



LIMPOPO
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

Media Statement
All Media houses
19 January 2026

REOPENING OF SCHOOLS IN THE FLOOD STRICKEN DISTRICTS

Following ongoing assessments conducted across the affected districts, the Limpopo Department Of Education reports as follows:

Mopani East Education District

Out of a total of 305 schools, 91 schools did not open as they were not accessible due to flooding-related challenges.

Mopani West Education District

In this district, 18 schools did not open, as access roads remain damaged. Community members are assisting to restore access routes to ensure the safe reopening of schools.

Vhembe East Education District

Of the 550 schools in the district, 378 schools were accessible and opened, while 172 schools could not be accessed due to severely damaged and impassable roads.

In Vhembe West Education District, 164 out of 413 schools were not accessible, resulting in delayed opening at those schools.

Sekhukhune East District has reported 7 schools that were also not accessible after the floods.

In Some affected areas, School Nutrition Service providers have not yet been able to deliver meals, as roads leading to schools remain inaccessible. In addition, Learner Transport services may not be able to reach certain schools due to damaged roads and washed-away bridges, posing further challenges to the resumption of normal schooling.

The Department is working closely with relevant stakeholders, including local municipalities, disaster management teams, traditional leadership, community structures and service providers, to address these challenges and fast-track interventions aimed at restoring access to affected schools.

Safety of learners, educators and support staff remains the Department's highest priority. Schools that have not opened will resume operations as soon as conditions are better and access routes are declared safe.

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