

CODE FOR QUALITY EDUCATION

The power to improve education lies with all of us. We call on all department officials, teachers, students, parents and community members to make a commitment to the **Code for Quality Education**.

As a DEPARTMENTAL OFFICIAL, I promise to

- ensure all schools receive the necessary resources in time for teaching to commence;
- ensure all schools have their full staff allocation, and that any vacancies are filled without delay;
- improve my own knowledge and skills base to be more effective;
- be available always to assist schools, principals and teachers;
- respond to requests or concerns of education stakeholders;
- visit all schools within the district on a regular basis;
- monitor teacher and student attendance, and ensure no child is out of school; and
- assist all schools to improve their performance, ensuring regular tests are conducted, and results are reported to parents.

As a TEACHER, in line with the SACE Code of Professional Ethics, I promise to

- teach, to advance the education and the development of learners as individuals;
- respect the dignity and rights of all persons without prejudice;
- develop loyalty and respect for the profession;
- be punctual, enthusiastic, well prepared for lessons, and of sober mind and body;
- improve my own knowledge and skills base to be more effective;
- maintain good communication between teachers and students, amongst teachers themselves; and between teachers and parents;
- provide regular information to parents on their children's progress;
- eliminate unprofessional behaviour such as unacceptable teacher-pupil relationships, drunkenness, drug use, assault, sexual harassment and others; and
- make myself available to provide extra-mural activities.

As a LEARNER, I promise to

- accept that the main reason for being in school is to learn and develop academically, socially and culturally;
- adhere to school rules;
- respect the legitimacy and authority of teachers;
- participate in learner representative councils to safeguard my interests;
- show respect to other learners and not to discriminate; and
- avoid anti-social behaviour like theft, vandalism, assault, sexual harassment, alcohol and drug use and other activities that disrupt the learning process.

As a PARENT, I promise to

- involve myself actively in school governance structures;
- have regular discussions with my children about school matters;
- cultivate a healthy, open and co-operative relationship with my children's teachers;
- create a home environment conducive to study; and
- assist in the protection of educational resources, such as textbooks, chairs, tables and others.

As a COMMUNITY, we promise to

- ensure that every school-going child is at school;
- ensure a safe and crime-free environment for schooling, and to protect the school and its assets from vandalism; and
- monitor the performance of schools, and report problems to relevant authorities.

We pledge to undertake these responsibilities to ensure quality education for all.