
GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS

DEPARTMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION**NO. 5417****10 October 2024****NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY ACT, 1996 (ACT NO 27 OF 1996)****CALL FOR COMMENTS: PROPOSED 2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

I, Siviwe Gwarube, 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 is obtainable at <https://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: Department of Basic Education, for the attention of Mr S Mlambo, e-mail: MIambo.S@dbe.gov.za; cc Mkhize.ZM@dbe.gov.za.

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

MS SIVIWE GWARUBE, MP
MINISTER OF BASIC EDUCATION
DATE:

PROPOSED 2026 CALENDAR FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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

Term	Duration	No. of weeks	No. of days	No. of public holidays	Actual no. of school days
1	(12) 14 January – 27 March	11	53 (55)	0	53 (55)
2	08 April – 26 June	12	58	3+1	54
3	21 July – 02 October	11	54	2+1	51
4	13 October – 09 (11) December	09	42 (44)	0	42(44)
Total		43	207 (211)	5+2	200 (204)



basic education
Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

