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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA \* Website: [www.ecdoe.gov.za](http://www.ecdoe.gov.za)

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**TO:** DDG-CM & D  
ADDG-DC & IOM  
ACFO  
ALL CHIEF DIRECTORS AND DIRECTORS  
ALL PRINCIPALS  
ALL SGB'S  
ALL SCHOOLS  
ALL OFFICIALS OF THE ECDOE

**FROM:** SUPERINTENDENT-GENERAL

**SUBJECT:** INSTRUCTION NOTE 17- PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT  
OF CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) – OPENING OF SCHOOLS

**DATE:** 22 MAY 2020

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1. This Instruction must be read in conjunction with all instructions previously issued in this regard, Regulations in terms of the Disaster Management Act published on 29 April 2020, and the Health and Safety Measures in Workplaces published on 29 April 2020.
2. It must also once again be appreciated that we are dealing with a very fluid situation, which can change at any minute.
3. It is also further confirmed that the safety of all employees and learners are of paramount importance, and that the spread of the COVID-19 virus may lead to the amendment of all plans.

### **OPENING OF THE SCHOOLS**

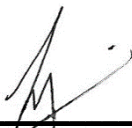
4. As per the briefing of the Honourable Minister of Education on 19 May 2020, the following dates were announced for the opening of schools:
5. On 25 May 2020 principals, SMT's, teaching staff and non-teaching officials must report to all public schools to:
  - 5.1. Continue preparations of the schools to ensure 100% readiness for the return of learners.
  - 5.2. Continue supporting learners and parents on curriculum coverage.

6. Further guidelines for the return of certain officials specifically referred to in the regulations will follow:
  - 6.1. Regulation 5(5)(d) Employees with known or disclosed health issues; and
  - 6.2. Regulation 5(5)(e) Employees above the age of 60 years.
7. On 1 June 2020 the grade 7 and grade 12 learners will return to school.
8. Guidelines will be provided for the phasing in of the other grades.
9. Further guidelines and instructions may follow.

## **ISSUING OF PERMITS**

10. Districts Directors are hereby delegated and instructed to issue in terms of the Regulations issued in terms of the Disaster Management Act work permits to all principals immediately to allow them to report for work and/or to delegate to Circuit Managers to issue the permits to the principals in their circuits.
11. Principals are hereby delegated to issue all educators, and non-educator permits.
12. Permits must comply or substantially comply with the form and contents of Annexure to the Regulations.
13. **District Directors are hereby instructed to ensure that this communication reaches all officials and public schools immediately.**

Yours faithfully

  
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**T. KOJANA**  
**SUPERINTENDENT-GENERAL**

22/05/20  
**DATE**