



public works  
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Department:  
Public Works and Infrastructure  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Friday, 5 July 2024

## DPWI HOSTS 2024 WINTER SCHOOLS CAMP

DDG Professional Services Ms **Carmen-Joy Abrahams** flanked by Professional Services Branch officials and the participants of the Winter Schools Programme. She met and engaged with the participants on **2 July 2024**.

By Fanisa Makhubela

The Department of Public Works and Infrastructure is hosting its 11th annual Winter Schools camp at the Birchwood Hotel in Boksburg, Gauteng. The camp that is attended by 140 Grade 10 to Grade 12 learners and 44 educators began on **29 June 2024** and will wrap up on **6 July 2024**.

The camp is one of the platforms where learners from 22 schools adopted by the DPWI across the country, get to know about different career paths which are available in the built industry. This is part of continued efforts to support the implementation of scarce skills development in the country.

During the camp, Maths and Science tutorials are offered for the duration of the camp, in a bid to address learning gaps and to focus on remedial work. Learners participating in the DPWI Winter Schools camp are provided an opportunity to be bursary beneficiaries from the DPWI.

DDG Professional Services Ms Carmen-Joy Abrahams visited and engaged with the learners at the camp on **2 July 2024**. She said the Department's Schools programme has benefitted many learners who were previously unaware of the available opportunities in the construction industry.

"We have adopted 22 schools that are participating in the programme and we have ensured that our footprint is reflective of the 52 cities and districts in the country. We continue to provide support to young people when they reach different tertiary institutions," she said.

Ms Abrahams voiced her concerns regarding challenges that face young people in dealing with mental issues as some of them become suicidal. The Department's Schools programme ensures holistic support to the learners in the programme.



University of South Africa's Prof. **Solomon Mawela** is among academics who addressed the Winter Schools participants.



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Issued by Chief Directorate: Communications & Marketing