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GENERAL NOTICES • ALGEMENE KENNISGEWINGS

DEPARTMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION**GENERAL NOTICE 633 OF 2021****DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT, 2002**

AMENDMENT OF DIRECTIONS ISSUED IN TERMS OF REGULATION 4(3), READ WITH REGULATIONS 66A(1), 66A(4), 69(10), 69(11) AND 69(12), 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), read with regulations 66A(1), 66A(4), 69(10), 69(11) and 69(12), of the Regulations made under the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002), published under Government Notice No. R.480, in Government *Gazette* No. 43258 of 29 April 2020, as amended, hereby amend the Directions regarding the closing and re-opening of schools and measures to address, prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19 in the National Department of Basic Education, and all Provincial Departments of Education, all education district offices and all schools in the Republic of South Africa, published under Government Notice No. 42, in Government *Gazette* No. 44154 of 12 February 2021, as amended, as set out in the Schedule.



MRS AM MOTSHEKGA, MP

MINISTER OF BASIC EDUCATION

DATE: 22 OCTOBER 2021

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, and all schools in the Republic of South Africa, as published under Government Notice No. 42, in Government *Gazette* No. 44154 of 12 February 2021, amended under Government Notice No. 145, published in Government *Gazette* No. 44339 of 27 March 2021, Government Notice No. 224, published in Government *Gazette* No. 44486 of 23 April 2021, Government Notice No. 451, published in Government *Gazette* No. 44633 of 28 May 2021, Government Notice No. 393, published in Government *Gazette* No. 44779 of 29 June 2021, Government Notice No. 422, published in Government *Gazette* No. 44858 of 15 July 2021, and under Government Notice No. 442 published in Government *Gazette* No. 44922 of 1 August 2021.

Amendment of direction 1 of Directions

2. Direction 1 of the Directions is hereby amended by the substitution for the definition of “Regulations” of the following definition:

“**Regulations**” means the Regulations made under section 3 of the Disaster Management Act, 2002, published under Government Notice No.R.480, in Government *Gazette* No. 43258 of 29 April 2020, as amended under—

- (a) Government Notice No. 608, published in Government *Gazette* No. 43364 of 28 May 2020;
- (b) Government Notice No. 714, published in Government *Gazette* No. 43476 of 25 June 2020;
- (c) Government Notice No. 763, published in Government *Gazette* No. 43521 of 12 July 2020;

- (d) Government Notice No. 846, published in Government *Gazette* No. 43577 of 31 July 2020;
- (e) Government Notice No. 891, published in Government *Gazette* No. 43620 of 17 August 2020;
- (f) Government Notice No. 999, published in Government *Gazette* No. 43725 of 18 September 2020;
- (g) Government Notice No. 1053, published in Government *Gazette* No. 43763 of 1 October 2020;
- (h) Government Notice No. 1104, published in Government *Gazette* No. 43825 of 21 October 2020;
- (i) Government Notice No.1199, published in Government *Gazette* No. 43897 of 11 November 2020;
- (j) Government Notice No.1290, published in Government *Gazette* No. 43964 of 3 December 2020;
- (k) Government Notice No.1346, published in Government *Gazette* No. 43997 of 15 December 2020;
- (l) Government Notice No.1370, published in Government *Gazette* No. 44009 of 17 December 2020;
- (m) Government Notice No.1421, published in Government *Gazette* No. 44042 of 24 December 2020;
- (n) Government Notice No. R. 1423, published in Government *Gazette* No. 44044 of 29 December 2020;
- (o) Government Notice No. R. 1424, published in Government *Gazette* No. 44045 of 29 December 2020;
- (p) Government Notice No. R. 1435, published in Government *Gazette* No. 44051 of 29 December 2020;
- (q) Government Notice No. R. 11, published in Government *Gazette* No. 44066 of 11 January 2021; and
- (r) Government Notice No. R. 69, published in Government *Gazette* No. 44130 of 1 February 2021;

- (s) Government Notice No. R. 93, published in Government *Gazette* No. 44159 of 13 February 2021;
- (t) Government Notice No. R. 117, published in Government *Gazette* No. 44184 of 24 February 2021;
- (u) Government Notice No. R. 151, published in Government *Gazette* No. 44201 of 28 February 2021;
- (v) Government Notice No. R. 152, published in Government *Gazette* No. 44201 of 28 February 2021;
- (w) Government Notice No. R. 284, published in Government *Gazette* No. 44367 of 30 March 2021;
- (x) Government Notice No. R. 378, published in Government *Gazette* No. 44485 of 22 April 2021;
- (y) Government Notice No. R. 424, published in Government *Gazette* No. 44574 of 14 May 2021;
- (z) Government Notice No. R. 477, published in Government *Gazette* No. 44642 of 30 May 2021;
- (Aa) Government Notice No. R. 530, published in Government *Gazette* No. 44715 of 15 June 2021;
- (Ab) Government Notice No. R. 532, published in Government *Gazette* No. 44721 of 17 June 2021;
- (Ac) Government Notice No. R. 564, published in Government *Gazette* No. 44772 of 27 June 2021;
- (Ad) Government Notice No. R. 565, published in Government *Gazette* No. 44772 of 27 June 2021;
- (Ae) Government Notice No. R. 567, published in Government *Gazette* No. 44778 of 29 June 2021;
- (Af) Government Notice No. R. 610 published in Government *Gazette* No. 44838 of 11 July 2021;
- (Ag) Government Notice No. R. 612, published in Government *Gazette* No. 44850 of 14 July 2021;

- (Ah) Government Notice No. R. 614, published in *Government Gazette* No. 44850 of 14 July 2021;
- (Ai) Government Notice No. R. 651, published in *Government Gazette* No. 44895 of 25 July 2021;
- (Aj) Government Notice No. R. 669, published in *Government Gazette* No. 44911 of 30 July 2021;
- (Ak) Government Notice No. R. 869, published in *Government Gazette* No. 45156 of 12 September 2021;
- (Al) Government Notice No. R. 953, published in *Government Gazette* No. 45222 of 26 September 2021;
- (Am) Government Notice No. R. 960, published in *Government Gazette* No. 45253 of 30 September 2021; and
- (An) Government Notice No. R. 1024, published in *Government Gazette* No. 45297 of 11 October 2021.”.

Amendment of direction 4 of Directions

3. Direction 4 of the Directions is hereby amended by the addition of the following sub-direction:

“(3) Despite sub-direction (1), the principal of a school who convenes or hosts an event or activity, as contemplated in direction 11, may allow entry of permitted persons for that event or activity at the school: Provided that compliance with social distancing, hygiene and safety measures on COVID-19, as contemplated in directions 11, 14 and 15, are complied with.”.

Amendment of direction 11 of Directions

4. Direction 11 of the Directions is hereby substituted for the following direction:

- “(1) Subject to sub-directions (2), (4) and (5), and in compliance with social distancing, hygiene and safety measures on COVID-19, as contemplated in these directions, the DBE Standard Operating Procedures and the Regulations, the following activities may resume with spectators:
- (a) Contact sport, non-contact sport, including training, intra-school and inter-school matches, and all arts and culture intra-school and inter-school activities;
 - (b) co-curricular and enrichment programmes, such as oral history, spelling bee, moot court, speech contests, debates and school clubs, may resume activities including competitive inter-school events and engagements; and
 - (c) choir practice or rehearsals and choir competitions.
- (2) The following health and safety measures must be adhered to when resuming events or activities contemplated in this direction:
- (a) Face masks must be worn by all persons entering the venues where the activities take place, change rooms or training areas, except when participating in training or matches accompanied by vigorous exercise;
 - (b) 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;
 - (c) there must be facilities for washing of hands with soap and water;
 - (d) all windows and doors must remain open to ensure adequate ventilation;
 - (e) subject to the requirements of any contact activity, social distancing must be maintained at all times;
 - (f) the sharing of drinks and drink containers is not allowed;
 - (g) a COVID-19 compliance officer must be appointed for each venue;
 - (h) each of the entry points at the venue must be controlled to ensure that the stipulations with regards to gatherings, as contemplated in sub-direction (2)(i) to (n) and (q), are complied with;

- (i) all participants must undergo health and temperature screening before warm-up or an event;
- (j) any person who enters the venue must undergo health and temperature screening;
- (k) hand sanitisers must be available at the entrance gate and every person who enters the venue must sanitise their hands;
- (l) participants and officials must sanitise their hands before and after a match or event;
- (m) a person who leaves the venue temporarily and returns, must undergo the process of health and temperature screening, and hand sanitising;
- (n) for contact tracing purposes only, a register of all officials, learners and spectators from visiting and hosting schools who are attending a school match or event must be kept by the hosting school for at least 21 days and must contain the following information of officials, learners and spectators:
 - (i) Full name and surname;
 - (ii) residential address;
 - (iii) cell phone number, telephone number or email address; and
 - (iv) contact details of the person or persons living in the same residence as the person attending training or a school match or event;
- (o) a digital registration and health screening platform, such as the *Teacher Connect Application*, may also be used to assist with the administration of the registration process contemplated in paragraph (n);
- (p) if a person has COVID-19 symptoms or presents with a temperature above 38 degrees Celsius, that person must be refused access into the venue;
- (q) spectators at the venue of a sports event, are permitted under Adjusted Alert Level 1 and the number of persons, including participants, referees, adjudicators, technical officials, volunteers,

medical team, sponsors, media or broadcasting team, stadium workers, and spectators permitted at a venue at any one time is limited to—

- (i) 750 persons or less for indoor venues; and
- (ii) 2000 persons or less for outdoor venues,

and, if the venue is too small to hold the prescribed number of persons observing a distance of at least one and a half meters from each other, then not more than 50 percent of the capacity of the venue may be used, subject to strict adherence to all health protocols and social distancing measures;

- (r) teams, technical officials, volunteers, relevant stadium staff, medical staff and registered members of the media or broadcaster team must leave the venue as soon as their responsibilities are completed;
 - (s) social distancing and the wearing of face masks must always be maintained by persons who are not participating in matches or events;
 - (t) participants must always wear face masks, except when participating in an event that involves vigorous exercise;
 - (u) technical officials must report before the start of any event or competition for a COVID-19 regulations and protocol briefing session and screening;
 - (v) all ablution facilities must be sanitised regularly and kept clean as per COVID-19 protocols; and
 - (w) all sport equipment must be sanitised before and after use.
- (3) The principal of a school, or an organiser of a venue, hosting an event or activity contemplated in this direction, who fails to comply with sub-direction (2)(q) and the Regulations, commits an offence and is, on conviction, liable to a fine or imprisonment as contemplated in regulation 69(12) of the Regulations.
- (4) 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, any travelling required for

participation in any of the events or activities contemplated in this direction may resume and must comply with prescribed transport regulations and directions.

- (5) The school or venue hosting the events or activities contemplated in this direction must ensure that venues, tools and equipment are cleaned and sanitized before and after any activities.
- (6) In order to ensure compliance with sub-direction (2)(q), schools may prioritise parents, caregivers or designated family members of participating learners to attend an event.”.

Commencement

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

