

2019 Autumn classes



DIRECTOR-GENERAL'S 2019 PROVINCIAL ENGAGEMENTS

The Department of Basic Education (DBE) commenced with its annual programme with the Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli's Autumn School Camps visit to 6 provinces. The Autumn School Camp Visit is the first of the intervention programmes. It is followed by Winter and Spring School Camp visits - these visits are meant to monitor the effectiveness and efficiency of the school camp programmes with a focus on:

1. The level of preparedness and planning;
2. Basic functionality of the centres;
3. Support and monitor the implementation of the National Strategy for Learner Attainment;
4. Curriculum Coverage, Classroom Management, Presentation and Participation;
5. Gathering data for use as part of the 2019 Evidence Based Report; and
6. Informing the system on the readiness for the National Senior Certificate (NSC) Examinations.

The objective of Autumn school camps is to revise the scope of content covered in the first term of the school calendar. As the Director-General aptly put it in his address in various camps, it is important to "*Begin with the end in mind*", because achieving excellent results in the final NSC Examinations requires putting in the work now. Autumn school camps enable provinces to start the year on a high note and sets the tone for an intellectually exciting and engaging year for both learners and teachers. In his addresses at various camps, the DG also encouraged learners and teachers to sustain their dedication and commitment to achieve quality results at the end of the year.

Amongst the many reasons for school camps, they are meant to narrow the gap between what teachers are able to teach and the level of knowledge the exam papers require. It is during these camps that teachers have the opportunity to explain subject content clearly and in depth and learners have an opportunity to ask questions and do more practical exercises and collaborate with other learners. The camps have also become one of the most critical intervention initiatives utilised by Provincial Education Departments to improve quality learning and teaching in public schools.

This edition of the Autumn School brochure will focus on an analysis of feedback from provinces on various aspects of the autumn school programme. The analysis is to showcase areas of strength that the sector could build on as well as areas of weakness for improvements.



basic education

Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



The Director-General, undertook a visit to six provinces during March 2019, to monitor progress at the autumn classes aimed at improving quality and efficiency in schools. These provinces included Gauteng, Northern Cape, North West, Eastern Cape, Limpopo and Free State.

The Autumn Camp Programme is currently underway in various provinces with a special focus given to learners in various categories including the progressed, borderline and top achievers. As part of the programme, provinces are expected to make extra efforts to ensure that learners are assisted in consolidating and revising the scope of the content covered in the first term of the current school calendar year.

The annual inter-sectoral intervention programmes ranging from Autumn, Winter and Spring Camp initiatives will yield positive results in terms of improving throughput rate in the Further Education and Training (FET) band as it provides a focused intervention and support to learners based on their levels of performances.

Addressing learners in various camps, Mr Mweliso Mkhomo thanked learners for having sacrificed their school holiday period to attend Autumn Camp classes. The Director-General added: "It might sound painful and challenging to continue with lessons during this period. However, in the long run you will see the benefit of it. 'Begin with the end in mind' because achieving excellent results in the final National Senior Certificates Examinations begins now. I therefore encourage you to sustain your dedication and commitment to achieve quality results this

year."

The effective implementation of initiatives such as Autumn, Winter and Spring Camp Programmes are essential as they afford the top performing and under performing schools an opportunity to share best practice.

Mr Mweliso further highlighted that, "the collective efforts of centre managers, teachers and school principals in administering the Autumn camp classes should be acknowledged. The significant role played by provinces during the school holiday period assists the sector to observe tremendous improvement in terms of increasing the high number of distinctions achieved by learners at schools in non-affluent areas".





**PHOTOGRAPHIC
RECORD OF THE
DG ENGAGEMENT
IN PROVINCES**



222 Struben Street
Private Bag X895, Pretoria, 0001
Telephone: 012 357 3000 Fax: 012 323 0601
© Department of Basic Education



Website
www.education.gov.za

Facebook
www.facebook.com/BasicEd

Twitter
www.twitter.com/dbe_sa