



FEDERAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
FEDERAL SECRETARIAT, PHASE III, ABUJA
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR (PRESS & PR)

**COVID 19: FG GIVES GUIDELINES TO SCHOOL OWNERS TOWARDS
REOPENING**

The Federal Government has given school owners in the country up to 29th July, 2020 to meet specific guidelines towards the reopening of schools at a date to be announced in due course.

Minister of State for Education, Hon. Chukwemeka Nwajiuba, who stated this today in his office in Abuja, said the Ministry, having consulted widely, has in collaboration with Federal Ministry of Health, Nigerian Centre for Disease Control,(NCDC), the Education in Emergencies Working Group, developed and circulated guidelines for the reopening of schools.

According to the Minister, school owners are to prepare and comply with the guidelines.

Hon. Nwajiuba said, schools are to undertake self-assessment and send feedback to State Ministries of Education, not later than 29th July, 2020.

Thereafter, consultations with relevant stakeholders will be held to review the situation and decide on a specific date for reopening or otherwise.

A copy of the summary of the guidelines is attached.

Furthermore, the Minister said, having taken the painful but necessary decision not to reopen schools without necessary preparations to ensure the safety of students and teachers, the Federal Ministry of Education has continued consultations with stakeholders, and a mechanism to assess and monitor compliance shall be put in place.

According to the Minister, “Since Tuesday last week, we have consulted widely with stakeholders in the sector, including Commissioners of Education in all the states of the federation, the Association of Private School Owners of Nigeria,(APSON), National Association of Proprietors of Private Schools,(NAPPS), Provosts of Colleges of

Education, Rectors of Polytechnics, Vice Chancellors of Universities, some State Governors, and development partners.”

On WAEC, Hon. Nwajuiba said “we met with WAEC on Monday and have agreed to further consult with four other countries on a new examination date.”

We appreciate the concern shown by all stakeholders and note the divergent views expressed on the matter, the Minister added.

Parents should be rest assured that the safety of our students and teachers is paramount as we work assiduously towards speedy reopening of our schools for the exit classes to take external examinations.

Ben Bem Goong

Director, Information

17th July, 2020