KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE
EDUCATION
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

OFFICE OF THE HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

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To All: Deputy Directors-General
Chief Directors
Directors
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Deputy Directors: Auxiliary Services
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Circuit Managers
Principals of ALL Public Ordinary Schools
Principals of ALL Public Special Schools
Chairpersons of School Governing Bodies

KZN CIRCULAR NO 109 OF 2026

URGENT CANCELLATION OF FOUNDATION PHASE TEXTBOOK ORDERS BY SCHOOLS

1. KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) Circulars No. 57 and No. 58 of 2026 explicitly mentioned the release of the new Department of Basic Education (DBE) Foundation Phase catalogue. Schools were advised that requisitions should focus on grade 4-7 in the primary school.

2. During LTSM procurement virtual training workshops, schools were explicitly informed and instructed not to place any orders for the Foundation Phase using the old catalogue. Ordering from this old catalogue would lead to fruitless and wasteful expenditure, as these materials will soon be obsolete.

3. Despite the clear instructions, it has transpired that several schools have submitted requisitions for Foundation Phase textbooks using the old catalogue. For schools using central procurement, all grade 1-3 requisitions will be cancelled. For schools doing school-based procurement, **you are strongly advised to cancel quotations and/or orders for textbooks for grade 1-3 as per the old catalogue, to avoid fruitless and wasteful expenditure.**

4. Only state-owned textbooks can be provided as classroom supplementary material.

Your cooperation is appreciated

Mr G N Ngcobo
Head of Department: Education
Date: 16/01/26