



energy

Department:
Energy
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

13 July 2016

MEDIA ADVISORY

NELSON MANDELA DAY COMMUNITY SERVICE

Mandela Day is recognised as an annual International Day of Humanitarian Action in celebration of Nelson Mandela's life and legacy. On this day, members of the public are encouraged to be involved in community service by doing something good for at least 67 minutes in honour of the 67 years that South Africa's first post-democracy President, Tata Rolihlahla Nelson Mandela dedicated to the public service fighting for social justice. This year's Mandela day is celebrated under the theme "*Make Everyday a Nelson Mandela Day.*"

The Deputy Minister of Energy, Ambassador Thembisile Majola, will do her community service at Sizwile School for the Deaf in Dobsonville. On this day the Department, in partnership with State Owned Entities and Energy Sector companies, will clean, repaint, plant vegetable seeds, and refurbish the gardens of the school.

The event is scheduled to take place as follows:

Date : Monday, 18 July 2016
Time : 08:30am -14:00
Venue : Sizwile School for the Deaf in Dobsonville, SOWETO, Gauteng Province

Issued by the Department of Energy

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BRIEF BACKGROUND OF SIZWILE SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

Background

Sizwile School for Deaf children situated in Dobsonville in SOWETO and was founded by Mrs. Kabane in 1978. Mrs. Kabane started teaching with only twelve children of varying ages though the school was not registered at the time. In 1981, the school enrolled 30 pupils and was then recognised for registration by Department of Education.

The school is giving hope to Deaf children. It accepts and empowers learners who are deaf and having other disabilities through provision of education and skills to be able to communicate and interact with their counterpart. Sizwile School relies on Government subsidies and donations for various organisations as well as assistance and support from parents and members of Dobsonville community. Like other Deaf schools, Sizwile represents a much needed resource that will benefit Deaf children and the community at large.

The school's educational programme starts from pre-school (Grade R – Grade 0), language stimulation phase. Children from three years of age are admitted as there is no nursery school for Deaf children in SOWETO. During this phase children are introduced to sign language as it is going to be their medium of communication throughout their school years. Other categories of the programme includes: Foundation phase (Grade 1 – 3), Intermediate Phase, (4 – 6), senior phase, (Grade 7 – 9) which includes full Outcome Based Education curriculum with different subjects.

The school demographics: 100% Black (98% African 1%Coloured 1%Asian). Gender: Boys 49% Girls 51%.