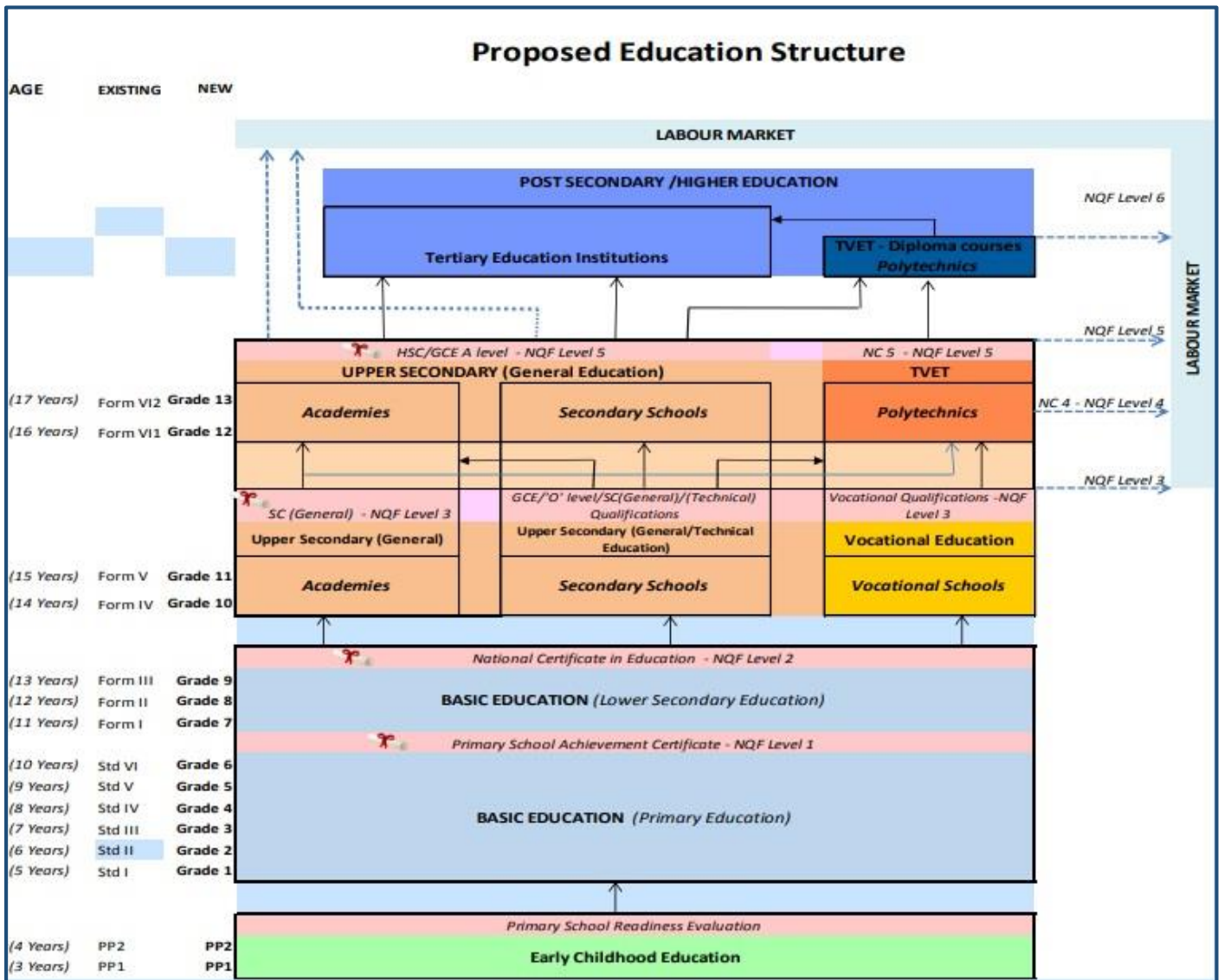
- Equip all students with knowledge, foundational skills and attitudes leading to an empowered 2030 citizenry
- Inculcate in all students a sense of moral responsibility, a set of values and a strong identity for the country
- Promote the holistic development of all students
- Provide equitable Learning for All opportunities to attain high levels of achievement
- Achieve a smooth transition to and completion of secondary education
- Give greater recognition to the value of TVET in building human capital and for sustainable development

## THE PROPOSED EDUCATION STRUCTURE



Source: NYS Brochure - Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific

S/N	GRADES	LEVEL	SCHOOL SETTING
1	Grades 1 - 6	Basic Education (Primary Level)	Primary Schools
2	Grades 7 - 9	Basic Education (Lower Secondary)	Regional Secondary Schools
3	Grades 10 - 11	Upper Secondary	Regional Secondary Schools / Academies
4	Grades 12 - 13	Upper Secondary	Regional Secondary Schools / Academies / Polytechnics



Source: The Nine Year Continuous Basic Education - Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research

## a. Progression of Students to Secondary - Grade 7

CPE replaced by Primary School Achievement Certificate (PSAC) - (end of Grade 6)

## b. Criteria for admitting students to Grade 7

- Parental choice
- Overall grading at the Primary School Achievement Certificate
- Proximity of residence to the secondary school

- ✚ Admission to Grade 7 will be done on a regional basis
- ✚ The four Education Zones will be maintained
- ✚ Academies admit students as from Grade 10

## c. An extended four-year cycle for pupils who do not make the grade


### Learners needing special support

- A special class reserved in every secondary school
  - ✚ Reduced class size
- Extended over a four-year cycle.
  - ✚ To allow more time to develop and acquire essential competencies at end of Grade 9
- Students follow the same but adapted core curriculum as those in the normal three-year cycle
- Possibility for student mobility between the Extended and Regular stream
- The Prevocational stream will no longer exist

## d. The National Certificate of Education

The NCE is a combination of written and School-Based Assessments.

The assessment domains is described below:

 **3 compulsory subjects (English, Maths and French) + 4 electives from the following strands**

- ❖ Humanities (Arabic/ Hindi/ Marathi/ Modern Chinese/ Tamil/ Telegu/ Urdu/ etc..)
- ❖ Science (Chemistry, Physics, Biology)
- ❖ Technical Studies (Home Economics, CDT, Visual Arts, Computer Studies)
- ❖ Social Sciences (Social Studies, Accounts, Economics, Entrepreneurship Education)




#### **e. Promotion to Grade 10**

Assessment at the end of Grade 9 - the National Certificate of Education will serve for

- ❖ promotion of students to Grade 10
- ❖ orientation in either General or Technical or Vocational education
- ❖ admission to Academies

#### **f. Different educational tracks as from Grade 10**

After completing Grade 9, students have three choices

-  retain the secondary school where they are already enrolled
-  pursue their studies in General Education in Academies
-  follow vocational programmes in specialized Vocational Schools

Vocational education will be run in dedicated schools with state-of-the-art technological facilities.

#### **g. Enhancing the image of TVET**

- Both General Education and Technical Education will be run side by side in secondary schools

- Students can opt for the General Education or the Technical Education stream
- Students can sit for either SC (General) or SC (Technical)

#### **h. Academies**

- Academies will act as Centres of Excellence with specialization in 2 to 3 areas
  - Science, ICT, Business, Languages, the Arts, Physical Education etc
- Academies will run classes from Grades 10 to 13
- Admission to Academies will be on a national basis
- Criteria for Admission to Academies
  - student performance and aptitude at the National Certificate of Education
  - student preference for subject combinations
- Academies will be co-educational institutions
- Academies will have more autonomy with a new management model
- Grant-Aided Private Secondary Schools of repute with a track record will be invited to join the reform and run as Academies Polytechnics

#### **i. Polytechnics**

- Polytechnics will be set up in every Education Zone.
- Courses will be delivered up to Diploma level
- Successful completion of the Diploma Level will open up access to higher education.

#### **Access to Polytechnics**

##### **Requisites**

- Successful completion of Grade 11 (in secondary schools/ Academies)

- **Successful completion of Grade 13 (in secondary schools/ Academies)**
- **After completion of vocational programmes and after following a Foundation Programme**