

INFORMUS



FOR PSA MEMBERS: NORTHERN CAPE

23-10-2020

Update: COVID-19 Northern Cape Van Rensburg Primary School: Britstown

The PSA is concerned regarding the number of COVID-19 positive cases at the Van Rensburg Primary School in Britstown. On 12 October 2020, there were 12 Educators and several learners who were suspected to have contracted COVID-19. The whole school was tested, and the results came out confirming that 5 Educators and 38 learners were positive.

The department developed a Standard Operating Procedure when a positive case is reported at a school. This means that the Principal must inform the Circuit Manager who must inform the District Director. The District Director must then inform the Head of Department. This process is cumbersome as the school is still functioning after positive cases were reported. The number of people who tested positive is so excessive that closing a portion of the school to decontaminate, will not suffice, the entire school needs to be attended to.

The PSA appreciates that learners will be facing their end-of-year examinations soon and that learning time is vital, but it seems that lives are not considered to be a priority. The PSA does not think that the reduction on Alert Levels to level 1, means that the virus is controlled and no longer a threat. The lack of decontamination of institutions like schools is a very worrying factor. The PSA calls on the HOD of Department of Education in the Northern Cape to give attention to this School urgently. Decontamination of the school should be done as speedily as possible to ensure a safe working environment of our members. Learners also deserve a healthy place to learn at.

Members are always reminded to keep applying precautionary measures and contact the PSA's office at 053 839 1000 for assistance.

GENERAL MANAGER