

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

**FOR ORAL REPLY
QUESTION 24**

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DATE TO REPLY IN PARLIAMENT: 22-08-2006

Mr MA Sulliman to ask the Minister of Education:

- (1) Whether her department has established any referral procedures and guidelines for teachers and schools to deal with learners infected or affected by HIV; if so, what are the relevant details; if not,
- (2) Whether her department envisages such procedures and guidelines in the near future; if so, what are the relevant details?

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REPLY:

- (1) Yes. The Department has made provision for the establishment of referral structures within schools and provincial education departments. These are school-based support teams and the health advisory committees.

A school-based programme supports this referral system within schools. The programme consists of a curriculum component, which integrates HIV and AIDS and other health related issues within the curriculum, and a care and support component, which includes educator training and development on referral and support structures within school communities.

Advocacy and other learner and educator support materials also include information on other various referral systems including those, supported by government, non-government organisations, faith-based organisations; community-based organisations and businesses.

These resources materials, dealing with referrals for infected and affected learners, are distributed when required to parents, educators, officials and learners.

- (2) Response already provided in (1) above.