

Q1. What is the National School Nutrition Programme?

A It is the government programme that provides one nutritious meal to all learners in Primary and Secondary Schools i.e. Quintile 1 to 3 schools.

Q2. Why Feeding at School ?

A Food provided at school is intended to give learners energy, to make them alert and receptive during lessons.

Q3. What are the objectives of the programme?

A It is to provide nutritious meals to learners so as to improve their ability to learn. The programme also teaches learners and parents on ways of living a healthy lifestyle, and promoting the development of school vegetable gardens.

Q4. Who benefits from the programme?

A All learners in quintile 1 to 3 Primary and Secondary Schools.

Q5. What does a school meal consist of?

- A**
- Protein (Soya, Fish, Eggs, Milk, Sour milk, Beans and Lentils)
 - Fresh Fruit or Vegetable
 - Carbohydrate/starch

A variety of protein is served per week. Soya should not be served more than twice a week.
Fats/oil, salt and flavourants are added to make the meals tasty.
Fresh vegetable or fruit should be served daily.



Q6. What are the rules of the programme?

- A**
- Learners receive meals on all school days.
 - Food is served by 10h00. Where a breakfast is served before the school starts, the main meal may be served later.
 - Learners must eat in a clean environment.

Q7. Who cooks the food?

A Food is cooked by unemployed members of the community appointed by the School Governing Body.

Q8. How many Volunteer Food Handlers can the school appoint?

A For every two hundred (200) learners, one (1) Volunteer Food Handler is appointed (1: 200). In schools where the number of learners is very low, the ratio is 1:125.

Q9. Why should schools have food gardens?

A The schools are encouraged to grow a food garden so that the educators and learners can learn how to grow vegetables and fruit. Vegetables grown/produced from the school garden can add fresh and healthy food to the school meals. School gardens also beautify the school environment.



Q10. What should be done with the leftover food?

A The leftover food can be given to needy learners to eat at home.

Q11. How often should the gas stove be serviced?

A The gas stove must be serviced once a year and any other time if there is gas leak. The gas stove should be serviced by the registered service providers.

Q & A For NSNP Schools

Q12. Can the school open a separate bank account for the NSNP funds?

A According to South African Schools Act (SASA) 84 of 1996, a school can have only one bank account; however a separate bank account can be opened with the approval of the Member of the Executive Committee (MEC) for Education in the province.



Q13. How do I know if NSNP money has been deposited into the school account?

A A payment schedule which specifies transfer dates and amount to be received will be distributed to schools. This will help the schools to know beforehand what and how much is expected.

Q14. Where can schools buy food?

A Schools are allowed to buy from anywhere as long as school time is not compromised. It is advisable to avoid buying daily from different shops. Schools are encouraged to engage local suppliers for a period of three or more months. Note: Remember to compare prices before appointing a supplier!

Q15. How do schools know if the food supplied is of good quality?

A All food items delivered or purchased must be clearly labeled with an expiry date. Food with an expiry date of less than 3 months should not be accepted.



Q16. What is the role of the community in ensuring that NSNP funds are used correctly?

A It is to provide nutritious meals to learners so as to improve their ability to learn. The programme also teaches learners and parents on ways of living a healthy lifestyle, and promoting the development of school vegetable gardens.

Q17. How does the Department ensure accountability by schools that manage NSNP funds?

A Schools must submit monthly reports to districts and NSNP officials must monitor schools regularly.

Q18. When should schools submit a report?

A A report on expenditure and number of learners fed should be sent to the district office every month.

Q19. Can the school use the NSNP funds for other school purposes?

A No. This is a Conditional Grant earmarked for school feeding, namely, food, gas and payment of Volunteer Food Handlers only.

Q20. What can be done with the funds saved from a previous quarter/month?

A Firstly, the school should ensure that the menu meets nutritional standards. Then, the savings can be used to buy cooking and eating utensils or any other equipment to improve the programme.



Q21. Where can we lodge a complaint about the NSNP?

A You can report non feeding, maladministration in the feeding process and mismanagement of NSNP funds. First, report to the Head Office through the district, if no action is taken call the Department toll free number 0800 20 29 33.

