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Enquires: Dr J Kotzé Tel: 012 357 3200 Email: kotze.j@dbe.gov.za

Dear ECD Programme Owner

NATIONAL ECD CENSUS: STUDY PILOT IN YOUR ECD CENTRE

On behalf of the Department of Basic Education (DBE), I would like to thank you in advance for your support and cooperation in the ECD Census project. The ECD Census is being conducted by the National Department of Basic Education in collaboration with the LEGO Foundation and the Department of Social Development and is being carried out by Ikapadata Survey Research company.

The Census is part of the planning that the DBE is undertaking in preparation for the ECD Function Shift, to gather basic information on all ECD programmes in South Africa in order to help the government plan effectively for ECD services in the future. The Census will also create a masterlist of ECD programmes that will feed into the first National Information Management System for ECD in the country as reflected in the Annual Performance and Strategic Plans of the Department of Basic Education in support of medium- to long-term strategic priorities of improving early learning outcomes and education quality.

We request that a small team of fieldworkers be allowed to conduct a short questionnaire with the principal (or relevant representative) as well as a short observation at your ECD programme. The whole process should not take longer than 60 minutes. We are confident that this data collection will not disrupt the usual course of a school day at your programme. The information collected will be kept confidential and the Department will abide by the Protection of Personal Information regulations. Should you have any queries about the census, please call Janeli Kotze on 079 521 5229.

We are grateful for your collaboration and support.

Yours sincerely

MS C NUGA-DELIWE

ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE

DATE: 23 JULY 2021