



education

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Noordwes Departement van Onderwys
North West Department of Education
NORTH WEST PROVINCE

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SUB-DISTRICT MANAGERS
CIRCUIT MANAGERS
SCHOOL PRINCIPALS
SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES
TEACHER UNIONS

Departmental Circular No. 02 of 2021

Reopening of schools in 2021

1. On 15 January 2021, the Deputy Minister of Basic Education Dr Makgabo Reginah Mhaule announced the new dates for the reopening of schools in 2021 due to concerns around the second wave of the Coronavirus (Covid-19) infections in the country.
2. On the 22 January 2021, the Minister of Basic Education Mrs Agnelina Matsie Motshekga, issued amended directions regarding the dates for the reopening of schools, to provide for the 2021 academic year, and for measures to address, prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19 in the National Department of Basic Education, Provincial Departments of Education, all education district offices and all schools in the Republic of South Africa, published under Government Notice No. 44096.
3. The dates, for all public schools, are as follows:
 - 25 January 2021** – Principals, the School Management Teams (SMTs) including Education Assistants and General Assistants (Basic Education Employment Initiative) and non-teaching staff.
 - 01 February 2021** – All educators.
 - 15 February 2021** – All learners.



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4. The following must be complied with:

4.1. Independent schools must delay the date for the opening of schools for learners to return to school for a period of two weeks from the date of the pronouncement of the Minister, on 15 January 2021.

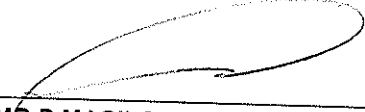
4.2. Independent schools may not open earlier than the two-weeks period as contemplated in sub-direction (4.1).

4.3. Officials may access school premises during the period of closure if required to do so, for purposes of preparation in anticipation of the reopening of schools.

4.4. All conditions in the Directions and Regulations published in relation to health and safety measures to contain the spread of COVID-19, under Alert Level 3, still apply under Adjusted Alert Level 3 and must be adhered to.

4.5. All Directions previously issued by the Minister, continue to apply, until repealed or amended.

Yours sincerely,



MR P MASILO
ACTING SUPERINTENDENT-GENERAL

23/01/2020
Date

cc: Hon. ML Matsemela - Member of Executive Council for Education
Mr JNT Mohlala - Administrator



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