

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR ORAL REPLY

QUESTION 206

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(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 27-2010)

Ms F I Chohan (ANC) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

Whether she has found that the five reform schools can be deemed sufficient to meet the need for such schools; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NO3125E

REPLY

There are four Reform Schools in the country. The four schools are:

Eureka Youth Care Centre in Rawsonville, Western Cape;
Ethokomala Youth Centre in Kinross, Mpumalanga;
Gali Tembani Youth Centre in Queenstown, Eastern Cape; and
Newcastle Youth Centre in Newcastle, KwaZulu Natal.

The fifth Reform School, Kraaifontein Youth Care Centre in Western Cape, was closed down in December 2008 due to a drastic decline in the number of learners at the school.

These schools offer educational as well as developmental and therapeutic programmes to the learners in their care.

The **educational** programmes are structured to address the developmental needs of learners in terms of age and learning needs. The following programmes are offered in these schools:

- The National Curriculum Statement (grades 1 to 12);
- Bridging classes at ABET Level 1 – 4
- Technical Skills Programmes; and
- Life Skills programmes.

The **developmental** programmes are offered by child and youth care workers after school hours, whereas **Therapeutic** programmes are offered by professional support staff (including psychologists).

It is therefore considered that the reform schools can be deemed sufficient for their purpose.