



**INFORMUS**

SINCE 1920  
driven by  
SERVICE EXCELLENCE

FOR PSA MEMBERS: **EDUCATION LABOUR RELATIONS COUNCIL**

29-10-2024

## Important reminder for Educators

As Educators continue to deliver quality education, compliance with the newly enacted *Basic Education Laws Amendment Act 32 of 2024* is essential. This legislation addresses crucial aspects of corporal punishment and religious sensitivity in the educational environment.

### Corporal punishment

Under *Act 32 of 2024*, corporal punishment is strictly prohibited in all educational settings. Corporal punishment includes any physical force or action intended to cause pain or discomfort as a form of discipline. Examples include:

- Hitting, slapping, or spanking
- Forcing learners to kneel or hold uncomfortable positions
- Using physical restraint as punishment
- Verbally rebuking, shouting at, or humiliating learners

Educators are encouraged to adopt alternative disciplinary measures that promote a positive and respectful learning environment.

### Religious sensitivity

To foster inclusivity, educators should maintain a neutral stance on religious matters and refrain from inquiring into learners' religious affiliations.

### Guidelines for compliance

- **Respectful communication:** Engage professionally and respectfully in all interactions.
- **Non-physical discipline:** Utilise non-physical, constructive disciplinary methods.
- **Religious neutrality:** Avoid comments or actions that may be perceived as religiously insensitive.

Together, let us create a safe, respectful environment for learners and uphold a commitment to professional standards.

Reuben Maleka  
GENERAL MANAGER