

To: Principals

Topic: Creating a conducive school environment that promotes learning recovery Message Objective(s): To assist principals to create safe and conducive learning environments for all their learners at their schools.

Message: Support the creation of safe and conducive environments for all learners to recover learning loses suffered in the last two years.

Creating a conducive learning environment where all learners can thrive should be a priority for all schools. As all learners have come back to schools after two years of rotational attendance, it is of paramount importance to maximize the available time to recover the learning loses. Learners bring all sorts of psychosocial issues to school and if the schools fail to provide safe and secure environments then learners may struggle with learning.

Below are some suggestions for principals and schools to consider implementing at their schools.

- i) Strive to create a warm environment where all members of staff are friendly and treat all learners with dignity and respect.
- ii) Class teachers must have allocated time for marking registers and find out about learner welfare at the start of each day.
- iii) Covid protocols need to be strengthened since all learners have returned to school. (A failure to manage the covid situation can lead to school closures and unnecessary loss of learning time because of positive cases).
- iv) Create classrooms that encourage all learners to interact. It is good for their mental wellbeing.
- Provide principals' time with each class once a month just for 30 minutes where learners interact with their principals on any issues that concern them and provide psychosocial support to the learners.
- vi) Provide psychosocial support through target messages at assembly. Messages need to inspire learners about learning recovery, issues relating behavioral issue, resilience, and character building.

Schools that provide safe and conducive learning environments where all learners are treated with dignity, love and kindness will always achieve better learning outcomes.

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