



# TAKE A STAND AGAINST GENDER BASED VIOLENCE



MEC Polly Boshielo joined by Acting Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune District Municipality, Cllr Orginia Mafefe during a visit to Thotaneng Primary School, Sekhukhune South District, Phokwane Circuit on 2 September 2021. The MEC and the Acting Executive Mayor also visited the family to relay condolences following the tragic death of a Grade R learner who was found wrapped in a sack, allegedly raped and killed by a neighbour. The suspect has since been arrested.

## Government strongly condemns any form of violence against women and children.

- Government calls on all South Africans to work together with police, prosecutors and courts to ensure that perpetrators of gender-based violence are brought to book.
- Gender-based violence does not discriminate. Any person of any race, age, sexual orientation, religion or gender can be a victim or perpetrator of GBV.
- It is the responsibility of all South Africans to end the culture of silence on gender-based violence and create safer communities.
- To obtain assistance and counselling on GBV matters, **call the GBV Command Centre on 0800 428 428** (0800 GBV GBV)
- Callers can also request a social worker from the **Command Centre** to contact them by dialing **\*120\*7867#** FREE from any cell phone.

## As society we must stand up and say no more!

- Gender-based violence is not a women's issue but a societal issue that requires action from all sectors.
- We call on all sectors of society to partner with government to create safer communities and protect victims of abuse.
- We call on the all institutions to take allegations of gender-based violence and sexual harassment seriously and investigate them.
- We appeal to victims who feel that their complaints have not been investigated properly to approach Chapter 9 institutions, including law enforcement agencies.
- Law enforcement agencies, especially police officers have the responsibility to deal decisively with reported incidents of gender-based violence.



## No one is above the law.

- New specialised sexual offences courts are being opened throughout the country to bring justice services closer to the people and strengthen the fight against sexual violence.
- These courts create a supportive and enabling environment for survivors of gender-based violence and ensure that they are treated with respect and dignity.
- We are encouraged by the quick arrests that are being regularly made and the tough stance our courts have taken against perpetrators of GBVF.
- This year alone, the courts have handed down a number of life sentences for crimes committed against women and children.

**STOP** **GENDER BASED VIOLENCE**  
**ON LEARNERS**  
Let's work together to fight against the abuse of children



## What is COVID-19?

COVID-19 is a disease caused by a new strain of coronavirus. 'CO' stands for corona, 'VI' for a virus and 'D' for the disease. Formerly, this disease was referred to as '2019 novel coronavirus' or '2019-nCoV.' The '2019-nCoV virus is a new virus linked to the same family of viruses as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and some types of a common cold.

## How can the spread of COVID-19 be prevented?



The wearing of masks is compulsory for learners and staff (non-teaching and teaching).



Covering mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue when coughing or sneezing and dispose it immediately.



Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with your hands or gloves.



Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitiser with at least 70% alcohol content.



Keep a safe distance (+/- 1.5 metres). No hand-shaking and huggings. Direct contact must be avoided.



Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

## What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

Common symptoms of COVID-19 include common fever, dry cough, tiredness and shortness of breath. It could also include in some people aches, pains, nasal congestion, runny nose, sore throat and diarrhoea. It is reported that many people develop mild to moderate symptoms when infected with the 2019 Corona Virus. Such people need to self-isolate and seek medical attention if they develop fever, dry cough or experience difficulty in breathing.



**Breathing difficulties**



**Common fever**



**Dry cough**



**Sore throat**



**Tiredness**



**Nasal congestion**