GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS

DEPARTMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION

NO. 5428

15 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: <u>Mlambo.S@dbe.gov.za</u>; cc <u>Mkhize.ZM@dbe.gov.za</u>.

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: 10/10/2024









| January 2026 Februa | | | | | | | | uary | ıry 2026 | | | | | | Mar | ch 2 | 026 | | | Public and School Holidays 2026 | | | | | |
|---------------------|----|------|----|----|----|----|-------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------------|---------------|----------|-----|----------|----------|----------|-------------|---------------------------------|----------|----------|--------------|-------------------------|--|
| s | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | | S | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | | S | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | Public and a | School Holidays 2026 | |
| 04 | 05 | 06 | 07 | 01 | 02 | 03 | | 01 | 02 09 | 03 10 | 04 11 | 05 12 | 06 13 | 07 14 | | 01 08 | 02 09 | 03 10 | 04 11 | 05 12 | 06 13 | 07 14 | 01 January | New Year's Day | |
| 11 | 12 | | | 15 | 16 | 17 | | 15 | 16 | 10 | 18 | 12 | 20 | 21 | | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 12 | 20 | 21 | | | |
| 18 | 19 | | - | 22 | 23 | 24 | | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 21 March | Human Rights Day | |
| 25 | 26 | | - | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | | | | | | | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 03 April | Good Friday | |
| April 2026 May 2 | | | | | | | ay 20 | 2026 | | | | | June 2026 | | | | | | 06 April | Eamily Day | | | | | |
| | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | S | S | М | | | | F | | | S | | т | | | | S | 00 April | Family Day | |
| | | | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | | | | | | | 01 | 02 | | | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 | 27 April | Freedom Day | |
| 05 | 06 | 6 07 | 08 | 09 | 10 | 11 | | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 | 07 | 08 | 09 | | 07 | 08 | 09 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 27 April | T TEEdon Day | |
| 12 | 13 | | | 16 | 17 | 18 | | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 01 May | Workers' Day | |
| 19 | 20 | - | - | 23 | 24 | 25 | | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | o r may | Tronkoro Buy | |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | - | | | 24 31 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | | 15 June | Special School Holida | |
| July 2026 August | | | | | | | ust 2 | 2026 | | | | September 2026 | | | | | | | 16 June | Vouth Dov | | | | | |
| S | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | | S | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | | S | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | TO JUILE | Youth Day | |
| | | | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | | | | | | | | 01 | | | | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 | 09 August | National Women's Da | |
| 05 | 06 | 07 | 08 | 09 | 10 | 11 | | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 | 07 | 08 | | 06 | 07 | 08 | 09 | 10 | 11 | 12 | Jeres | | |
| 12 | 13 | - | - | 16 | 17 | 18 | | 09 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 10 August | Public Holiday | |
| 19 | 20 | - | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | | 16 | 17 24 | 18 25 | 19 | 20 27 | 21 | 22 | | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | | | |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | 23 30 | 31 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | 24 Septembe | er Heritage Day | |
| October 2026 Novemb | | | | | | | mbei | ber 2026 | | | | | December 2026 | | | | | | 25 Septembe | er Special School Holida | | | | | |
| s | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | | S | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | | S | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | 20 000101100 | | |
| | | | | 01 | 02 | 03 | | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 | 07 | | | | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 | 16 Decembe | r Day of Reconciliation | |
| 04 | 05 | 06 | 07 | 08 | 09 | 10 | | 08 | 09 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | | 06 | 07 | 08 | 09 | 10 | | 12 | | | |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | | 25 Decembe | r Christmas Day | |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | | | |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | 29 | 30 | | | | | | | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | 26 Decembe | r Day of Goodwill | |

PROPOSED 2026 CALENDAR FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Days for administration Public holidays

School holidays

SUMMARY OF 2026 CALENDAR FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

| Term | Duration | No. of weeks | | 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**





