



DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

CONFIDENTIAL

Ref: 13/5/5 Enq: Mathiba ME Tel: 064 880 1035 Email: MathibaME@edu.limpopo.gov.za

CIRCULAR 258 OF 2025

TO:

**DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL
CHIEF DIRECTOR
DIRECTORS/ DISTRICT DIRECTORS
CIRCUIT MANAGER
SCHOOL PRINCIPALS**

2026 OFFICIAL SCHOOL CALENDAR

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this memo is for the Head of Department to approve the school calendar for 2026 which will assist different directorates, districts, circuits and schools in their planning.

2. BACKGROUND

The Minister of Basic Education, acting in terms of section 3(4)(k) of the National Education Policy Act No. 27 of 1996, and after consultation with the Council of Education Ministers, will publish the 2026 Calendar for public schools in South Africa.

It is the responsibility of Limpopo Department of Education to cascade the approved school calendar to all the directorates, districts, circuits, schools and other stakeholders in education.

3. INSTRUCTIONS/NOTIFICATION

All managers must ensure that the circular is brought to the attention of all staff members under their supervision.

LIMPOPO PROVINCE SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR 2026

TERM	DURATION	NO. OF WEEKS	NO. OF DAYS	NO. OF PUBLIC HOLIDAYS	ACTUAL NO. OF SCHOOL DAYS
1	(12) 14 January – 27 March 2026	11	53(55)	0	53 (55)
2	08 April – 26 June 2026	12	58	3 + 1	54
3	21 July- 23 September 2026	10	47	1	46
4	06 October- (09) 11 December 2026	10	47(49)	0	47 (49)
TOTAL		43	205(209)	4 + 1	200 (204)

NOTE: DATES AND DAYS IN BRACKETS ARE FOR EDUCATORS

PUBLIC AND SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	
01 January	New Year's Day
21 March	Human Rights Day
03 April	Good Friday
06 April	Family Day
27 April	Freedom Day
01 May	Worker's Day
15 June	Special School Holiday
16 June	Youth Day
09 August	National Women's Day
10 August	Public Holiday
24 September	Heritage Day
16 December	Day of Reconciliation
25 December	Christmas Day
26 December	Day of Goodwill

NB:

1. Schools must not close earlier than 12H00 on the last day of every quarter.
2. All enquiries in connection with school calendar should be directed to the Limpopo Department of Education. (School Affairs Sub-Directorate)



MR SESHIBE MV

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

2026 OFFICIAL SCHOOL CALENDAR

19/09/2025

DATE



Government Gazette Staatskoerant

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA
REPUBLIEK VAN SUID AFRIKA

Vol. 716

25

February
Februarie

2025

No. 52177



N.B. The Government Printing Works will not be held responsible for the quality of "Hard Copies" or "Electronic Files" submitted for publication purposes

ISSN 1682-5845



9 771682 584003

AIDS HELPLINE: 0800-0123-22 Prevention is the cure

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING WORKS WILL NOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY ERRORS THAT MIGHT OCCUR DUE TO THE SUBMISSION OF INCOMPLETE / INCORRECT / ILLEGIBLE COPY.

No FUTURE QUERIES WILL BE HANDLED IN CONNECTION WITH THE ABOVE.

Contents

<i>No.</i>		<i>Gazette No.</i>	<i>Page No.</i>
GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS			
Basic Education, Department of / Basiese Onderwys, Departement van			
5901	National Education Policy Act (27/1996): 2026 Calendar for public schools	52177	3

GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS

DEPARTMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION

NO. 5901

25 February 2025

**NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY ACT, 1996 (ACT NO 27 OF 1996)
2026 CALENDAR FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

I, Siviwe Gwarube, Minister of Basic Education, acting in terms of section 3(4)(k) of the National Education Policy Act, 1996, (Act No. 27 of 1996), and after consultation with the Council of Education Ministers, hereby publish the 2026 Calendar for public schools in South Africa as detailed in the accompanying schedule.



**MS SIVIWE GWARUBE, MP
MINISTER OF BASIC EDUCATION
DATE: 12/02/2025**

**basic education**Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

2026 CALENDAR FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

January 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				01	02	03
04	05	06	07	08	09	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
01	02	03	04	05	06	07
08	09	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
01	02	03	04	05	06	07
08	09	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Public and School Holidays 2026	
01 January	New Year's Day
21 March	Human Rights Day
03 April	Good Friday
06 April	Family Day
27 April	Freedom Day
01 May	Workers' Day
15 June	Special School Holiday
16 June	Youth Day
09 August	National Women's Day
10 August	Public Holiday
24 September	Heritage Day
16 December	Day of Reconciliation
25 December	Christmas Day
26 December	Day of Goodwill

April 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			01	02	03	04
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				01	02	
03	04	05	06	07	08	09
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	01	02	03	04	05	06
07	08	09	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

July 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			01	02	03	04
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						01
02	03	04	05	06	07	08
09	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		01	02	03	04	05
06	07	08	09	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				01	02	03
04	05	06	07	08	09	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
01	02	03	04	05	06	07
08	09	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		01	02	03	04	05
06	07	08	09	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

	Weekends
	Days for administration

	School days
	Public holidays

	Special school holidays
	School holidays

SUMMARY OF 2026 CALENDAR FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Term	Duration	No. of weeks	No. of days	No. of public holidays	Actual no. of school days
1	(12) 14 January – 27 March	11	53 (55)	0	53 (55)
2	08 April – 26 June	12	58	3+1	54
3	21 July – 23 September	10	47	1	46
4	06 October – 09 (11) December	10	47 (49)	0	47(49)
Total		43	205 (209)	4+1	200 (204)

Printed by and obtainable from the Government Printer, Bosman Street, Private Bag X85, Pretoria, 0001
Contact Centre Tel: 012-748 6200. eMail: info.egazette@gpw.gov.za
Publications: Tel: (012) 748 6053, 748 6061, 748 6065

This gazette is also available free online at www.gpwonline.co.za