

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION 545. [E95]

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545. [E95]. Mrs D van der Walt (DA) to ask the Minister of Basic Education: to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

[Question submitted for oral reply now placed for written reply because it is in excess of quota (Rule 137(8))]:

Whether her department intends to roll out sight and hearing tests at schools; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, (a) what are the relevant details and (b) by what date will sight and hearing tests be rolled out at schools?

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Response

Health services, in schools, are provided by school-health-nurses through the Integrated School Health Programme (ISHP) as guided by the 2012 ISHP policy.

- a. According to the ISHP policy, vision and hearing screening are provided in all the school phases (see page 12 of the policy). The ISHP programme emphasises hearing and vision screening in the foundation phase for early detection and support.
- b. Based on the screening results, learners in need of further assistance are referred to health facility for case management and support e.g. provision of spectacles.