

A New Dawn in Kenya's Education: Life After KCPE

For decades, KCPE was the rite of passage for every Kenyan primary school child—a national event, a pressure cooker, a turning point. But in 2024, that chapter officially closed.

Enter CBC: a bold, often controversial overhaul that prioritizes **skills over scores, practical knowledge over cramming**, and **creativity over conformity**.

“I used to cram science diagrams just to pass exams,” recalls Mary Achieng, a parent from Kisumu. “Now my daughter is building models and presenting them in class. It’s a completely different world.”

Teachers, too, are adapting—some enthusiastically, others reluctantly. John Mutiso, a headteacher in Machakos, says the transition is “the biggest educational revolution since independence,” but warns that **rural schools are struggling** to keep up.

Meanwhile, learners under CBC are showing more confidence, teamwork, and critical thinking. “Our pupils can now express ideas better,” says Ms. Atieno, a Grade 6 teacher. “They’re not just memorizing—they’re creating.”

Yet challenges remain. Many schools still lack **labs, libraries, and devices** needed for CBC activities. The government has promised funding, but implementation varies widely.

Still, across the country, one thing is clear: Kenya’s education system has turned a page, and the nation watches with cautious hope as CBC takes the lead.