



STEP BY STEP GUIDE FOR EASY IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S SKILL-BASED EDUCATION CURRICULUM

The Federal Government's new skill-based curriculum has officially redefined secondary education in Nigeria. Today trade skills are now compulsory subjects in secondary schools. It is now mandatory for every child to graduate from secondary school with at least one skill out of the six skills below;

- Solar PV Installation & Maintenance
- Fashion Design & Garment Making
- Livestock Farming
- Beauty & Cosmetology
- Computer Hardware & GSM Repairs
- Horticulture & Crop Production

In addition, the new curriculum has also introduced Digital Technologies as core subject in our schools.

As we engage with school owners, teachers, and administrators nationwide, certain questions kept coming up:

- How do we implement this policy without overburdening our schools?
- How do we set up skill resource centres and purchase expensive equipments?
- How do we recruit and pay additional resource persons?
- How do we design a scheme of work that teaches each skill progressively for six years from JSS 1 to SSS 3?

These are valid concerns. But the truth is, implementation does not have to be complicated. That is why **SkillUp Naija has developed a Step-by-Step Guide for Easy Implementation of the FG Skill-Based Curriculum**, a tested framework already working in schools across Edo and Rivers States.

Why This Guide Matters

This Guide provides every school owner with:

- A simple strategy to begin implementation without immediately setting up expensive resource centres or hiring extra staff.

- A practical framework for developing schemes of work for each trade subject, covering the entire six-year secondary cycle (JSS 1–3, SSS 1–3).
- A progressive learning plan that begins with foundational awareness and gradually builds toward hands-on mastery of chosen trades.

Schools using this Guide are already reporting **smoother adoption, increased teacher confidence, and enthusiastic student participation.**

First, we must understand that this new policy is not just about introducing “skill acquisition” in our schools; it is about embracing a broader vision of **skills development**. The difference is this; unlike most skills acquisition programmes that impose skills on students, skills development creates awareness of each learner’s innate potential, exposes them to methods of discovery, and then guides them step by step in nurturing these skills. This is the route that will guarantee maximum success in integrating the Federal Government’s trade subjects into our school activities.

This Step-by-Step guide is structured to take students through three major stages in junior secondary school.

1. Foundation Stage (JSS 1): Like they say every successful journey begins with a solid foundation. JSS 1 should be the foundation, students are not to be rushed into any of these six trade skills. Instead, they should be introduced to topics that broaden their thinking, help them discover their innate talents, and prepare them for lifelong learning.

Key topics like: *Introduction to Skills Development and Its Importance, Self-Discovery and Identifying Innate Talents, and Developing an Entrepreneurial Mindset* are very vital here.

This stage is crucial because young learners must first see value in skills, identify their strengths, and develop curiosity. While this foundation is being laid, schools are also encouraged to introduce **Entrepreneurship Education**, covering the basics of becoming and growing as an entrepreneur. We believe that this dual exposure ensures learners not only appreciate the importance of working with their hands but also learn to think like entrepreneurs who can create opportunities, manage ventures, and scale ideas.

2. Exploration Stage (JSS 2): Here, learners move from theory to **exposure**. At this stage they are broadly introduced to the six approved trade skills, giving them the chance to explore different areas before selecting one to specialise in. Their entrepreneurship education should also advance, covering topics such as *Small Scale Business Operations, Sources of Capital, and Basic Financial Literacy*.

SkillUp Naija has developed structured topics for this stage to keep students engaged throughout the year and to prepare them for deeper mastery in the next phase.

3. Specialisation Stage (JSS 3): This stage focuses on **deep training and certification**. Learners should now be allowed to select one trade skill, based on teacher guidance and their own interests for intensive study. After their BECE exams, learners should be made to embark

on an **8-week Workplace Internship Training (WIT)** either on-campus (if facilities exist) or off-campus (in your school approved workshops/centres). All activities should be documented weekly in the **SkillUp Naija WIT Logbook**.

At the same time, learners should undergo **Advanced Entrepreneurship Modules on campus**, including *Innovation & Creativity, Business Growth & Scaling, E-Commerce and Digital Marketing, Business Ethics, and Globalisation*. They should also be trained to pitch business ideas, run school-based enterprises, and prepare for WIT Exams. Certification at this stage should be **mandatory** before graduation to SSS 3.

4. Advanced Development (SSS 1–2): At the senior secondary level, learners deepen their knowledge and expertise in their chosen trade skill. The training is advanced, practical, and industry-focused, ensuring mastery and employability.

5. Certification & National Recognition (SSS 3): In their final year, learners are prepared for the **National Modular Skills Certificate Examination**—a recognised qualification that validates them as skilled individuals ready to contribute productively to society, whether through entrepreneurship, higher education, or employment.

Why This Guide Works

The **SkillUp Naija Step-by-Step Guide** has been tested in real school environments and proven both **effective and adaptable**. Schools can implement the curriculum without heavy capital investment, extra staffing, or structural overhauls. More importantly, the framework develops not just **skills**, but also the **entrepreneurial mindset**, aligning perfectly with Nigeria’s vision of raising a generation of job creators rather than job seekers.

The SkillUp Naija Series of Resource Materials: To support seamless implementation, SkillUp Naija has developed a range of textbooks and resources approved by State Ministries of Education for teachers and students, including:

- *Skills to Wealth: Covering 21 Practical Skills for Teenagers*
- *Entrepreneurship Skills for Beginners* (Books 1–3)
- *Agro-Tech to Wealth* (Books 1–3)
- *Introduction to New Media Marketing* (Books 1–3)
- *A to Z of Student Workplace Internship Training*
- *Student Workplace Internship Training (WIT) Logbook*

These materials provide practical guidance, classroom content, and tools for both teachers and learners, ensuring that no school is left behind in this new educational movement. Call: **08072487234** to order copies of any these books for your school.

Final Word

The Federal Government's Skill-Based Curriculum is a golden opportunity to reposition Nigerian education for the future. At **SkillUp Naija**, we believe this is not about ticking curriculum boxes, it is about building a generation of **innovators, creators, and entrepreneurs**.

With our Step-by-Step Guide and supporting resources, every school across Nigeria can confidently begin this journey, equipping students with lifelong skills while boosting national productivity.

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