

Independent

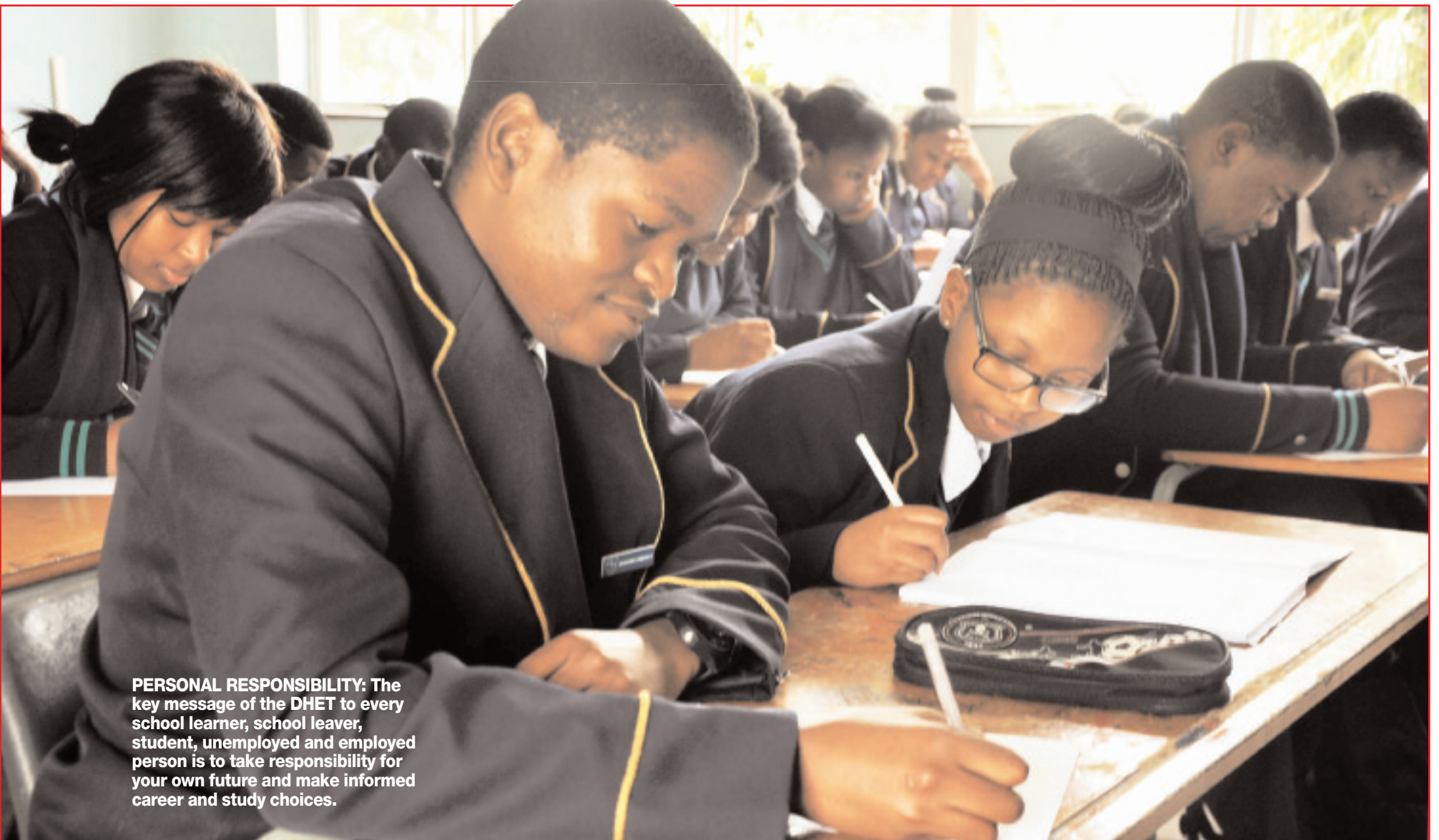
THINKING Lifelong Learning Curves

JULY 2016

EXPLORING THE POST-SCHOOL TERRAIN: A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN INDEPENDENT MEDIA AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING

BE THE BEST **YOU** CAN BE

Make the right choice – and decide your future



PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY: The key message of the DHET to every school learner, school leaver, student, unemployed and employed person is to take responsibility for your own future and make informed career and study choices.

TRUDI VAN WYK



CAREER choice is a powerful decision and every school learner, school leaver, student, unemployed and employed person has to make informed career decisions throughout their lives.

Choosing a career and the best learning pathway suitable for you, whether academic, vocational or occupational, is the most important decision you will have to make to determine your future.

Choosing a career requires identifying the best learning pathway suitable for you, whether academic, vocational or occupational to obtain a recognised qualification.

These are the most important decisions you will have to make to determine your future.

It is critical that you have the correct information about occupations and careers in which you are interested and that you are aware of the skills where there are dire shortages in our economy.

Career development plays an important role in society, not only

to prepare you to enter the world of work, but also because it touches on government's key priorities by addressing the challenges presented by unemployment, poverty and inequality.

Since 2010, the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) has made significant advances in coordinating career development service as well as establishing a national multi-channel career development service.

The services that are provided are multi-faceted and use different platforms and media. Khetha has become a well-known name across the country and models a quality public service programme.

Key message

The key message of the DHET to every school learner, school leaver, student, unemployed and employed person is to take

responsibility for your own future and make informed career and study choices.

The DHET has a fully-fledged Career Development Service, Khetha, which provides you with personal guidance, advice and up-to-date, quality information to make informed choices.

We have a Career Advice Helpline with qualified career advisors who are willing to help you. **For important contact information, see sidebar "How to get career advice".**

In order for you to make informed career choices, you need to know:

- 1 Yourself (self-knowledge about your abilities, interests and personality);
- 2 The world of work and what occupations you can follow; and,
- 3 How to obtain information on education and training opportunities and where to study.

Opportunities at TVET Colleges

Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Colleges offer National Certificates (Vocational) — abbreviated as NC(V) — and NATED (N) qualifications aimed at developing vocational skills required by the South African economy.

An NC(V) qualification will take three years to complete and provides both theory and practical experience in a particular field.

Examples are: finance, economics and accounting, engineering and related design, civil engineering and building construction, office administration, primary agriculture, process plan operation, process instrumentation, electrical infrastructure construction, management and marketing.

You need to have at least a Grade 9 to enrol into the NC(V) level 2 qualification.

Each of these qualifications also has other entry requirements, for instance mathematics at Grade 9 for entry into engineering-related courses.

NATED (N) qualifications are offered in a variety of fields and there are theoretical components of the apprenticeship programmes.

NATED qualifications are also offered per semester or trimester so you will have the opportunity to apply at various times during the year. Please visit the college campus nearest to you and visit their Student Support Services to assist you with information.

Several private colleges registered with the DHET also offer these programmes.

Remember to check with the DHET to ensure that the private college you choose is registered and its courses are accredited. Contact the Khetha Helpline or email registerTVET@dhet.gov.za to make sure that you choose the right private college.

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APPEARING IN ALL THE FOLLOWING PUBLICATIONS

