



ADJUSTED ALERT LEVEL 1 CHANGES TALKING POINTS

We are in a new phase in the fight against COVID-19.

- After careful consideration, Cabinet has decided on the following changes to Adjusted Alert Level 1.
 - Those who test positive with no symptoms do not have to isolate.
 - If you test positive with symptoms, the isolation period has been reduced from 10 to 7 days.
 - Contacts do not have to isolate unless they develop symptoms.
- The relaxation to quarantine requirements is based on the trajectory of the pandemic and the levels of vaccination.
- Data from the Department of Health shows that across the country we have exited the COVID-19 fourth wave.
- The proportion of people with immunity to COVID-19 exceeds 60 to 80 per cent in several sero-surveys.

Schools will resume full-time learning.

- All primary, secondary and special schools will return to daily attendance and resume full-time learning.
- The regulatory provision for social distancing of 1 meter for learners in schools has also been removed.
- The Ministers of Health and Basic Education will issue directives reflecting on this new approach.
- As schools resume full-time learning, government encourages more schoolchildren to vaccinate against COVID -19.
- COVID-19 vaccination is available for children between 12 and 17 years of age.

We have come a long way South Africa!

- Together, through our actions we have kept new infections relatively low, despite the menace of the pandemic.
- Government commends all South Africans who continue to observe COVID-19 regulations and protocols.
- We remind those who are yet to get vaccinated to go for their COVID-19 vaccination and continue observing basic health protocols to prevent the transmission of the virus.
- Government also encourages those who are fully vaccinated to go for a booster shot.
- Laboratory testing has shown that booster shots increase antibody levels, which are more effective at neutralising the COVID-19 variants.