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**GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS**

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**DEPARTMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION**

NO. 2992

31 January 2023

**NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY ACT, 1996 (ACT NO 27 OF 1996)  
CALL FOR COMMENTS: PROPOSED 2026 CALENDAR FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

I, Angelina Matsie Motshekga, Minister of Basic Education, acting under section 3(4)(k) of the National Education Policy Act, 1996 (No. 27 of 1996) and after consultation with the Council of Education Ministers, invite stakeholder bodies and members of the public to comment on the Proposed 2026 School Calendar.

The Proposed 2026 School Calendar and the National Policy for Determining School Calendars for Public Schools in South Africa (The Policy) is obtainable on the following Departmental website: <http://www.education.gov.za>.

All interested persons and organisations are invited to comment on the Proposed 2026 School Calendar, in writing, and direct the comments to the Director-General for Department of Basic Education, for the attention of Mr S Mlambo, e-mail: [Mlambo.S@dbe.gov.za](mailto:Mlambo.S@dbe.gov.za); cc [Manaka.L@dbe.gov.za](mailto:Manaka.L@dbe.gov.za).

All comments must reach the Department no later than one month after the publication of this notice.

**MRS ANGIE MOTSHEKGA, MP****MINISTER OF BASIC EDUCATION**

DATE: 02/01/2023

### PROPOSED 2026 CALENDAR FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

<b>January 2026</b> S M T W T F S 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31							<b>February 2026</b> S M T W T F S 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28							<b>March 2026</b> S M T W T F S 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31							<b>Public and School Holidays 2026</b> 01 January New Year's Day 21 March Human Rights Day 03 April Good Friday 06 April Family Day 27 April Freedom Day 01 May Workers' Day 15 June Special School Holidays 16 June Youth Day 09 August National Women's Day 10 August Public Holiday 24 September Heritage Day 25 September Special School Holidays 16 December Day of Reconciliation 25 December Christmas Day 26 December Day of Goodwill	
<b>April 2026</b> S M T W T F S 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30							<b>May 2026</b> S M T W T F S 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31							<b>June 2026</b> S M T W T F S 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30								
<b>July 2026</b> S M T W T F S 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31							<b>August 2026</b> S M T W T F S 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31							<b>September 2026</b> S M T W T F S 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30								
<b>October 2026</b> S M T W T F S 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31							<b>November 2026</b> S M T W T F S 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30							<b>December 2026</b> S M T W T F S 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31								

Weekends	School days	Special school holidays
Days for administration	Public holidays	School holidays

### SUMMARY OF 2026 CALENDAR FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Duration	No. of weeks	No. of days	No. of public holidays	Actual no. of school days
(12) 14 January – 27 March	11	53 (55)	0	53 (55)
08 April – 26 June	12	58	3+1	54
21 July – 02 October	11	54	2+1	51
13 October – 09 (11) December	09	42 (44)	0	42(44)
<b>Total</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>207 (211)</b>	<b>5+2</b>	<b>200 (204)</b>