



basic education

Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X895, Pretoria, 0001, Sol Plaatje House, 222 Struben Street, Pretoria, 0002, South Africa
Tel.: (012) 357 3000, Fax: (012) 323 0601, www.education.gov.za

Ref no: 02786/2026/1
To: Tel: 012 357 4196
Enquiries: Mr M Tshitema

**TO: HEADS OF PROVINCIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENTS
HEADS OF PROVINCIAL CURRICULUM SECTIONS
DISTRICT DIRECTORS
CIRCUIT MANAGERS
LTSM MANAGERS
LTSM COMMITTEES
PRINCIPALS OF ALL SOUTH AFRICAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

CIRCULAR S9 of 2026

DELIVERY OF 2027 GRADES R TO 9 VOLUMES 1 AND 2 WORKBOOKS

The Department of Basic Education (DBE) is continuing to print and distribute workbooks to all public (ordinary and special) schools that placed workbooks order.

For 2027 academic year, the following workbooks will be sent directly to schools:

- Grades R (11 Languages);
- Grades 1 to 3 Life Skills (11 Languages);
- Grades 1 to 6 Home Languages (11 Languages);
- Grades 1 to 6 English First Additional Language;
- Grades 1 to 9 Mathematics, and
- Grades 4 and 5 Mathematics in mother tongues for schools that placed order as per the data received from their respective provinces

The delivery of Grades R as well Grades 1 to 9 volumes 1 and 2 Workbooks for 2027 academic year is planned to be executed as follows:

- Volume 1 and Grade R workbooks as from 03 August to 30 October 2026;
- Volume 2 as from 1 November to 12 February 2027; and
- Remedial deliveries as from 15 to 26 February 2027, depending on availability of surplus stock.

As in previous years, the 2027 workbooks will be delivered according to the signed off learner statistics received from provinces including the Grades 4 and 5 MTbBE workbooks.

Due to financial limitations, the DBE will not be able to provide Grades 4 and 5 Mathematics workbook for English in a school that is implementing MTbBE project. Furthermore, the DBE will not be in position to move unused workbooks from schools, therefore schools are urged to accept workbooks that will be used to support teaching and learning.

The School Principal or delegated school official is expected to:

- open and check the workbook consignment immediately on delivery;
- indicate the need for additional workbooks required due to a projected increase in learner enrolment on the proof of delivery note;
- sign and put the school stamp on the proof of delivery note and give a copy to the driver;
- provide reasons in writing on the proof of delivery note, if the school stamp is not available; and

- All wrong language deliveries must be stated on the proof of delivery note and the stock must be returned with the delivery vehicle on the same day.

In the case that there is a need for additional workbooks or an issue around the delivery stock, the Principal or delegated school official should report by using one of the following details:

- Call Centre Number: **011 499 6000**;
- Email: dbesedi@golesedi.com; or
- Tshitema.M@dbe.gov.za

Reporting of any matter relating to contents of Grades 4 and 5 MTbBE workbooks should be directed to: Ms Cebisa Mtumtum: Mtumtum.c@dbe.gov.za

The information collected for additional workbooks will be shared with Learning and Teaching Support Material (LTSM) officials of Provincial Education Departments (PEDs) for remediation.

All requests for additional workbooks as a result of increased learner numbers must be reported on or before **31 January 2027** for execution by each province before 26 February 2027. Reports for additional workbooks submitted after the deadline will **not be accepted**.

Schools are advised to quote their Education Management Information Systems number in all communications that are made with the DBE officials.

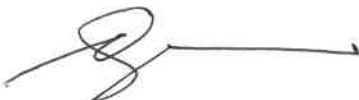
Kindly note that while it is the DBE's commitment to ensure that the distribution of the 2026 workbooks is executed according to the signed off learner statistics received from provinces, it is also the responsibility of Provincial and District offices to ensure that correct statistics on learner numbers, for all schools, is submitted to the DBE to avoid a situation where learners are found to be without learning materials at the start of 2027 academic year.

The detailed delivery schedule will be forwarded to all provincial LTSM officials as soon as it is available, for them to share with district offices and schools. Curriculum advisors together with LTSM officials at the Provincial and District offices are requested to assist with the monitoring of delivery and check whether schools are reporting shortages. Proof of delivery (PoDs) notes will be shared with provinces as soon as are available. The DBE will continue to provide provincial LTSM officials with weekly statistical reports on the delivery progress as received from the service provider contracted to do delivery of workbooks.

District Directors, Subject Advisors, Principals and Teachers are hereby informed that the utilisation of workbooks in everyday lessons is mandatory. District officials, Subject advisors and school principals are requested to regularly monitor the utilisation of workbooks. Any school found not utilising workbooks will be required to provide a written report and will be held accountable for the fruitless expenditure.

It would be further appreciated if the contents of Circular **S9 of 2026** are brought to the attention of the relevant Curriculum Branch Heads, Provincial and District LTSM Managers, District Directors and School Principals.

Yours sincerely



MR HM MWELI
DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE:

14/07/26.