

THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL'S VISIT TO MARKING CENTRES IN GAUTENG

The marking of the 2017 National Senior certificate is in full swing across the country. In addition to the 140 marking centres located in the 9 Provinces, the Department of Basic Education (DBE) has established a National marking centre for the centralised marking of selected small enrolment subjects. Centralised marking of small subjects was piloted in 2015 in two subjects and since then the number of subjects centrally marked have increased. This year the DBE will centrally mark 15 small enrolment subjects comprising 4 Non language subjects namely: Music, Dance, Agricultural Technology and Agricultural Management Practice and 5 first additional languages and 6 second additional languages

Basic Education Director-General, Mr Mathanzima Mweli, visited the centralised marking centre located at Waterkloof high School in Pretoria on 07 December 2017, to observe and monitor the quality of the marking processes. The Director-General also took the opportunity to address a team of markers including chief markers, internal moderators and examination assistants and encouraged them to keep maintaining the standard of NSC Examination processes.

The rationale for centralising the marking of the identified subjects is to pool the limited capacity and expertise in these subjects from all provinces to ensure consistency, standardization and rigorous moderation in the marking of these subjects.

According to the Centre Manager, Ms Hannalie le Roux, since the marking of the small enrolment subjects were centralised in 2015, the marking process has significantly improved. "I would like to thank the DBE and Provincial Education Departments (PEDs) for the support. I also extend my gratitude to the Director-General for having paid us a visit; his presence really inspired us a lot. We are confident that markers will continue to do a good job and complete their consignments timeously," said the Centre Manager.

Ms Helen Maqubela, the Deputy Chief Education Specialist, indicated that the approach taken by the DBE in centralising these subjects is pivotal because some of these subjects have added value to the farming industry. "Emphasis on Agricultural

Technology and Agricultural Management Practice is important in addressing issues around food security in the country, and learners must be encouraged to offer these subjects" In addition, languages remain the medium of all communication and are therefore very important.

South African Sign Language Home Language (SASL HL) will be offered in the 2018 NSC for the first time. The DBE intends to centralize the marking of SASL HL in 2018. That will be a milestone as the marking is intended to be done electronically.

In his address, Mr Mweli thanked all markers for having offered their time to assist with the marking of NSC scripts. "You are the national assets, nothing can be achieved in the education sector without your valuable contribution and support. On behalf of the DBE, I would like to wish you a wonderful festive season," said the Director-General.

The marking of more than 11193 scripts is expected to be completed on 14 December 2017 by a total of 108 markers and a team examination assistants.



PHOTOGRAPHIC
RECORD OF THE
DG'S VISIT TO
MARKING CENTRES
IN GAUTENG



The background of the entire page is a close-up, slightly blurred image of a test paper. It features a grid of circles containing letters (A, B, C, D, E) and numbers (47, 48, 49, 50). A yellow pencil is positioned diagonally from the top left, and a red pen is positioned diagonally from the top right. A large, faint red 'X' is drawn across the lower half of the page, over the words 'RESCORE' and 'ROSTER NUMBER'.

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