

MEDIA RELEASE	PSA calls on Minister of Basic Education to be proactive in Mpumalanga
DATE	28 January 2025
EMBARGO	None
ENQUIRIES	communication@psa.co.za

The PSA is extremely concerned about unplaced learners in the Mpumalanga Province, since the 2025 school year is already in session.

During a recent back-to-school campaign attended by the Minister of Basic Education, Ms Siviwe Gwarube, MEC Cathy Dlamini, and Deputy Minister Dr Reginah Mhaule, at Kamagugu Special School, it was revealed that 7 924 learners in Grade R, 1, and 8 have yet to be placed throughout Mpumalanga. Whilst the PSA commends the reported decrease in the number of unplaced learners, indicating some progress, it is clear that much work remains to be done.

The Minister's commitment to improving school infrastructure is commendable, however, it is essential to emphasize the urgency of this matter and the need for feasible action plans to be implemented annually. These plans should facilitate the swift accommodation of learners at the start of each school year.

Ensuring that every child has a school place is crucial for their education and the future of communities and the country. The PSA therefore urges the Minister and MEC to streamline the placement process and develop a clear, actionable plan to ensure that all learners in Mpumalanga are placed without further delays.

END