



## basic education

Department:  
Basic Education  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### WASH IN SCHOOLS IN SOUTH AFRICA SELF ASSESSMENT



#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE WASH IN SCHOOLS SELF ASSESSMENT

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) is essential for creating a safe, healthy, and supportive learning environment. Just like a blackboard is fundamental to teaching, access to clean water, functional toilets, and handwashing facilities is fundamental to learning and thriving.

The Department of Basic Education (DBE) has developed the Three Star Approach for WASH in Schools (WinS) in South Africa to support the implementation of the national standards for WASH in Schools. For each thematic area (Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and Menstrual Hygiene Management) different benchmarks have been formulated to provide clear direction for schools, on how to start the journey. But to improve, schools need to know their current status.

All schools are requested to build a WASH committee and do the self assessment survey, to determine the current status of the school. All questions are grouped by theme on a page.

The overview of the questions on the following pages will help you to fill out the digital form of the WinS Self Assessment.

## QUESTIONS ON THE SCHOOL #1

› Please enter the name of the school:

.....

› What is the address of the school (province). Select one:

- |                                    |                                     |                                     |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Eastern Cape | <input type="radio"/> Kwazulu-Natal | <input type="radio"/> North West    |
| <input type="radio"/> Free State   | <input type="radio"/> Limpopo       | <input type="radio"/> Northern Cape |
| <input type="radio"/> Gauteng      | <input type="radio"/> Mpumalanga    | <input type="radio"/> Western Cape  |

› What is the address of the school (district)?

.....

› What is the address of the school (municipality)?

.....

## QUESTIONS ON THE SCHOOL #2

› What is the date of the survey:

.....

› What is the school EMIS number?

.....

› What is the name of the school head?

.....

› What school level is the school?

- Primary
- Secondary
- College
- Special
- Secondary Primary

› What is the gender of the school head?

- Female     Male     No Answer

## QUESTIONS ON THE SCHOOL #3

› Enter the number of female learners:

.....

› Enter the number of male learners:

.....



## QUESTIONS ON WATER #1

### › Please select the source(s) of water in the school?

Select all that apply for drinking water and general purpose:

- Piped-water supply       Unprotected well/spring       Surface water (lake, river, stream)  
 Protected well/spring       Packaged bottled water       No water source available  
 Rainwater       Tanker-truck or cart

### › How often is water for general purposes available at the school?

General water is water that is used for cleaning, watering the gardens etc.  
The quality of the water is not necessarily drinking water.

- Always       Sometimes, less than half of all school days  
 Never       Sometimes, more than half of all school days

### › Does the school have options to store water on the premises like Jojo tanks to address a limited supply of water?

- Yes       No

## QUESTIONS ON WATER #2

### › Is drinking water from an improved source available at the school during the time of the survey? Drinking water should be non polluted and safe to drink for learners.

- Yes       No

### › If no drinking water is available at school, are learners requested to bring water from home? (If access to drinking water cannot be assured,) are learners encouraged to bring drinking water from home?

- Yes       No

### › Does the school treat water to make it safe for drinking?

Piped and bottled water do not need treatment.

- No, school does not treat the water       Yes, by filtering       Yes, through chemicals like chlorine

### › Does the school advocate for learners to drink water during the day?

- Yes       No



## QUESTIONS ON SANITATION #1

› What type of learners' toilet is available in the school?

Check one – most common:

- Flush/pourflush toilet (connected to a sewage system)
- Flush/pourflush toilet (connected to a septic tank)
- Ventilated Improved Pit latrine with slab
- Pit latrine with slab
- Pit latrine without slab
- Enviro loo
- Chemical toilets
- Mobile toilets
- Other. Specify other:

.....

› Do you have at least one improved toilet for girls and one improved toilet for boys in addition to the pit latrines without slab?

- Yes       No

**USABLE TOILETS:** Only count toilets/latrines that are usable at the time of the survey or questionnaire, where “usable” refers to toilets/latrines which are:

**1. AVAILABLE TO LEARNERS** (doors are unlocked or a key is available at all times),

**2. FUNCTIONAL** (the toilet is not broken, the toilet hole is not blocked, and water is available for flush/pour-flush toilets), and

**2. PRIVATE** (there are closable doors that lock from the inside and no large gaps in the structure)

at the time of the questionnaire or survey. If any of these three criteria are not met, the toilet/latrine should not be counted as usable. However, lockable toilets may not be applicable in pre-primary schools.

## QUESTIONS ON SANITATION #2

› How many usable, exclusive female toilets are in the school?

.....

› How many NOT usable, exclusive female toilets are in the school?

.....

› How many usable, exclusive male toilets are in the school?

.....

› How many NOT usable exclusive male toilets are in the school?

.....

› How many usable common or shared toilets are in the school?

.....

› How many NOT usable common or shared toilets are in the school?

.....

»

### QUESTIONS ON SANITATION #3

› Is there currently usable lighting / natural lighting in the learners toilets?

- All toilets     Some toilets     None of the toilets

› Is there at least one toilet available for learners with limited mobility or vision?

- Yes     No

› In general, how clean are the learner toilets at time of survey?

- Clean     Somewhat clean     Not clean

**CLEAN:** toilets do not have a strong smell or significant numbers of flies or mosquitos, and there is no visible faeces on the floor, walls, seat (or pan) or around the facility.

**SOMEWHAT CLEAN:** there is some smell and/or some sign of fecal matter in some of the toilets.

**NOT CLEAN:** there is a strong smell and/or presence of fecal matter in most toilets.

### QUESTIONS ON SANITATION #4

› How many times per day are the toilets cleaned?

It is suggested to use a checklist for cleaning (e.g. the CTBF checklist)

- The toilets are not cleaned daily     The toilets are cleaned once a day     The toilets are cleaned twice a day

› Is the school assessing the needs for rehabilitation and repair of toilets?

- Yes     No

› Is someone in charge or assigned to check the cleanliness of the toilets every day?

- Yes     No

› Does the school have a WASH Committee established to manage WinS?

- Yes     No



## QUESTIONS ON HYGIENE

- › How many handwashing facilities with water and soap are in the school?

Please count the number of taps:

.....

- › How many handwashing facilities with only water are in the school?

Please count the number of taps:

.....

- › Is handwashing with soap prior to midday meal practiced as a habit?

Yes       No

- › Is the conduct of regular handwashing reflected in the daily class schedules?

Yes       No

- › Does the school advocate for handwashing at critical times?

(School has posters, nudges, information to remind learners to wash hands.)

Yes       No

- › Does the school provide at least one handwashing facility near ...

Select all that apply:

- Near the classroom  
 Near or in the school kitchen  
 Near or in toilet blocks  
 None provided



## QUESTIONS ON MHM #1

› Are there bins with cover for disposal of used menstrual hygiene materials?

- In one toilet block
- In some cubicles
- In all cubicles
- None

› Does the school provide information on menstrual hygiene management?

- Yes
- No

› Are emergency sanitary products available at school?

- Yes
- No

› Are boys involved in the menstrual hygiene education discussions in the school?

- Yes
- No

## QUESTIONS ON MHM #2

› Is confidential counseling for girls on menstruation available in school?

- Yes
- No

› Does the school have a private space with water and soap for personal hygiene?

- Yes
- No

› Does the school have a sick room for learners who feel unwell?

- Yes
- No



## QUESTIONS ON FUNDING

› In the past year were WASH expenses like soap for handwashing covered?

- School Budget
- Donations
- Not covered

› In the past year were WASH expenses like toilet paper covered?

- School Budget
- Donations
- Not covered

› In the past year were WASH expenses like cleaning materials covered?

- School Budget
- Donations
- Not covered

› In the past year were WASH expenses like repair and maintenance covered?

- School Budget
- Donations
- Not covered



### THREE STAR APPROACH RESULTS

To find out your school's Star Level, go to the online WinS Self Assessment and complete the questionnaire. You will receive the results for each category and the overall Star Level.

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QR-CODE

Do the WinS Self Assessment  
online [www.education.gov.za](http://www.education.gov.za):  
***www.link...***

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Aim for reaching the stars and please use these results to improve the WinS situation of your school.

Thank you