

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION 670.

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670.. Ms B Mathulelwa (EFF) to ask the Minister of Basic Education: to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

Whether she has any plans in place to re-introducing school sport as a compulsory activity in all schools; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

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Response

According to the South African Schools Act (SASA) Section 21, School Governing Bodies (SGBs), have the prerogative to select the sporting codes for participation by the learners, in consultation with the relevant Head of Department. To assist in ensuring that all schools are provided an opportunity to participate, School Governing Body Associations are now part of the Extended Joint National Task Team (ExJNTT) convened by the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture (DSAC) and the Department of Basic Education (DBE). This body also includes Teacher Unions, Sport Federations and School Sport Code Structures. This body is responsible for the implementation of the Integrated School Sports Programme, after-school, extra-mural and co-curricular activities in line with the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed in 2018 by the two Departments. The programme starts at a school level and proceeds up to the circuit, district, provincial and finally national level. The programme is comprised of the Autumn Games, Winter Games, Spring Games as well as Summer Games in the following prioritized codes: Athletics, Cricket, Chess, Gymnastics, Swimming, Softball, Tennis, Table-Tennis, Basketball, Football, Hockey, Netball, Rugby, Volleyball, Goalball, and Indigenous Games.