



The Republic of South Sudan
Ministry of General Education and Instruction
Office of the Minister

Press Statement

On Re-opening of Schools

The Council of Minister decided to reopen schools on Friday, 11th September 2020. Considering the advice of the Ministry of Health and the World Health Organisation (WHO) on the Covid-19 in the country, I am pleased to announce that the Ministry of General Education and Instruction (MoGE&I) has decided to adopt a phased reopening of schools.

Phase I

To reopen schools for the candidates' classes only, primary 8 and senior 4 on **Monday, 5th October 2020**.

Phase one will involve 75,000 students in Primary 8 and 35,000 students in Secondary 4.

In order to cover the syllabus and satisfactorily prepare the learners for the final leaving examinations, the academic year will be extended to February. Also, the timetable for lessons has been designed for six days a week, from **Monday to Saturday**.

Primary 8 candidates are scheduled to take the Primary Certificate Examinations (CPE) in early February 2021 and Senior 4 candidates will sit the examinations for Certificate of Secondary Education (CSE) in the third week of March 2021. Most importantly, the schools during this time will adhere to Covid-19 protocols, such as social placing. Thus, the Ministry recommends schools to adopt the following procedures:

1. Provision of WASH facilities, water tanks, sanitisers, and soaps etc...
2. Disinfecting schools;
3. Classes must be split into small sizes; and

4. Provision of PPE (Personal Protection Equipment) materials for all pupils, teachers and support staff, i.e. facemasks and thermometer guns to measure temperature of pupils in the morning before classes.

I will launch a **Back to Learning Campaign** on Monday 5th October 2020, at Juba One Boys' Primary School. To ensure that Primary 8 and Senior 4 students report to school accordingly, I request that Directors General of Education in the States carry out similar **Back to Learning Campaigns in their localities, particularly in the counties.**

Phase Two

Reopen all schools for all classes on **Monday 5th April 2021** for the new academic year. The Ministry with its partners, particularly UNICEF, will collaborate to prepare for phase two reopening schools.

The Staff of the Ministry of General Education and Instruction and the Secretariat of the National Examinations Council are hereby directed to implement the phased reopening of schools.

I urge all my daughters and sons in Primary 8 and Senior 4 to take this opportunity to go to school and prepare for their leaving examinations in February and March 2021 respectively.

I know we are resuming school under difficult circumstances, but if we work together and with the grace of God, we will overcome this challenge. South Sudan is a resilient country.

God bless you all and God bless South Sudan



Hon. Awut Deng Acuil, MP
The Minister

