



basic education

Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Ref: 03626/2025/1

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

CIRCULAR S16 OF 2025

THE PROVINCIAL HEADS OF EDUCATION DEPARTMENTS (HODS) ARE REQUESTED TO SUBMIT TO DBE PROJECTED WORKBOOK DATA SET FOR 2027

The Department of Basic Education (DBE) will continue to print and deliver workbooks to all public schools, including special schools for the 2027 academic year.

The following workbooks will be delivered to schools for the 2027 academic year:

- Grade R workbooks in 11 languages;
- Grades 1-6 Home Languages in 11 languages;
- Grades 1-3 Life Skills in 11 languages;
- Grades 1-3 Mathematics in 11 Language of Learning and Teaching languages;
- Grades 4-9 Mathematics in English and Afrikaans languages ; and
- Grades 1-6 First Additional Languages in English languages).

As in previous years, the 2027 workbooks will be delivered according to the signed off learner statistics received from provinces. For the workbooks to be at schools as from the first day of school reopening in the 2027 academic year, printing and delivery has to be executed in 2026.

All Schools not using workbooks are advised to communicate in writing to their respective provinces indicating that there should be no workbooks delivered to their schools as this will amount to wasteful expenditure.

The 2027 Workbook Printing and Delivery Plan for 2027 school academic year is tabled below:

Number	Item	Date
1	Submission of the Signed off data by Provinces	31 March 2026
2	Analysis and correction of data received from provinces	30 April 2026
3	Printing of Volume 1 for Workbooks	31 July 2026
4	Delivery of Volume 1 to Schools	30 September 2026
5	Printing of Volume 2 workbooks	30 September 2026
6	Delivery of Volume 2 to Schools	30 November 2026
7	Remedial delivery	26 February 2027

During the delivery of workbooks for the 2026 school year, provision was made for schools to indicate shortages and language changes on the proof of delivery (PoDs) notes and to report these through the Call Centre number: 011 499 6000.

Based on the information captured on the PoDs and from the Call Centre records, learner statistics and languages in some schools have been revised to provide a base data set for 2027 deliveries. The data on excel worksheet reflecting workbook title, quantities as well as 11 languages are shared with provinces for corrections.

Provinces are requested to ensure that accurate data is provided for all Grades R-9 public schools, including Special Schools, to avoid wrong language deliveries and shortages. Closed and merged schools must be indicated on the data. The DBE urges provinces to consider data for newly established schools and to avoid ad hoc requests when learning and teaching has started.

You are kindly requested to bring Circular **S16 of 2025** to the attention of the Curriculum Branch Heads, Provincial and District LTSM Managers, District Directors and School Principals.

Yours sincerely



MR. H. M. MWELI
DIRECTOR-GENERAL
DATE: 31/10/2025