

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 476.**

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**476. Dr S S Thembekwayo (EFF) to ask the Minister of Basic Education: to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

What are the full details of the programmes that she has put in place in place to instil the values of ubuntu in schools in order to restore order?

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#### **Response**

The curriculum that is delivered in the classroom is underpinned by the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, which emphasises the principles of democracy, human rights, equality and the values of ubuntu. These principles are dispensed progressively in the learning area of Life Skills and Life Orientation from Grade 1 up to Grade 12 in an age-appropriate, culturally relevant and scientific manner, also recognising the indigenous knowledge systems. The thread of ubuntu values is also carried in Religious Studies and Social Sciences.

In the co-curricular programming, a small-scale intervention of Ubuntu Youth Leadership programme was introduced in a selection of schools. The programme uses training as a means to engage a broad range of learners. The training aims to foster servant leadership, strengthen relationships among learners and boost participation in school activities. It acknowledges the crucial role of learner involvement in promoting social cohesion and instilling positive values. Teacher Liaison Officers (TLOs) are trained to implement the programme alongside Representative Councils of Learners (RCLs) and other learners in typical leadership roles.

The programme aims to achieve the following objectives:

1. To train servant leaders and bridge-builders, focusing on RCL members and other learners in typical leadership roles;
2. To foster safe and inclusive school environments for all learners;
3. To cultivate a culture of care, encouraging learners to empathise with others;
4. To shift beliefs and promote Ubuntu values, enabling learners to distinguish between right and wrong; and
5. To uphold and restore human dignity.

The Department of Basic Education remains committed to instilling Ubuntu values in learners, both through the formal curriculum and leadership development initiatives. These efforts aim to promote ethical citizenship, positive learner behaviour and a culture of mutual respect in schools — ensuring that schools are safe, inclusive and conducive to learning.