

Staff threaten to disrupt classes

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KITCHEN staff at the Delpportshoop Combined School hostel threatened to suspend classes at the school yesterday after their contracts were not renewed.

The catering staff stated that all their contracts had come to an end on March 31 and they would no longer be able to provide for their families.

“We are all local residents from Delpportshoop, who have been left destitute. The majority of hostel pupils stay far away and cannot be expected to provide their own food or cook their own meals. This will mean that the hostel will have to close down.”

The kitchen staff said they did not know if other employees would be appointed in their positions.

The spokesperson for the Northern Cape Department of

Education, Geoffrey van der Merwe, said they were aware of the situation at Delpportshoop Combined School.

“Our district office also met with the school governing body of Delpportshoop Combined School yesterday to resolve this matter,” said Van der Merwe.

He indicated that the school hostel accommodated 62 pupils.

“We have five support staff at the hostel of which four were appointed on contract, which has since come to an end. Their contracts will be extended on condition that they meet the requirements of the Expanded Public Works Programme.”

Van der Merwe explained that if they did not meet the requirements, the department would appoint new staff with immediate effect.

“Schooling commenced as normal today (yesterday) and we expect no disruptions as the situation is resolved.”