

Comprehensive Report on Kenya's Education System Changes and Their Impact on Our Work

Date: 03/02/2025

To: Partners and Stakeholders

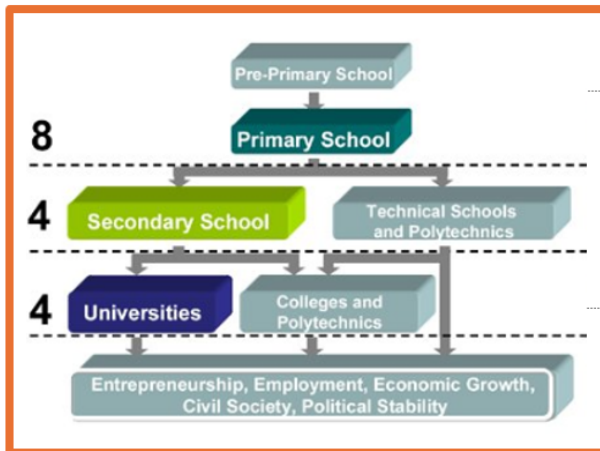
From: Aiducation International

Aiducation International remains steadfast in its mission to support bright, needy students in Kenya, aligning with **Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4) – Quality Education for All**. However, the Kenyan education system is undergoing significant transformations, directly impacting our operations and the students we serve. This report outlines the key changes in the education system, their implications, and how Aiducation adapts to ensure continuity and relevance in our programs.

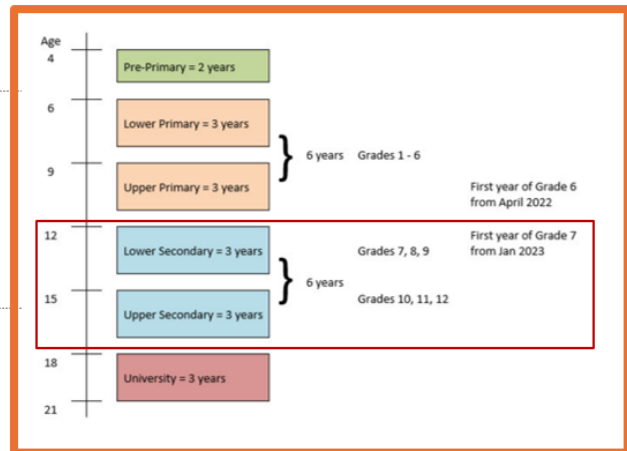
Part 1: Changes in the Education System

Kenya is transitioning from the **8-4-4 system** (8 years of primary, 4 years of secondary, and 4 years of university) to the **Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC)**, structured as **2-6-6-3** (2 years of pre-primary, 6 years of primary, 6 years of secondary, and 3 years of university).

STATUS QUO (8-4-4 System)
1985-2017



NEW Competence-Based Curriculum (CBC)
as from 2018 (affecting Aiducation first time in 2025)



Key Changes

The new CBC system introduces a **six-year secondary education cycle**, divided into **Lower Secondary (Grades 7-9)** and **Upper Secondary (Grades 10-12)**. In Upper Secondary, students will specialize in one of three pathways: **Arts and Sports Science, Social Sciences, or Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)**. This specialization may require students to change schools, creating logistical and financial challenges for families.



The curriculum emphasizes **competency-based learning**, focusing on skills like critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving, rather than exam-based assessment. While this shift is commendable, its implementation has been fraught with challenges, including resource constraints, administrative strains, and uncertainty about school placements.

Impact on Aiducation's Operations

Due to these changes, **Aiducation will not conduct recruitment for new scholars in Kenya in 2025**. This decision is based on the fact that students transitioning into secondary school in 2025 are still in **Junior Secondary School (Grades 7-9)**, which is currently housed within primary schools. The first cohort under the CBC system will transition into **Senior High School (Grades 10-12, equivalent to the current high school system)** in 2026.

We are closely evaluating the situation and will communicate a conclusive decision on the level at which we will begin awarding scholarships once the transition is clearer. Importantly, **our current high school scholars are not affected by these changes**, as they are still under the previous 8-4-4 system.

Part 2: New University Funding Model

In May 2023, the Kenyan government introduced a **New Higher Education Funding Model** to address the financial challenges faced by public universities and TVET institutions.

Key Features

The new model categorizes students into five bands based on their family's financial need, assessed through a **Means Testing Instrument (MTI)**. Students receive a combination of **government scholarships (30%-70%), loans, and household contributions** to cover their tuition and upkeep.

While the model aims to promote equity by providing more support to vulnerable students, its implementation has been marred by challenges. These include **unclear criteria for band allocation, delays in disbursement, and complex application processes**. As a result, some of our university scholars are experiencing difficulties in securing adequate funding to continue their education.

Aiducation's Response

We are closely monitoring the situation and working to develop a **long-term solution** to support our scholars affected by these challenges. Our goal is to ensure that no student is left behind due to financial constraints, and we remain committed to advocating for transparency and fairness in the allocation of scholarships and loans.



Conclusion and Way Forward

The changes in Kenya's education system and university funding model present both challenges and opportunities. While the CBC aims to create a more inclusive and skills-based system, its implementation requires significant resources and support. Similarly, the new funding model, though well-intentioned, has exposed gaps in affordability and accessibility.

Aiducation International remains committed to ensuring that bright, needy students can access quality education despite these challenges. We will continue to adapt our programs to align with the evolving education landscape and provide timely updates to our partners and stakeholders.

Thank you for your unwavering support as we empower the next generation of leaders in Kenya.

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Education system Change

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New University Funding Model

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Warm Regards,

Aiducation International