

NATIONAL NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION 705.

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705.. Ms D C Christians (Northern Cape: DA) to ask the Minister of Basic Education: to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

ECD implementation at schools

(1) Whether there are any plans to create a career and further studies and/or development path for learners who are enrolled in a 'School of Skills' and studying Early Childhood Development (ECD); if not, why not; if so, (a) what plans and (b) with which institutions collaboration will be done in this regard;

(2) whether there are any indications from provinces that are in need of support before the ECD could be fully implemented at schools; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, (a) how many provinces are ready in terms of infrastructure at schools in this regard and (b) what are the further relevant details?

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Response

1. The Department of Basic Education is in the initial stages of the development of a strategic Human Resources Development Plan. The development of this plan will be done in collaboration with other government agencies and partners, who have expertise in the field of ECD practitioner training and qualifications. The technical task team will therefore include the South African Council for Educators (SACE), the Quality Council for Trade and Occupations (QCTO), the Education, Training and Development Practices Sector Education and Training Authority (ETDP-SETA), the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA), the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), the National Early Childhood Development Alliance (NECDA) and the Inter-Sectoral Forum for ECD (ISF). The strategic Human Resources Development Plan will include an articulation of the career paths of ECD practitioners.

2. The service delivery model for ECD articulates that ECD programmes will be run through two different modalities namely centre-based and non-centre-based programmes. Centre-based programmes will run through ECD centres, whereas non-centre-based programmes will include toy libraries, playgroups, home-based programmes and community-based programmes. Given this, schools will not be expected to run ECD programmes.