



Province of the  
**EASTERN CAPE**  
EDUCATION

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**OFFICE OF THE HEAD OF DEPARTMENT**

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**TO: SCHOOL PRINCIPALS**  
**CC DISTRICT DIRECTORS**  
**CMC HEADS**  
**CIRCUIT MANAGERS**

**FROM: HEAD OF DEPARTMENT**

**SUBJECT: THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEACHER PRACTICE FOR STUDENT**  
**TEACHERS AT PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HIGHER EDUCATION**  
**INSTITUTIONS**

**DATE: 12 AUGUST 2021**

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Dear School Principal,

1. Teaching Practice is a fundamental component of initial Teacher Education. The partnership between the Basic Education Sector and the Higher Education Institutions remains crucial to ensuring a steady supply of capable and competent new teachers in the teaching profession. However, this component has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic.
2. The students will not obtain their teaching qualifications, unless they complete the teaching practice component, as stipulated in the Minimum Requirements for Teacher Education Qualifications (MRTEQ).
3. Based on the above, schools are strongly advised to accept student teachers for teaching practice, as soon as possible, after the reopening of schools on 26 July 2021. Teaching Practice should be prioritized for the final year (4<sup>th</sup> year) and Post Graduate Certificate in Education students before other study years are given opportunities.
4. All the student teachers and supervising lecturers must be orientated on the COVID-19 health and safety requirements at the school and will be expected to strictly adhere to the prescribed conditions.
5. Your continued co-operation and support in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Yours in Education

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**DR. N. MBUDE**  
**HEAD OF DEPARTMENT**  
**DATE:**



## basic education

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Basic Education  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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By e-mail: [naledi.mbude@ecdoe.gov.za](mailto:naledi.mbude@ecdoe.gov.za)

Dear Dr Mbude

### **THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEACHING PRACTICE FOR STUDENT TEACHERS AT PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS**

Teaching Practice or Work Integrated Learning (WIL) is a fundamental component of initial teacher education programmes offered by public and private higher education institutions. The Department has been receiving correspondence from various higher education institutions enquiring if schools will be able to accommodate student teachers for Teaching Practice. Failure to complete the minimum requirements for Teaching Practice as stipulated in the Policy on Minimum Requirements for Teacher Education Qualifications (PMRTEQ, DHET, 2015) may lead to students not able to graduate. This may impact on the teacher demand needs of the Basic Education Sector.

It is therefore recommended that schools accept student teachers for teaching practice as soon as possible after reopening on 26 July 2021. Public and private higher education institutions must liaise with your office to identify schools where students can do Teaching Practice. Teaching Practice should be prioritised for final year (4th year) and Post Graduate Certificate in Education students first before other study years are given opportunities for Teaching Practice. All students and supervising lecturers must be orientated on the COVID-19 health and safety requirements and will be expected to strictly adhere to the prescribed conditions.

You are welcome to contact Mr Gerrit Coetzee at the above mentioned contact details should you require further information.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'HM Mweli', written in a cursive style.

**MR HM MWELI**  
**DIRECTOR-GENERAL**  
**DATE: 24 JULY 2021**