

Media Statement

For All Media Houses

02 June 2026

Ditlalemeso learners hospitalised following suspected food contamination incident out of danger

The Limpopo Department of Education has noted reports regarding learners from Ditlalemeso High School in the Capricorn South Education District who experienced stomach-related symptoms on Monday, 1 June 2026.

Three learners were transported to Mankweng Hospital by ambulance after lunch as a precautionary measure, while one learner was later taken to hospital by a parent after complaining of a stomach ache at home. A total of four learners were assessed and treated by medical personnel.

We are pleased to confirm that all four learners have since been discharged from hospital after receiving the necessary medical attention and are reported to be in a stable condition.

The Department of Education takes the wellbeing and safety of learners seriously. As part of the immediate response, National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP) officials were dispatched to the school to investigate the circumstances surrounding the incident and to assess all relevant food safety and handling procedures.

"At this stage, the cause of the learners' symptoms has not yet been confirmed and the Department urges members of the public to refrain from speculation whilst investigations are underway. The Department will continue to monitor the situation closely and work with the relevant health authorities to establish the facts. Appropriate action will be taken should any irregularities be identified," said MEC Mavhungu Lerule-Ramakhanya.

We wish the affected learners a speedy recovery and thank the school management, parents, healthcare workers and officials who responded swiftly to the matter.

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Issued by the Limpopo Department of Education