

Every child is a National Asset

NATIONAL TEACHERS' UNION PRINCIPALS' SEMINAR 2024 10-11 OCTOBER 2024

National School Safety Framework

10 -11 October 2024



basic education
Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



PURPOSE

To present to the NATU Principals' Seminar on National School Safety Framework (NSSF) vs School Safety in South Africa

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

1. Purpose
2. Introduction
3. NDP on School Safety
4. Persistent School Safety Challenges
5. Basic Education Sector Response
6. DBE Protocol with SAPS
7. Disaster Risk Management
8. Conclusion

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Urgently address School **Safety** for both **learners** and **staff** to provide a **conducive environment** for learning and teaching.

NDP: SCHOOL SAFETY

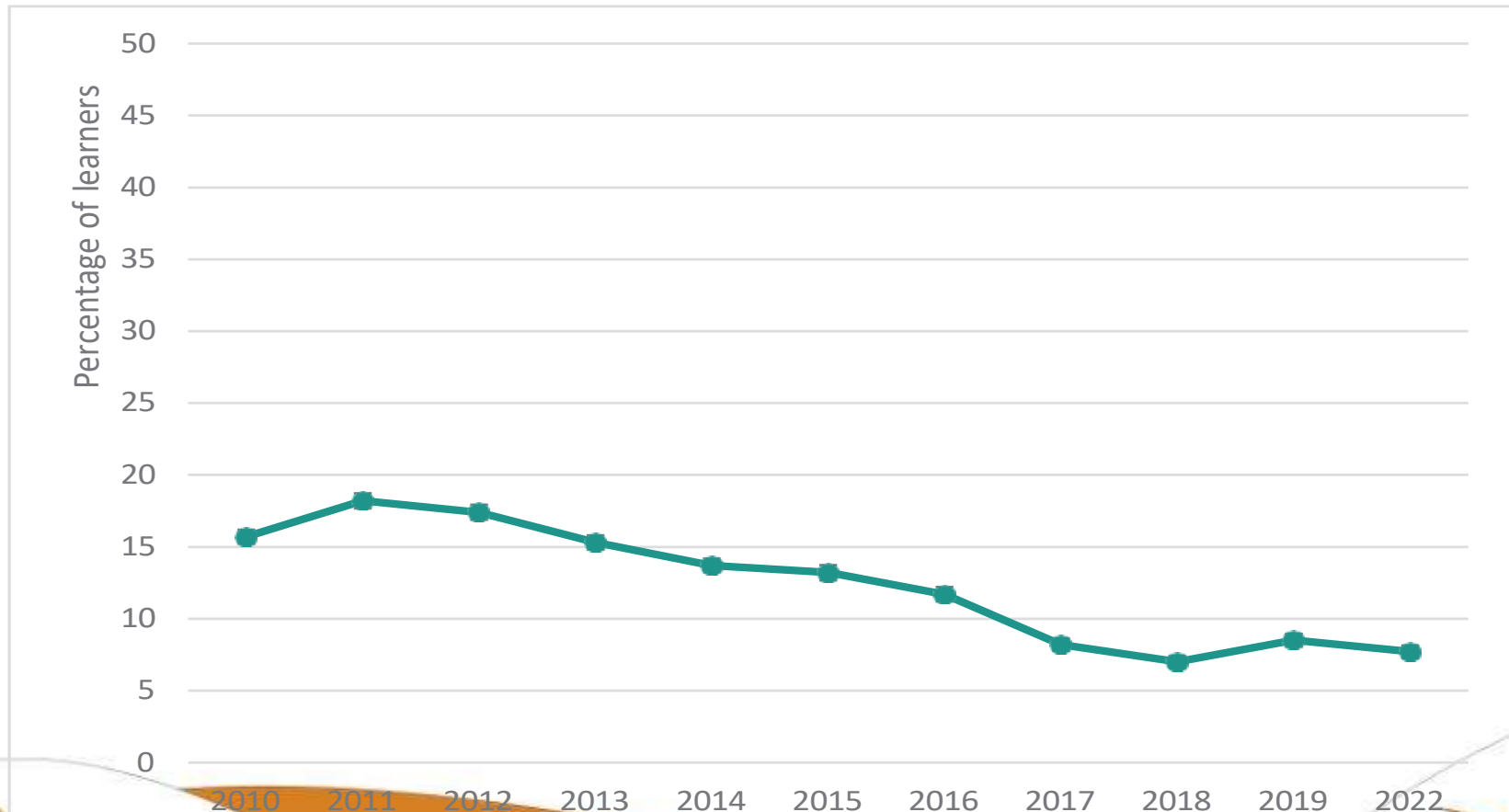
*“Take **learner safety** into account when planning infrastructure.”*

*“a strong sense of **community ownership** monitoring learner safety, and preventing vandalism and theft”*

*“**Work with communities** to address socioeconomic factors like nutrition and safety that impact on learning”*

Percentage of learners who have experienced violence (GHS 2022)

Percentage of learners who have experienced violence, 2010-2022



Types of violence experienced by learners by province, 2022 (GHS)

No violence experienced	Corporal punishment or verbal abuse	Physical Violence by teacher
Western Cape	95,2	4,8
Eastern Cape	88,1	11,9
Northern Cape	94,7	5,3
Free State	89,9	10,1
KwaZulu-Natal	85,3	14,7
North West	89,6	10,4
Gauteng	97	3
Mpumalanga	95	5
Limpopo	97,9	2,1
Total	92,3	7,7

PERSISTENT CHALLENGES IN SCHOOLS

- Crime and violence in schools
- Teacher robberies in schools- Nelson Mandela Bay District , Umlazi and Pinetown Districts
- Bullying, Gangsterism, Drugs and Substance Abuse
- Theft and Burglary in schools
- School-related Gender-based Violence (SRGBV)
- Corporal Punishment in the classroom remains the most stubborn form of violence in schools.

List of top 10 crimes allegedly committed by children by age for 2022/2023

Inter-Departmental Annual Report : Child Justice Act (act 75 of 2008)

Age of the child									
Charge	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	Grand Total
Assault with the intent to do Grievous Bodily Harm	-	3	18	62	185	380	754	1029	2431
Assault	-	1	15	60	173	266	401	511	1427
Rape	2	8	58	145	248	240	299	348	1348
Theft	-	2	21	36	99	192	348	446	1144
Housebreaking with the Intent to Steal and Theft	2	1	22	45	78	124	210	240	722

List of top 10 crimes allegedly committed by children by age for 2022/2023

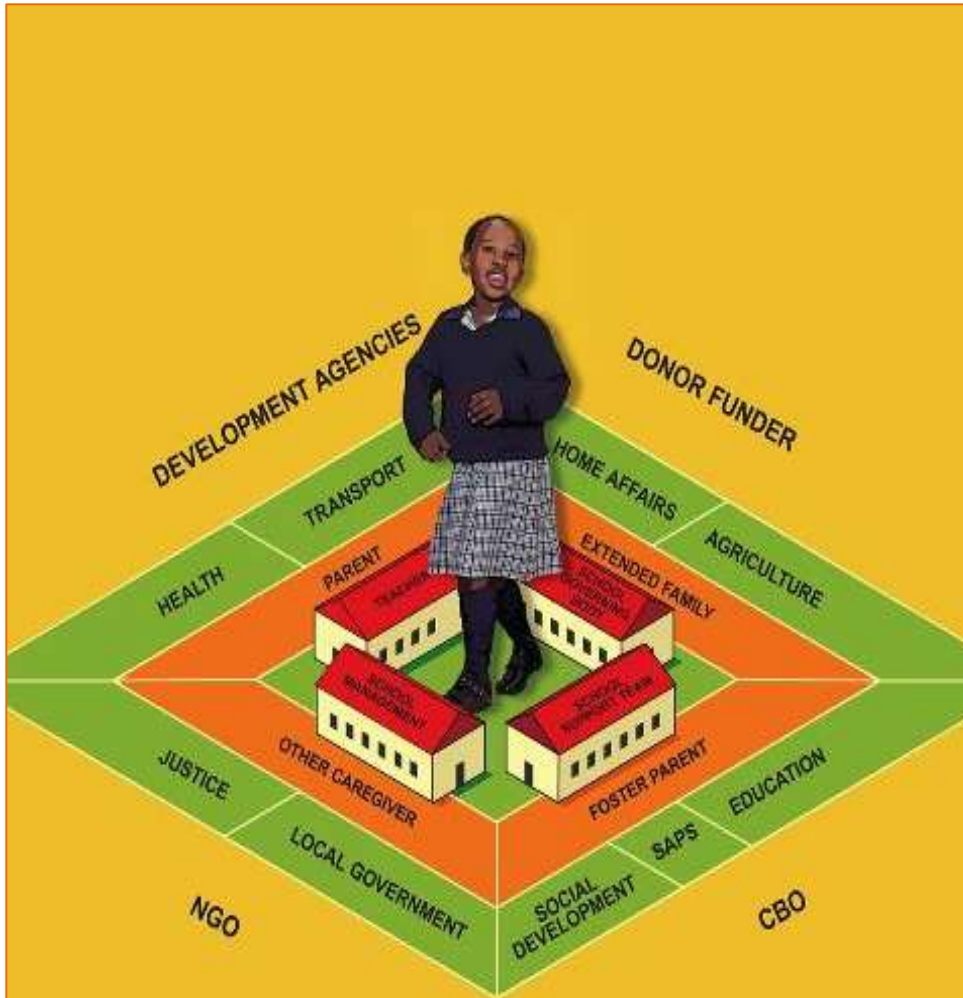
Inter-Departmental Annual Report : Child Justice Act (act 75 of 2008)

Age of the child

Charge	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	Grand Total
Malicious Injury to Property	3	3	8	29	65	97	179	246	630
Robbery with Aggravating Circumstances	-	-	-	1	27	74	152	245	499
Murder	-	-	4	5	21	56	130	220	436
Robbery	-	-	1	5	13	56	98	157	330
Possession or Use of Drugs	-	-	-	4	22	45	88	144	303

Linking Care & Support for Teaching & Learning (CSTL) to Pillar two of the Integrated Crime and Violence Prevention Strategy

CSTL



ICVPS

- Comprehensive and integrated delivery of early interventions to the propensity of crime and violence.
- A healthy start for infants and children, including the first 1000 days of life, preschool and school children and their parents, caregivers and guardians
- A safe supportive home, school and community environment for children and youth
- Context-appropriate child and youth resilience programmes
- Substance abuse treatment and prevention

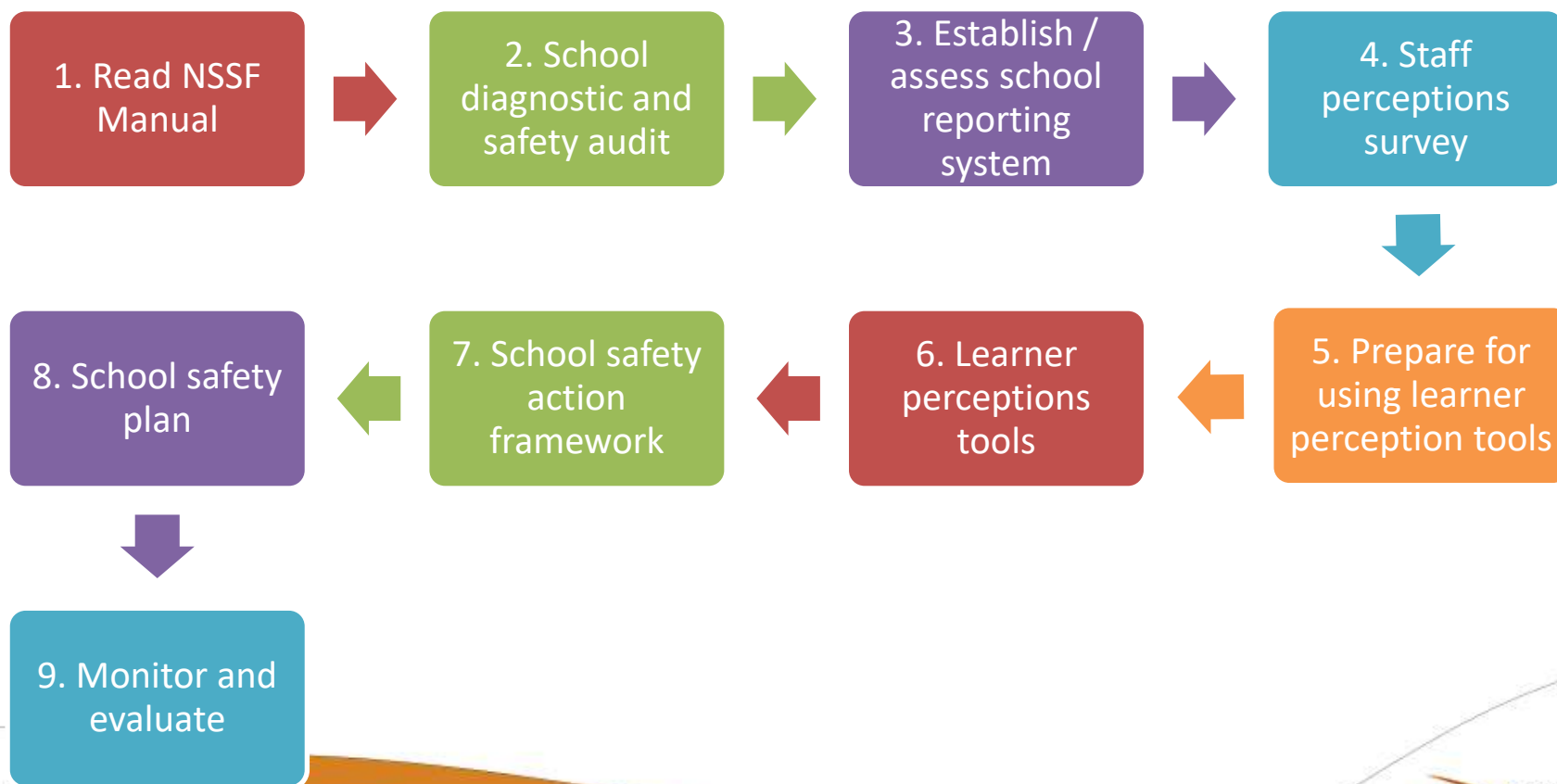
The National School Safety Framework (NSSF)



- Guiding strategy to curb violence in schools.
- Empowers schools to conduct school safety audits, complete diagnostic tools & develop safety plans
- School Safety committees are responsible for coordinating school safety & security
- Digital Training on NSSF is SACE accredited - 15 professional development points. To date, 327 297 officials have completed the digital training course

Implementing the NSSF

There are 9 steps of NSSF implementation which help identify the problem, analyse a solution, develop a response plan, implement that plan and evaluate the plan.



School Safety Diagnostic Tool

1. The diagnostic tool (pg40)

- i. Assesses the safety procedures & policies, knowledge of appropriate responses and the network of support services available to the school

2. Safety audit checklist (pg41)

- i. Focuses largely on the physical infrastructure and identifies areas for improvement

3. Tools for reporting and recording misconduct (pg48-50)

- i. Focus on learner-based reporting
- ii. Data Management is critical to establish trends

School Safety Action Plan

- Step 1: What is the problem our school needs to address ?
- Step 2: What does our school want to achieve ?
(outline key objectives)
- STEP 3: School Safety Action Plan
 - What activities
 - Who will implement it
 - By when will this be completed
 - Resources needed

SECURITY VS SAFETY

Security

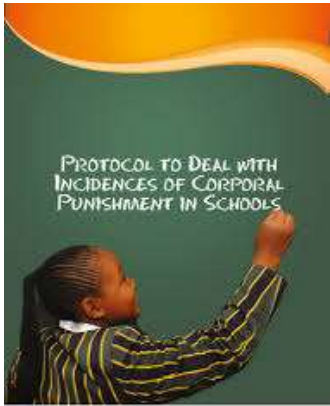
- Targeting hotspot areas
- Safety measures outside and around the schools
- Linking with security companies
- Community policing forums
- Protocol with SAPS

School Safety Committees and Strong QLTC with SAPS

Safety

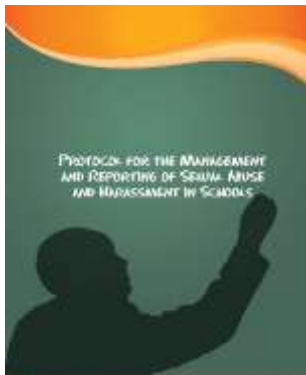
- Inside the schools
- Everybody's business
- Promotion of values & human rights
- Learner driven programmes
- Codes of conduct
- Vetting of people who work/ address learners in schools

PROTOCOLS TO DEAL WITH VIOLENCE IN SCHOOLS



The Protocol to deal with Incidents of Corporal Punishment in Schools

Provides schools, districts & provinces are trained on standard operating procedures for the reporting of corporal punishment incidents



Protocol for the Management and Reporting of Sexual Abuse and Harassment in Schools

Provides schools, districts & provinces are trained on standard operating procedures for the management and reporting of sexual abuse and harassment, and to specifically detail how schools must respond to reports of sexual abuse and harassment perpetrated against learners & school staff.



ADDRESSING BULLYING IN SCHOOLS

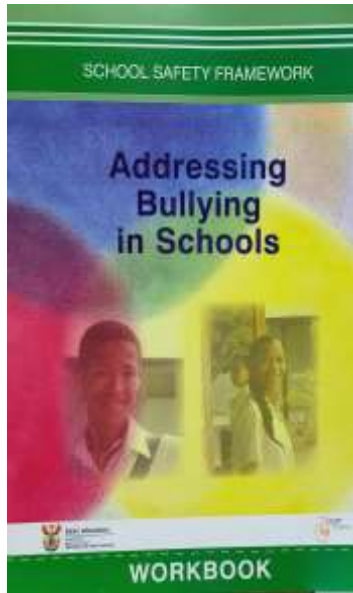
Equip schools with information and skills to help teachers recognise bullying and behaviours that can lead to bullying.

Provides tools and strategies to help schools respond early and effectively to bullying.

Provides practical advice on how and when to intervene.

Provides strategies to help educate learners about bullying and prepare them to recognise and respond effectively to bullying.

Empowers schools to develop their anti-bullying policies



Online Safety Programme in Schools

Currently rolling out the Online Safety Curriculum Guidelines: Reinforcing the idea and practices of online **safety** and **digital wellbeing** among learners for use in the classroom.

Partnering with the Department of Communications and Digital Technologies, Department of Social Development, the Films and Publication Board, Google and UNICEF



Online Safety
in South African High Schools



INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CAMPAIGN ON ANTI-BULLYING AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION

- Raises awareness on all social ills & mobilizes communities to fight the scourge of violence
- Mobilizes communities through Quality Learning and Teaching Campaign (QLTC) Structures to prevent and combat bullying, corporal punishment, SRGBV, substance abuse, teenage pregnancy, etc.
- Campaign has been rolled-out: in six provinces: Gauteng (Gauteng West District), Limpopo (Sekhukhune East District), Mpumalanga (Nkangala District), North-West (Dr Kenneth Kaunda District), Eastern Cape (Nelson Mandela), & Kwa Zulu-Natal (Pinetown District)
- Campaign is planning to go to NC, FS and WC.

PARTNERSHIP PROTOCOL BETWEEN BASIC EDUCATION AND THE SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE

- Collaborating to implement the Integrated Crime & Violence Prevention Strategy (ICVPS)
- Linking of schools to local police stations
- Conducting searches and seizures in line with the South African School's Act, 1996 (SASA) upon reasonable suspicion of the carrying of/or trading in illegal substances &/or weapons
- Combatting alcohol and drug use among learners in schools
- Addressing gangsterism in schools and communities
- Controlling the number of liquor outlets and taverns in the vicinity of schools
- SAPS conducts crime prevention programmes in schools.



REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

SA news .gov.za

South African Government News Agency

On the week of 11 April 2022, the province of KwaZulu-Natal was hit by severe flooding, the worst South Africa has seen in recent history.

- Over 440 people have tragically lost their lives, **including 64 school children, one educator and one food handler.**
- More than **600 schools have been affected**, with **124 being seriously damaged** and **101 completely inaccessible.**
- The learning programme of 320,000 learners were negatively affected.

Over 600 schools impacted by KZN floods

Thursday, April 28, 2022



A mud-filled classroom in eThekweni, KwaZulu-Natal caused by unprecedented high rainfall and flooding on 11 April 2022.

Disaster Risk Management

- Currently focusing in 450 Special Needs Schools in South Africa for Disaster Risk Management Planning.
- The DBE in partnership with the National Disaster Risk Management Centre (NDRMC) and Santam developed a Risk assessment tool.
- The tool has been digitised and will assist schools to self assess and develop risk mitigating plans.
- Preparedness to deal with multiple emergency situations
- Off-site back-up of key learners' records
- School Safety Plans
 - Evacuation Plans
 - Emergency drills
 - Demarcated assembly points
 - Equipment maintenance and serviced

7TH ADMINISTRATIVE STRATEGIES INFORMING PLANNING

- Integrated Crime and Violence Prevention Strategy (ICVPS)
- The National School Safety Framework (NSSF)
- National Strategic Plan on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide
- South Africa's 2030 Strategy for Early Childhood Development Programmes
- The National Drug Master Plan
- National Action Plan to Combat Racism, Xenophobia, Discrimination and Related Intolerances

Conclusion

- Functionality of school safety committees
- Safety in schools is everybody's business
- School Safety Policies should include:
 - Mitigation and Disaster preparedness measures
 - Preparedness to deal with multiple emergency situations
 - Relationship with fire department in local municipalities, SAPS, Social Workers, District Support Teams

Every child is a National Asset

Thank you!

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