MEDIA RELEASE

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MINISTER GWARUBE TO LAUNCH R496 MILLION OUTCOMES BASED EDUCATION FUND, TO TURBOCHARGE ACCESS TO EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

The Minister of Basic Education, Ms Siviwe Gwarube, will on Monday 01 December 2025 launch the **Education Outcomes Fund**, an innovative R496 million financing solution to accelerate access to quality Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) across South Africa. The Fund has mobilised public, private and philanthropic capital to scale high-impact early learning programmes, strengthen provider capacity, and improve learning outcomes for children aged 0–5 years.

Venue: Protea Hotel, Noordwyk, Midrand
Date: 01 December 2025
Time: 09h00

Why it matters:

Research shows that quality early childhood education yields outsized social and economic returns. The Education Outcomes Fund uses outcome-based financing to ensure resources are directed to proven programmes and providers that deliver measurable improvements in children's readiness for school. This R496 million commitment will rapidly expand access to quality early learning, strengthen governance and monitoring of ECD programmes, and support the professionalisation of ECD practitioners all critical to closing early learning gaps and improving national education outcomes.

ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION

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