



## **basic education**

Department:  
Basic Education  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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**TO: HEADS OF PROVINCIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENTS  
DEPUTY DIRECTORS-GENERAL  
CHIEF DIRECTORS  
DIRECTORS OF EDUCATION MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS  
DIRECTORS OF GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT  
DIRECTORS OF INCLUSIVE EDUCATION  
DISTRICT DIRECTORS AND OFFICIALS  
CIRCUIT MANAGERS  
SCHOOL PRINCIPALS  
TEACHER ORGANISATIONS  
SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES (SGB) ASSOCIATIONS**

### **CIRCULAR S5 OF 2025**

#### **THE REGISTRATION OF THE SCHOOL FACILITIES IN THE CHILD AND YOUTH CARE CENTRES WHICH ACCOMMODATE CHILDREN IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW AND ACCUSED OF COMMITTING OFFENCES.**

1. The Child Justice Act (Act 75 of 2008) promotes a collaborative and coordinated approach to the establishment and management of a child justice system in South Africa.
2. The National Policy Framework on Child Justice (2018), states that the Department of Basic Education should provide, support and monitor educational programmes for children sentenced to compulsory residence in Child and Youth Care Centres as regulated by the National Education Policy Act (Act 27 of 1996), which highlights that one of the Department of Basic Education's statutory role is to lead the provision of the rights to basic education.
3. During the oversight visits conducted by the Department of Basic Education to monitor the implementation of inclusive education. It has been noted that there are school facilities in the Child and Youth Care Centres which accommodate children in conflict with the law and accused of committing offences, which are not registered with the Department of Education. That potentially compromises the quality of education for the children in those Child and Youth Care Centres.
4. In this regard, the Department of Basic Education is requesting a collaborative and coordinated approach between the Department of Social Development and Provincial Education Department officials to facilitate the registration of the school facilities in Child and Youth Care Centres with the relevant Provincial Education Departments, to ensure that the education of the children in conflict with the law is not compromised.
5. The school facilities of all the Child and Youth Care Centres which accommodate children in conflict with the law not registered with Provincial Education Departments should be registered by the end of Term 3 of the 2025 academic year (30 September 2025).

6. The ultimate goal is to create the education system that provides equal and quality education for all school-going age children as regulated by the Constitution of South Africa (Act No. 108 of 1996).
7. The Department of Basic Education appreciates your dedication and support in ensuring compliance with the content of this circular.

I thank you in advance for your cooperation regarding this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'HM Mweli', written in a cursive style.

**MR HM MWELI**  
**DIRECTOR-GENERAL**  
**DATE:** 29/03/2025