



LIMPOPO
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

Media Statement

To: All Media Houses

For Immediate Release

25 October 2024

**THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN LIMPOPO HALT FOOD SALES IN AND AROUND SCHOOLS
DUE TO ALLEGED FOOD POISONING INCIDENTS**

The Limpopo Department of Education has temporarily suspended food sales in and around schools due to a surge in alleged food poisoning incidents across the province.

This precautionary measure aims to safeguard learners' health and well-being, especially during the examination period.

The department has unanimously placed with immediate effect the following measures to curb the alleged incidents.

All food sales within school premises and surrounding areas are halted until further notice. Meals provided through the National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP) will continue as usual, adhering to strict hygiene and safety standards.

The decision follows recent incidents where learners fell ill and in some cases, lost their lives due to suspected food poisoning.

The department will investigate these incidents in conjunction with relevant authorities.

The Limpopo Department of Education urges school principals, district directors, and circuit managers to communicate this directive clearly to learners, parents, and food vendors. The department acknowledges potential challenges but trusts that everyone will cooperate to ensure learners' safety.

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