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**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 04/2022**

**573. Ms A M Siwisa (EFF) to ask the Minister of Basic Education: to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

Whether the teacher who administered corporal punishment on a Grade 4 learner at Willow Primary School in Heideveld has been put on suspension pending outcome of investigation; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

**Response**

**Response**:

The provincial education department, Western Cape Education Department (WCED) is dealing with the matter via the disciplinary procedures.

They reported that the teacher was not suspended pending the investigation as her presence at school will not jeopardise the investigation or endanger the wellbeing or safety of the learner. The learner was placed in another class. The social worker, who is supporting the learner confirmed that the learner is happy in her new class.  The WCED has a policy of zero tolerance with regard to corporal punishment. The allegation is being investigated. If there is substantive reliable evidence for a charge of misconduct, the teacher will be formally charged.