

KZN HUMAN PAPILOMAVIRUS VACCINATION (HPV) CAMPAIGN, 2026



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

EDUCATION
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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: CHIEF DIRECTORS
: DISTRICT & HEAD OFFICE DIRECTORS
: CHIEF EDUCATION SPECIALISTS: SNES & CIRCUIT MANAGEMENT
: PRINCIPALS OF INDEPENDENT AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS
: PRINCIPALS OF PUBLIC ORDINARY AND PUBLIC SPECIAL SCHOOLS
: SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES & PARENTS

KZN CIRCULAR NO 13 OF 2026

SUBJECT: KZN HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS VACCINATION(HPV) CAMPAIGN ROUND 1 OF 2026 AND SCHOOL HEALTH WEEK FOR 2026

1. The HPV Vaccination is implemented as a component of the 2012 Integrated School Health Policy. Previously, the HPV Vaccination was implemented in all public schools targeting Grade 5 girls. In January 2024, the Department of Health approved the National Advisory Group on Immunisation (NAGI)'s recommendation to switch from a two-dose HPV Vaccination schedule to a single-dose schedule and to expand vaccination to all eligible girls under 15 years. This decision was made in order to align with the World Health Organization's Strategy on the Elimination of Cervical Cancer which recommends that countries vaccinate 90% of girls aged 9-15 years against HPV and states that a single-dose schedule of the HPV vaccine is sufficient for this purpose.
2. The upcoming HPV vaccination campaign is scheduled to commence from the **2nd of February 2026- 27th March 2026**. This campaign will target Grade 5 learners and catch-up for Grade 6 and 7 learners in Public Schools. Furthermore, the second round of the HPV Campaign will be conducted from 03rd August to 25 September 2026.
3. The school Health week, which is an annual activity will remain from **12th -16th October 2026**.

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4. The National Department of Health will run the HPV vaccination campaign in the province as follows:

DATE	DESCRIPTION
02 February -27 March 2026	Administration of a single dose HPV vaccine to eligible Grade 5 ,6, and 7 girls in Public Schools and Special Schools.
03 August to 25 September 2026	Administration of a single dose HPV vaccine to eligible Grade 5,6 and 7 girls in Private and Independent schools.
	Catch up Campaign of all eligible girls who were missed during the Feb/March 2026 Campaign.
	Administration of Tetanus,diphtheria and acellular pertussis(Tdap) vaccination to Grade 5 boys and girls in Public,Private and Independent Schools.
	Administration of Measles and Rubella to Grade 5 boys and girls in Public,Special ,Private and Independent Schools.
12 Oct to 16 Oct 2026	School Health Week to offer a comprehensive package of services

5. For the above-mentioned ISHP school-based interventions to be implemented successfully, the districts, schools and parents are required to do the following:
- Districts should conduct advocacy with the schools, school governing bodies and parents regarding the provision of these health services for learners to address any concerns that parents may have. They must also ensure that informed consent forms for learners to receive health services are distributed to all schools timeously.
 - School principals should ensure that the informed parental consent forms are distributed to all parents and that parents are encouraged to sign and return them to school giving permission for their children to receive health services. The consent forms are valid for ONE year and ideally parents/legal guardians/caregivers should sign them at the beginning of each academic year.
6. School principals should further ensure that signed consent forms are safely kept at the school and readily available for the School Health Teams visiting the schools. Learners without the signed consent forms will not receive these essential health services.
7. Logistical arrangements, consent forms for vaccination, proper planning and scheduling at the school level should be prioritized to ensure that teaching and learning are not disrupted.
8. The contents of this circular should be brought to the attention of all parties concerned.


MR. G.N. NGCOBO
HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: EDUCATION

10/12/26
DATE