



## basic education

Department:  
Basic Education  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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**TO: HEADS OF EXAMINATIONS  
HEADS OF CURRICULUM  
NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS (NAISA)  
SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY ASSOCIATIONS  
TEACHER UNIONS  
UMALUSI  
SCHOOL PRINCIPALS**

### **CIRCULAR E30 OF 2021**

#### **PROTOCOL ON THE WRITING OF PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS AT SCHOOLS AND OTHER EXAMINATION CENTRES IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE COVID-19 REQUIREMENTS**

1. The *Protocol on the Writing of the 2020 November Examination in Compliance with the COVID-19 Requirements* has been updated. The name of the protocol has also been changed and it is now referred to as: *Protocol on the Writing of Public Examinations at Schools and other Examination Centres in Compliance with the COVID-19 Requirements*.
2. The country has now moved to Adjusted Alert Level 1, however, it is still imperative that this protocol is followed strictly, so as to avoid the resurgence of another wave.
3. This protocol should be distributed to all examination centres/schools, storage/nodal and distribution points and should be used as a quick reference for the necessary guidance required at such centres with regard to the management of examinations under the COVID-19 pandemic.
4. This *Protocol on the Writing of Public Examinations at Schools and other Examination Centres in Compliance with the COVID-19 Requirements*, is the same as the version

that was distributed in 2020, except for the scribes and readers that may use face shields instead of face masks so that candidates are able to hear them (refer to 15.3). However, they must maintain a social distance of at least 2 metres from the candidate and the room must be well ventilated.

5. It is of critical importance for all invigilators to familiarise themselves with the content of this protocol to ensure that they respond appropriately to COVID-19 related incidents at examination writing centres across the provinces.
6. The DBE wishes to thank all officials that are ensuring that all examination related activities are carried out effectively and efficiently and that all learners are given equal opportunities to display their competencies as they participate in the writing of the examination despite the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ran', with a horizontal line underneath.

**DR RR POLIAH**

**ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: CURRICULUM POLICY, SUPPORT AND MONITORING**

**DATE: 25 October 2021**