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October 15, 2014

Division MEMORANDUM
No. 245, s. 2014

IMPLEMENTATION OF KINDERGARTEN CATCH-UP EDUCATION PROGRAM

To:

Education Program Supervisors
Public Schools District Supervisors
Elementary School Heads
Kindergarten Teachers

1. In consonance with DepEd Order No. 11, s. 2014, re: POLICY GUIDELINES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE KINDERGARTEN CATCH-UP EDUCATION PROGRAM, this Office hereby informs the elementary school heads to disseminate and implement the said DepEd Order as per attached copy.
2. Immediate and wide dissemination of this Memorandum to all concerned is desired.


CHERRY MAE L. LIMBACO, Ph.D., CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent

CLL/mma



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

28 FEB 2014

DepEd ORDER
No. 11, s. 2014

**POLICY GUIDELINES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE KINDERGARTEN
CATCH-UP EDUCATION PROGRAM**

To: Undersecretaries
Assistant Secretaries
Bureau Directors
Directors of Services, Centers and Heads of Units
Regional Directors
Schools Division/City Superintendents
Heads, Public Elementary Schools

1. Pursuant to Republic Act No. 10157, otherwise known as the *Kindergarten Education Act*, which aims to provide equal opportunities for all children to avail of accessible mandatory and compulsory kindergarten education and skills stimulation and values formation to sufficiently prepare them for formal elementary schooling, the Department of Education (DepEd) implements the Kindergarten Catch-up Education Program (KCEP) to five year-old children and above, who are unable to attend or finish any kindergarten education during the school year (SY).
2. In compliance to the above-cited provision and goal, and to ensure the successful implementation of the Program, the specific **Policy Guidelines on the implementation of the Kindergarten Catch-Up Education Program** are enclosed.
3. These guidelines shall remain in force and in effect during the succeeding SYs until revised or repealed.
4. Immediate dissemination of and strict compliance with this Order is directed.


BR. ARMIN A. LUISTRO FSC
Secretary

Encl.: As stated
References: DepEd Order: Nos. 25 and 32, s. 2012
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

KINDERGARTEN EDUCATION

POLICY

PROGRAMS

R-MCR/DO-KCEP
0860/September 12, 2013/10-9-13

(Enclosure No. 1 to DepEd Order No. 11, s. 2014)

**POLICY GUIDELINES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
KINDERGARTEN CATCH-UP EDUCATION PROGRAM**

I. RATIONALE

The Republic Act No. 10157 mandates all five (5) years old children to avail kindergarten education as the first stage of compulsory and mandatory formal education. Despite the institutionalization of kindergarten education in school year 2012-2013, there are still families who are unable to send their children to school. Section 4.2 of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR), highlights the Catch-Up Program for Children under Especially Difficult Circumstances shall be implemented.

Program Description

This Kindergarten Catch-Up Education Program (KCEP) is an educational intervention for children five-(5) year-old and above who do not have access to schools or daycare centers or those who live under difficult circumstances, such as, but not limited to, chronic illness, displaced due to armed conflict, urban resettlement, disasters, extreme poverty child abuse such as domestic violence, neglect and abandonment, and who are not able to finish the General Kindergarten Education Program.

Objectives of the Kindergarten Catch-Up Education Program (KCEP)

The KCEP aims to provide:

1. access to alternative educational programs for all children five-(5) year-old and above who have not attended kindergarten because they do not have access to public schools or day care centers and/or they may be experiencing difficult circumstances;
2. foundational preparatory/school readiness skills to those children entering Grade I; and
3. children with opportunities for their holistic development that are created and implemented through partnership among the school, community and other stakeholders of basic education.

II. TARGET CHILDREN/PARTICIPANTS OF THE KCEP

Specifically, all five-(5) year-old children and above who have not attended or completed kindergarten classes or other community-based early childhood education interventions are eligible to this program.

III. COMPONENTS OF THE PROGRAM

A. Planning Mechanics

1. The school shall take the lead in planning for the implementation of the Kindergarten Catch-Up Education Program. The use of local data is extremely important in reaching children who will most benefit from this program. Thus, the following activities are to be conducted:
 - 1.1. Consult with the barangay/municipality/city or the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DWSD) to review their existing database. The Municipal Social Welfare and Development Officer (MSWDO) can provide available household data on children, daycare enrollees, and daycare centers. The Municipal Health Officer (MHO) can also provide maternal and child health program coverage data, which can help establish the population of children, aged five (5) to six (6) years old.
 - 1.2. The DepEd division, district offices and schools can provide information on enrolment in schools with kindergarten classes and other early childhood education programs in the community, including the location of these programs. The school shall also conduct rapid assessment and/or family survey to establish family profiles and status of young children, including information of recipient families under the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps).
2. Prepare individual profile of children following the prescribed format in Enclosure No. 2 and consolidate according to their needs.
3. The generated data can be utilized to determine viable and appropriate educational interventions that are responsive to the needs and diverse type of learners. Identify suitable and available locations for implementation, potential teachers/ facilitators/ volunteers, instructional resources and possible partners to support this program.
4. Ensure strong involvement of, and partnerships with parents, community, LGUs and NGOs on the mapping, planning and implementation of this program.

B. Program Implementation

1. Organize and orient all members on the implementation of the Kindergarten Catch-Up Education Program such as DepEd or school personnel, parents, community, LGUs and NGOs.
2. Provide clear roles and responsibilities of everyone involved in all this program activities.

3. Articulate the resource-sharing arrangements, e.g. DepEd will take charge of the instructional materials thru school MOOE, meanwhile, LGUs/NGOs can tap their own funding sources for expenses such as the honoraria of teachers/facilitators, school feeding program, learning sites and other needs of the children.
4. The schedule of implementation should be clearly discussed. Below is the recommended timetable of activities.

Responsible Members	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar		
Division, Districts, Schools, Community	Conduct of advocacy and consultation	Mapping and profiling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organization & orientation of all members and other stakeholders • Screening & recruitment of teachers / facilitators / volunteers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct of training for selected teachers/ facilitators/ volunteers • Conduct of initial assessment of children • Submission of data to the division/ region 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct of KCEP classes 					Conduct of SReYA	
Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide strong support on activities identified above 										
Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical assistance • Consolidate data and submit reports to Region and Central Office • Coordinate KCEP partners to ensure its sustainability 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct monitoring and evaluation • Respond directly all clarifications in terms of logistic support as needed 						
Central Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide needed support on the implementation of KCEP • Provide technical assistance as needed 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consolidate all divisions/ regional data • Request authority for funding support as needed 							

5. The Divisions/Districts/Schools shall start conducting classes after the children have been identified, assessed, and systematically referred to or placed in their appropriate educational interventions. However, it should be open to all identified children at any time depending on their situational needs. Classes shall be held either in schools, daycare centers, and other learning areas in the community or in homes.
6. Those Divisions/Districts/Schools which are ready to conduct KCEP classes after the Early Registration Day may adapt activities in columns five (5)-nine (9) in the above table starting January until May.

7. The Division/District/Schools shall require a copy of the child's birth certificate or any legitimate document as basis for official listing and assigning learners reference number.
8. The Division office thru districts/schools shall acknowledge and/or issue a certificate for those children who completed this Kindergarten Catch-Up Education Program.

C. Program Classes Delivery Modes

The following KCEP delivery modes can be adapted depending on the children's nearest area:

1. **School-based classes** can be done if there are available classrooms. If there are rooms used for half a day, these can be utilized as classrooms for the KCEP classes. Schools without available classrooms shall utilize available space in the barangay or community or any make-shift learning site that will not compromise the safety and health of the children
2. **Daycare center-based kindergarten classes** can be conducted if children have no access to public schools. The day care worker can be tapped, trained and provided with the appropriate curriculum, as long as she or he will conduct separate classes for the kindergarten children.
3. **Home-based/community-based playgroups** can be organized in areas where children have no access neither to public schools nor daycare centers. **Families/mothers may be organized by the DepED so that they can provide the necessary guidance to the children in their community.** Playgroups can be facilitated by parent/community volunteers, Barangay Health Workers (BHW) and Barangay Nutrition Scholars (BNS). Itinerant teachers or daycare workers from nearby communities, whose main job is to train the adult community members in teaching children the fundamental learning and school skills, can also facilitate with them. DepEd is responsible for providing the necessary instructional support for the facilitators.

To adapt this kind of delivery mode, it is suggested that DepEd Region and Division offices coordinate with the existing Supervised Neighborhood Playgroups (SNPs) implemented by the DSWD. Some of these SNPs are being supported by NGOs such as Plan International and Save the Children.

D. Curriculum for KCEP

For **school-based and center-based classes**, there are two modified versions of the curriculum for the Kindergarten Catch-Up Education Program. These are the:

1. twenty (20) weekly plans curriculum intended for five (5) months period, and
2. eight (8) weekly plans curriculum for two (2) months period

The content and learning experiences will be consistent with the 40-week curriculum or the National Kindergarten Curriculum Guide (NKCG) for teachers. The modified curriculum is organized according to the same themes although a shorter time will be allotted for exploring these themes, given that the program will run for a shorter period only. Both versions will also be presented in a weekly/daily format. The local language shall be utilized as the medium of instruction. Certain parts of the curriculum will be contextualized/indigenized by DepEd local offices and the community partners, including grassroots people organizations and NGOs, in coordination with the Central Office and the Regional and Division field offices.

Teachers/facilitators shall be provided with the above-mentioned curriculum, assessment materials, training and orientation on the utilization of the said instructional materials by the designated trained trainers at the region and the division.

For **home-based/community-based playgroups**, the curriculum modules or session guides will be patterned after the existing SNPs. However, it will be further developed or enhanced depending on the need of the learners, community and the result of the mapping exercises.

E. Child Development Monitoring

The Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) checklist which has been introduced in previous trainings, shall be administered to children following the specified schedule in the manual. This is intended to determine the child's developmental skills and performance across the different domains. The teacher/facilitator must also employ various methods to further determine the child's needed educational intervention. These include observation, direct account of the child's behavior, and also interview of the parents(s) or caregiver(s).

Likewise, the School Readiness Year-End Assessment (SReYA) tool will be administered to the children at the end of the program. The result of assessment will be reported to the school where the child intends to enroll for Grade I, together with the certificate of completion as mentioned in item III.B.7.

IV. GENERAL SUPPORT FOR THE KCEP

To ensure full support on the program implementation, the Regions, Divisions, Districts/Schools may design measures when appropriate, to wit:

1. formulate MOA between the DepEd and other stakeholders or members involve in the KCEP;
2. explore possibilities to grant of service credits to teachers willing to serve with reference to DepEd Order 23, s. 2003, Updated Guidelines on Grant of Vacation Service Credits to Teachers; and
3. provide assistance in terms of contingency needs of the teachers/facilitators, e.g. basic supplies and instructional materials, transportation mechanism, among others.

V. PROGRAM MONITORING AND EVALUATION

To ensure effectiveness on the implementation of the KCEP, the Regional and Schools Division offices are expected to:

1. conduct close monitoring as well as provide technical assistance to ascertain compliance of the herein policies and guidelines;
2. gather feedbacks of concerned KCEP members as basis for planning, improvement and policy formulation; and
3. submit the required consolidated reports using the attached format in Enclosure No. 3, to the Bureau of Elementary Education, DepEd Central Office, 2nd Floor, Bonifacio Bldg., Meralco Avenue, Pasig City, Telefax Nos. (02) 637-4347/638-4799 or emailed to the kindergartenproject@yahoo.com.ph

(Enclosure No. 2 to DepEd Order No. 11, s. 2014)

Profile of Children Targeted for Kindergarten Catch-up Education Program
School Year _____

Name:	Sex: Male Female
Date of Birth:	Age:
	Check if attended: <input type="checkbox"/> Day Care Service _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Home Based _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile ECCD _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Others _____ <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above _____
Name of Father:	Name of Mother:
If not living with parents, name of Guardian:	Relationship with Guardian
Number of Siblings: Boys: Girls:	Is the Child 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th Among _____ children
Parent's reason for not sending child to kindergarten:	Please specify, if SPED, IPs, etc.
Is the Family a 4P's beneficiary? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	How many children/beneficiaries in the family?
Is the family recipient of other NGO's assistance?	How many children/beneficiaries in the family?
Please specify the name of the NGOs assistance.	What kind of assistance received?

Prepared by: _____
Signature over Printed Name

Designation

Date: _____

(Enclosure No. 3 to DepEd Order No. 11, s. 2014)

DIVISION SUMMARY REPORT ON KINDERGARTEN CATCH-UP EDUCATION PROGRAM (KCEP)
 YEAR _____

Division: _____

Region: _____

NO.	DISTRICT/ MUNICIPALITY	SCHOOL ID	SCHOOL	ADDRESS	NAME OF TEACHER/FACILITATOR	KINDERGARTEN TEACHER'S/FACILITATOR'S INFORMATION				NUMBER OF CLASSES	ENROLLMENT			REMARKS(indic ate if with ECE trainings)	
						AGE	ELIGIBILITY	YEAR IN SERVICE	ECE UNITS/M.A. EARNED		DATE OF CONTRACT OF SERVICE	M	F		Total
1															
2															
3															
4															
5															
6															
7															
8															
9															
10															
11															
12															
13															
14															
15															
TOTAL															

Note: Please indicate grand total per column and use additional sheets if necessary.

Prepared by: _____

Certified true and correct: _____

Signature over printed name _____

Signature over printed name _____

Designation _____

Designation _____

Date: _____

cc: Regional DepED Office
 Central DepED Office - electronic file in excel format thru kindergartenproject@yahoo.com.ph