

TO NEWS EDITORS AND JOURNALIST

FROM THE MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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18 240 GRADE 12 LEARNERS JOIN SPRING CLASSES

The Mpumalanga Department of Education has intensified its preparations for the 2026 National Senior Certificate (NSC) examinations, with 18 240 Grade 12 learners from 147 Quintile 1 to 3 schools that recorded below 80% pass rate in the 2025 National Senior Certificate Examination expected to participate in the Department's Spring Classes.

The Spring Classes will take place from 28 September to 2 October 2026 in 102 centres established across the province to provide targeted academic support to identified learners.

This is part of the Department's Learner Performance Improvement Plan and "Last Push" strategy aimed at strengthening learner preparedness, addressing identified learning gaps and ensuring that learners enter the final examinations with greater confidence and competence.

To maximise the impact of the programme, the Department has selected high-performing teachers to facilitate the classes.

The teachers will focus on challenging curriculum topics, address identified areas of weakness and provide learners with practical guidance on how to approach and answer examination questions effectively.

Where required, scholar transport and learner nutrition will be provided to ensure that no learner may be left behind.

The Department will closely monitor the implementation of the Spring Classes and Learners will also undertake pre- and post-assessments to measure their progress, identify remaining gaps and inform further academic interventions.

The intervention is part of the Department's commitment to ensuring that every learner is given the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Mpumalanga recorded an 86.55% pass rate in the 2025 NSC examinations, and the Department has set a target of 91% for 2026.

The Department is therefore calling on parents, School Governing Bodies, communities and all education stakeholders to support learners and create an environment conducive to learning during this critical period.

"Every day counts as we approach the final examinations. We urge our learners to use every opportunity available to strengthen their knowledge, seek assistance where they encounter challenges and remain focused on their goal.

The Department, working together with teachers, parents and communities, is committed to ensuring that no learner is left behind." MEC Masina

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