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**GENERAL NOTICES • ALGEMENE KENNISGEWINGS**

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**DEPARTMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION****NOTICE 579 OF 2020****DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT, 2002****AMENDMENT OF DIRECTIONS ISSUED IN TERMS OF REGULATION 4(3) OF THE REGULATIONS MADE UNDER THE DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT, 2002 (ACT NO. 57 OF 2002) REGARDING THE RE-OPENING OF SCHOOLS AND MEASURES TO ADDRESS, PREVENT AND COMBAT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 IN THE NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION, ALL PROVINCIAL DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION, ALL EDUCATION DISTRICT OFFICES AND ALL SCHOOLS IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

I, Angelina Matsie Motshekga, Minister of Basic Education, in terms of regulation 4(3)(b) of the Regulations made under the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002), as published under Government Notice No. R.480, in *Government Gazette* No. 43258 of 29 April 2020, as amended, hereby amend the Directions regarding the re-opening of schools and measures to address, prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19 in the National Department of Basic Education, all Provincial Departments of Education, all education district offices and all schools in the Republic of South Africa, as published under Government Notice No. 343, in *Government Gazette* No. 43465 of 23 June 2020, as amended, as set out in the Schedule.



**MRS AM MOTSHEKGA, MP**  
**MINISTER OF BASIC EDUCATION**  
**DATE: 21 OCTOBER 2020**

## SCHEDULE

### Definition

1. In this Schedule, the "Directions" means the Directions regarding the re-opening of schools and measures to address, prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19 in the National Department of Basic Education, Provincial Departments of Education, all education district offices and all schools in the Republic of South Africa, as published under Government Notice No. 343, in *Government Gazette* No. 43465 of 23 June 2020, as amended under Government Notice No. 357, published in *Government Gazette* No. 43488 of 29 June 2020, Government Notice No. 370, published in *Government Gazette* No. 43510 of 7 July 2020, Government Notice No. 371, published in *Government Gazette* No. 43511 of 8 July 2020, Government Notice No. 411, published in *Government Gazette* No. 43578 of 2 August 2020, and Government Notice No. 503, published in *Government Gazette* No. 43715 of 15 September 2020.

### Amendment of direction 5 of Directions

2. Direction 5 of the Directions is hereby amended—

(a) by the substitution for sub-direction (10) of the following sub-direction:

"(10) Subject to sub-direction (10A) and compliance with social distancing, hygiene and safety measures to prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19, non-contact sport training, inter-school non-contact sport matches and non-contact sport-related activities and arts and culture school-based activities in schools, may resume without any spectators."; and

(b) by the insertion after sub-direction (10) of the following sub-directions:

- “(10A) The following safety measures must be adhered to when resuming the activities contemplated in sub-direction (10):
- (a) The number of persons in the sporting venues, change rooms or training area, at any given time, must not be more than 50% of the capacity of the venue with persons observing the social distancing requirements;
  - (b) schools that compete in inter-school format must adhere to the limitation of—
    - (i) 250 persons or less, in the case of an indoor activity; and
    - (ii) 500 or less, in the case of an outdoor activity:  
Provided that no more than 50% of the capacity of the venue is used with persons observing the social distancing requirements;
  - (c) face masks must be worn by all persons entering the sporting venues, change rooms or training area, except when participating in training or matches;
  - (d) there must be sufficient quantities of hand sanitizers with at least 70% alcohol content available for use by all officials, coaches, assistants, learners and participants;
  - (e) there must be facilities for washing of hands with soap and water;
  - (f) all windows and doors must remain open, where feasible, to ensure adequate ventilation;
  - (g) social distancing must be maintained at all times; and
  - (h) the sharing of water bottles, energy drinks and other drinks is not allowed.
- (10B) Contact sport training may resume: Provided that all social distancing, hygiene and safety measures are observed and that there is no physical contact between participants during training.
- (10C) The school must ensure that sporting venues, tools and equipment are cleaned and sanitized before and after any sporting activities.
- (10D) Subject to compliance with the Regulations for Safety Measures in Public Schools, as published under Government Notice No. 1040 in Government

*Gazette* No. 22754 of 12 October 2001, national championships and tournaments for non-contact sport that require learners to travel to other schools or provinces may resume.

- (10E) The school must keep a register of all officials and learners from visiting schools who are attending training or a school event, which register must contain the following information:
- (a) Full names;
  - (b) residential address;
  - (c) cell phone number, telephone number or email address; and
  - (d) contact details of the person or persons living in the same residence as the person attending training or a school event.
- (10F) Subject to strict adherence to all social distancing, hygiene and safety measures, co-curricular and enrichment programmes, such as oral history, spelling bee, moot court, speech contests, debates and school clubs, may resume activities.
- (10G) Subject to strict adherence to all social distancing, hygiene and safety measures, choir practise or rehearsals may resume.”.

### **Amendment of direction 8 of Directions**

3. Direction 8 of the Directions is hereby amended by the substitution for the Department of Basic Education website link in direction 8 of the following link:  
["https://www.education.gov.za/Portals/0/Documents/Recovery%20plan%20page/Links%20for%20schools/dbe-standard-operating-procedure-for-covid-19.pdf"](https://www.education.gov.za/Portals/0/Documents/Recovery%20plan%20page/Links%20for%20schools/dbe-standard-operating-procedure-for-covid-19.pdf).

### **Amendment of direction 9 of Directions**

4. Direction 9 of the Directions is hereby amended by the substitution in sub-direction (4A) for paragraph (b) of the following paragraph:

“(b) Where a hostel cannot provide alternatives, as contemplated in paragraph (a), the Provincial Department of Education must assist in the provision of additional infrastructure capacity to provide for the accommodation needs of such learners, including alternative accommodation for a hostel.”.

### **Commencement**

5. These amendment directions come into operation on the date of publication thereof in the *Government Gazette*.