



**kzn education**

Department:  
Education  
KWAZULU-NATAL

**TO : ALL MEDIA**  
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**EMBARGO: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **ANNUAL NATIONAL ASSESSMENTS 08-11 FEBRUARY 2011**

All children who were in Grades 1-6 & Grade 9 (pilot) in 2010 will for the first time this year write the Annual National Assessments (ANA) on 08-11 February 2011. Each child across the country will write a literacy test and numeracy test set by the Department of Basic Education. All learners in each grade will write the same test. The tests are aimed at improving learner performance in the basic skills of literacy and numeracy, as these are the foundational skills for academic success. The Department has set targets for improvement of our learners' literacy and numeracy levels from now until 2014. The National Department is setting the ANA to establish at what levels learners are performing in 2011 hence the tests are set at national. These ANA will give the Department a tool to benchmark against which we can measure future performance. Preparations for ANA have been put in place by the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Education to ensure that the tests are carried without any glitches. 4087 primary schools and 50 Grade 10 schools will write ANA tests in province, which means 1.4 million learners will write the ANA tests.

### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON ANA?**

#### **What will the ANA be used for?**

The ANA will not be used for progression or promotion to another grade. Instead, they will be a guide for your child's teacher to find out whether your child needs any assistance or not in any particular area. ANA will be written now at the beginning of the year to test the levels of performance based on what the learner should have reached at the end of the previous grade. Teachers will use the individual results to inform their lessons plans and to give them a clear picture of where each individual child needs more attention, helping to build a more solid foundation for future learning. The ANA will assist the Department to identify where the short comings are and intervene if a particular class or school does not perform to the national levels. District and provincial officials will provide this guidance and support.

#### **How will ANA be administered?**

In 250 sampled schools ANA will be administered by departmental officials and independent agent. In the rest of the schools ANA will be administered by trained educators. District, provincial and national officials will monitor the administration of ANA.

#### **How will ANA be marked?**

Ana scripts will be marked by educators. District, provincial and national officials will monitor the administration of ANA. Moderation of the marked scripts will be done by school management, district, provincial and national officials.

#### **Will parents be informed of the results of the tests?**

Individual learner results will be provided to parents in March/April this year.

#### **How can parents help their children prepare?**

It is very important that parents encourage their children rather than put any pressure on them. Parents should build up their children's confidence in their own abilities and make sure that their children understand that these are not examinations in which they can pass or fail, but rather tests to find out if they have any problems with literacy and numeracy. If they do have problems, the tests will help their teachers to work out what will be the

best methods to help them. Parents should make every effort to ensure that their children attend school during this time so that they can participate in this important process.

**\*\*\*Time-table attached**

**Ends.**

For more information, contact Mbali Thusi on 082 881 7484 or Sihle Mlotshwa on 072 207 2018.