



GAUTENG PROVINCE

EDUCATION
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

To: All Media

Att: News Editors

For immediate release

08 October 2020

MEC Lesufi Visited Illegal Schools in Ivory Park

The Gauteng Education MEC Mr Panyaza Lesufi in collaboration with the Law enforcement agencies, today, 08 October 2020 visited Wisdom English Private School in Ivory Park and the True Grace Christian School in Ebony Park, Johannesburg East.

The purpose of the said visit was to verify allegations that the mentioned schools operated illegally. Indeed, both schools were declared illegal because they are not registered with the Gauteng Education Department.

On inspection, It was discovered that Wisdom English Private was operating on four (04) different locations in Ivory Park. Some educators failed to produce legal identification documents and SACE compliant documents which is a requirement for an educator to teach learners in all our schools. Such educators were taken to the local police station for questioning. Principals from both schools were also taken to the local police station for necessary questioning on possible contravention of Immigration Legislation. For more information on the police activity, you may interact with SAPS Ivory Park.

MEC Lesufi gave officials 48 hours to furnish him with necessary information to make an informed decision on the way forward. However, it must be mentioned that he was not happy with the conditions which are not conducive for teaching and learning at both schools.

It is sad and disappointing to indicate that, True Grace Christian School was amongst schools which were shut down in 2019, and they unfortunately mushroomed at a new location which was allegedly built two weeks ago.

The departmental officials have started with a desktop process to source placement for all affected learners in the event these schools are closed. Necessary engagements will be facilitated with all affected parents to guide on our intervention.

For more information, contact the Gauteng Department of Education's Spokesperson, Steve Mabona on 072 574 3860.

Issued by the Gauteng Department of Education

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