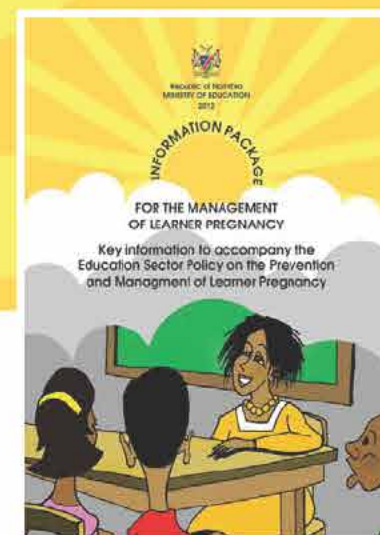


Policy Poster 5: MANAGEMENT



Ministry of Education
2013



Education Sector Policy on the Prevention and Management of Learner Pregnancy

MANAGING THE INCIDENCE OF LEARNER PREGNANCY IN OUR SCHOOLS

The Education Sector policy provides mechanisms to help pregnant learners and learner-parents to finish their education while taking on their new responsibilities if a learner becomes pregnant or fathers a child.

I am pregnant. I have only just started Grade 10. I can't believe this is happening to me. What can I do?

Being pregnant and continuing your education is going to be very hard for you – being a mum and a learner will be harder. It won't be easy for you but you can still finish your education.

As the father I am going to have to balance my studies and caring for the child too.

Everyone in Namibia has a right to education. The government has introduced a new policy to help make sure that pregnant learners and learner-parents can still finish their education, if they choose. The new policy is very flexible, but it still won't be easy. Here is a list of some of the options that you have.

- You can continue attending school until 4 weeks before your due date, if you are in good health – or you can leave school earlier if you wish.
- You should keep up with lessons and homework as much as possible after you leave to have your baby.
- You may return to school after the baby is born as soon as the school is satisfied that you and baby are in good health and there is a plan for the baby's care, or you can take leave to be with your baby for any period you choose, up to a maximum of one year.
- The father should be encouraged to be involved in supporting and raising the child if appropriate.
- Both families of the learner-parents should be encouraged to be involved.
- You will be given information about how to prevent pregnancy in future.



This poster was produced by the Legal Assistance Centre for the Ministry of Education, with support from the Ministry's HIV and AIDS Management Unit. Windhoek, Namibia, May 2013