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GENERAL NOTICES • ALGEMENE KENNISGEWINGS

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DEPARTMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION

NOTICE 952 OF 2022

DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT, 2002

**AMENDMENT OF DIRECTIONS ISSUED IN TERMS OF REGULATION 4(3), READ WITH REGULATIONS 7, 66A(1), 66A(4), 67 AND 69, OF THE REGULATIONS MADE UNDER SECTION 27(2) OF THE DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT, 2002 (ACT NO. 57 OF 2002), REGARDING THE FULL TIME RETURN OF LEARNERS TO SCHOOLS AND MEASURES TO ADDRESS, PREVENT AND COMBAT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 IN THE NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION, ALL PROVINCIAL DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION, ALL EDUCATION DISTRICT OFFICES AND PUBLIC AND INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

I, Angelina Matsie Motshekga, Minister of Basic Education, in terms of regulation 4(3), read with regulations 7, 66A(1), 66A(4), 67 and 69, of the Regulations made under section 27(2) of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002), as published under Government Notice No. R.480, in Government *Gazette* No. 43258 of 29 April 2020, as amended, hereby amend the Directions regarding the full time return of learners to schools and measures to address, prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19 in the National Department of Basic Education, and all Provincial Departments of Education, all education district offices and public and independent schools in the Republic of South Africa, published under Government Notice No. 806, in Government *Gazette* No. 45877 of 06 February 2022, as set out in the Schedule.



**MRS AM MOTSHEKGA, MP**  
**MINISTER OF BASIC EDUCATION**  
**DATE: 01 APRIL 2022**

## SCHEDULE

### Definition

1. In this Schedule, the "Directions" means the Directions regarding the full time return of learners to schools and measures to address, prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19 in the National Department of Basic Education, and all Provincial Departments of Education, all education district offices and public and independent schools in the Republic of South Africa, as published under Government Notice No. 806, in Government *Gazette* No. 45877 of 06 February 2022.

### Amendment of direction 4 of Directions

2. Direction 4 of the Directions is hereby amended—
  - (a) by the substitution for sub-direction (3) of the following sub-direction:

"(3) Despite sub-direction (1), the principal of a school who—

    - (a) convenes or hosts an event or activity on the school premises, as contemplated in direction 8; or
    - (b) allows the use of the school premises for gatherings, including but not limited to faith based, religious, social, and cultural gatherings,

may allow the entry of permitted persons for that event, activity or gathering on the school premises: Provided that hygiene and safety measures on COVID-19, as contemplated in regulations 67 of the Regulations, as well as directions 9, 10 and 11, are complied with."; and
  - (b) by the addition of the following sub-direction:

"(4) The school governing body must, in writing, inform the convenor of events, activities or gatherings, as contemplated in sub-direction (3), of his or her responsibilities with regards to compliance with regulation 69 of the Regulations."

### **Amendment of direction 5 of Directions**

3. Direction 5 of the Directions is hereby amended by the substitution for sub-direction (3) of the following sub-direction:
- “(3) Primary schools, secondary schools and schools for learners with special education needs, including hostels, must ensure strict compliance with the DBE Standard Operating Procedures, the Directions and the Regulations.”.

### **Amendment of direction 6 of Directions**

4. Direction 6 of the Directions is hereby amended by the deletion of sub-direction (2).

### **Amendment of direction 7 of Directions**

5. Direction 7 of the Directions is hereby amended by the substitution for sub-direction (1) of the following sub-direction:
- “(1) A school hostel must—
- (a) comply with the health and safety measures and requirements on COVID-19, referred to in DBE Standard Operating Procedures and the DBE Guidelines;
  - (b) in the case of a public school, in addition to paragraph (a), have all the COVID-19 essentials in place; and
  - (c) ensure that there is adequate ventilation, proper use of masks indoors, good health and hygiene practices, including the availability of adequate and soap and water resources or sanitisers.”.

### **Amendment of direction 8 of Directions**

6. Direction 8 of the Directions is hereby amended—
- (a) by the substitution in sub-direction (2) for paragraph (a) of the following paragraph:

“(a) (i) For the purposes of sport and extracurricular activities, activities with spectators, as contemplated in sub-direction (1), are not regarded as taking place in the school environment, as contemplated in regulation 67(4)(b) of the Regulations.

(ii) All persons in an open public space need not wear a mask, but must maintain a distance of at least one meter from another person.

(iii) All persons entering a change room or an indoor training area, except when participating in training or indoor matches accompanied by vigorous exercise, must wear a mask.”;

(b) by the deletion of paragraphs 2(h), 2(i) and (l);

(c) by the substitution in sub-direction (2) for paragraph (m) of the following paragraph:

“(m) if a person has COVID-19 symptoms that person must be refused access into the venue.”;

(d) by the substitution in sub-direction (2) for paragraph (n) of the following paragraph:

“(n) spectators at the venue of a sport event are permitted and the number of persons permitted at a venue at any one time is limited to the number as prescribed under the Regulations in respect of gatherings for the particular adjusted Alert Level at the time, and subject to strict adherence to the conditions provided for in the Regulations.”;

(e) by the substitution in sub-direction (2) for paragraph (p) of the following paragraph:

“(p) the wearing of face masks must always be maintained indoors by persons who are not participating in matches or events.”;

(f) by the deletion in sub-direction (2) of paragraph (q); and

- (g) by the substitution in sub-direction (2) for paragraph (r) of the following paragraph:

“(r) technical officials must report before the start of any event, match or competition for a briefing session on COVID-19 regulations and protocol.”.

### **Amendment of direction 10 of Directions**

7. Direction 10 of the Directions is hereby amended—

- (a) by the substitution for the heading of the following heading:

**“ MANAGEMENT OF SYMPTOMS”;**

- (b) by the deletion of sub-directions (1), (2) and (3); and

- (c) by the substitution for sub-direction (5) of the following sub-direction:

“(5) (a) If a person, other than a learner, presents with COVID-19 symptoms or informs the COVID-19 compliance officer or designated official of the presence of such symptoms, the school, school hostel or office must not permit the person to enter the premises.

(b) If a learner presents with COVID-19 symptoms or informs the COVID-19 compliance officer or designated official of the presence of such symptoms, the school, school hostel or office must—

(i) immediately isolate the learner and advise the parent or guardian to make arrangements for the learner to be transported in a manner that does not place any other person or members of the public at risk, either to be self-isolated or to go for a medical examination or testing;

(ii) assess the risk of transmission, disinfect the area and any official's or learner's workstation or sleeping quarters, in the case of a school hostel;

- (iii) refer those persons who may be at risk for medical examination or testing; and
- (iv) take any other appropriate measure to prevent possible transmission.”.

#### **Amendment of direction 11 of Directions**

8. Direction 11 of the Directions is hereby amended by the addition of the following sub-directions:

“(5) The wearing of a face mask is mandatory for every person when in an indoor public place, excluding a child under the age of six years.”.

#### **Commencement**

9. This amendment comes into operation on the date of publication thereof in the *Government Gazette*.