



Western Cape  
Government

Cultural Affairs and Sport

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# Western Cape Initiation Programme

## Information Booklet

The Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport regards as binding the legislative mandate which is the protection, promotion and preservation of Arts, Culture and Heritage in the Province.

The Western Cape initiative project is led and driven by the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport, community structures, and the initiation custodians supported by the Western Cape Initiation Interdepartmental Task Team.

## **The Goal of the Department on Initiation**

To create a safer and enabling environment for the effective rite of passage from childhood to responsible adulthood and citizenship.

## **Initiation Forums**

In order to be connected with communities the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport has established bodies called initiation forums representing communities practicing initiation as a rite of passage in the Western Cape. Therefore Initiation forums are the initial points of contact and a requirement for communities who observe and practice initiation in the Province.

## **Steps to follow when you want to take your son for initiation in the Western Cape**

1. Each year there are two initiation seasons, winter (May / June / July) and summer (November / December / January). Parents are required to send their sons to initiation schools within the specified times.
2. The family must have wholly agreed that the boy goes for initiation.
3. Properly prepare your son in respect of the initiation procedure and pay attention to indigenous knowledge (it is important that your son understand the reasons why he should undergo initiation).
4. Go and see the local initiation forum to hear what you need to prepare to take your son for initiation.
5. Take your son to the doctor for medical examination to check whether he is fit to undergo the ritual, two

months beforehand. Preferable boys must be taken to public clinics at least two times within the two months (window period) The medial doctor must issue you a certificate of fitness that you will produce to the initiation forum and the surgeon (iNgcibi). Please note, no circumcision procedure shall take place without this certificate.

6. Ask the respective initiation forum to recommend an experienced (iNgcibi) and the carer (iKhankatha) or introduce your preferred one to the initiation forum. You must make sure that your iNgcibi and iKhankatha meet and exchange points of clarity and procedures to each other.
7. Initiate's food must always come from home. Food from home must just be enough to avoid surplus, which may cause flies. **DO NOT GIVE MONEY TO YOUR INITIATE. ALCOHOL, DRUGS AND ANY OTHER RELATED SUBSTANCES ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED ON THE INITIATION SITE.**
8. The father figure in the family must visit the initiate (uMkhwetha) regularly to see to it that iKhankatha is carrying out his duties as expected and to monitor the healing progress.



*First-aid training is provided to Initiation Cares by DCAS*



*Feedback sessions at forums*

9. **BE PROUD. BE THERE FOR YOUR SON TILL THE END. DON'T LEAVE HIM IN THE HANDS OF STRANGERS. LET YOUR SON LEAVE THE INITIATION SCHOOL ONLY WHEN HE IS READY!!!**

For further advice contact your nearest initiation forum as listed below or contact the project manager  
Mr Clement Williams (Sukwini) at Tel: 021 4839717 or Cell 073 084 0312 or  
E-mail [Clement.Williams@westerncape.gov.za](mailto:Clement.Williams@westerncape.gov.za)

### Contact Details Of Chairpersons Of The Initiation Forums

No.	Initiation Forum	Chairpersons	Contact Number	Initiation Site
1	Ashton	Mr David Mrhwebi Mr Michael Mjexane	0781542150 0738284213	Zolani initiation site Langeberg Mountain
2	Beaufort West	Mr Thabo Foloti Mr Thamsanqa Nduluzela	072 903 8940 0833870595	Gwana initiation site Droerivier Initiation site
5	Ceres	Mr Nompondwana Mr Phidiso Lethunya	0793294563 0838793642	Mitchell's Pass 1 Mitchell's Pass 2
6	Citrusdal	Mr Themba Hermice Thobela	0717276910	Citrusdal
7	De Doorns	Mr Motseki Mr Mongezi Thotho	0722109447 0835515377	Kloof 1 Kloof 2
8	Delft	Chief Vulithuba Toto Nongwe Mr Ernest Ntlahla	0634913164 0782326432	Delft

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No.	Initiation Forum	Chairpersons	Contact Number	Initiation Site
9	Driftsands	Mr Thomas Zoyisile Mliilo	0822146205	Driftsands
10	George	Mr Mzwandile Gingcana Mr Ntsikelelo Mqhokrwana	078903 7378 0785552355	Phelandaba / Zone 9/ Ramaphosa/ Old Brick / LTA/ Lawaaikamp
11	Grabouw	Mr David Lekena	0728831443	Grabouw
12	Hazeldene	Mr Prince Joko	0848687970	Hazeldene
	Heidelberg	Mr Johannes Mduma Mr Wilson Mfundisi	0829258534 0784270892	Kairos initiation site
13	Hermanus	Mr Thamsanqa Poni Mr Neo Ponoane	0727396703 0844694064	Zwelihle Hemel-en-Aarde
14	Khayamandi	Mr Isaac Monaheng Mr Luvuyo Swartboo	0833380980 0728105423	Khayamandi / Idas Valley
15	Khayelitsha	Chief Thembelani Mtotywa Chief Mbombi Mazinyo	0788769952 0731802489	Goodhope College/ Mandalay / Lookout Hill / Military Base
16	Knysna	Mr Mlungisi Blaai Mr Nkosana Maseko	078425 4722 0837551768	Damsebos initiation site Old Abattoir initiation site
17	Laingville (St. Helena Bay)	Chief Themba Xhalisile Chief George Magogotya	0837132957 0799337873	Laingville (St. Helena Bay)
18	Langa (Embo)	Mr C Katangana Mr Soubry Makupula (Organisor)	0722326234 0603411958	Langa (Embo)
19	Lwandle	Mr Fumbata Sidwell Majikijela Mr Lolile John Oliphant	0838814485 0832384706	Sir Lowry's Pass mountain

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No.	Initiation Forum	Chairpersons	Contact Number	Initiation Site
20	Mbekweni	Mnr Phathekile Hans Mnr Goodman Mtwebana	073 466 6654 0783235256	Mbekweni
21	Mfuleni	Mnr Charlton Rayi Mnr Mekeneni Tshalisi	0786513324 0739209083	Mfuleni
22	Mossel Bay	Mr Mgcineni Dumezweni Mr Mangethe Tutela	0732235291 0835068149	KwaNonkqaba
	Murraysburg	Mr Mthetheli Mckenzie Nkosikho Klaas Mgcina (Trad Surgeon)	0739435435 0785812850	Ezihagweni Commonage
23	Nyanga Junction	Mr Andile Siyo	0829530465	Nyanga Junction
24	Oudtshoorn	Mr Lizo Dani Mr Amos Myo	0795200163 0784960919	Oudtshoorn
	Oudtshoorn Khoisan Ga'ibhaiqua Initiation Forum	Mr. Hermanus Baadjies Mr David Ruiters	0620722194 0762376278 0845194628	Bongoletu Initiation site
25	Phillipi	Chief Nicholas Tiya Mr Sikelela Zokufa	0720360522 0737726574	Joe Gqabi
26	Plettenberg Bay	Mr Mbuyiselo Dani Mr Thobela Desi	0767858293 0719900384	Plettenberg Bay
	Riversdale	Mr Wandile Hans Mr Siboniso Ndengane	0825435154 0835045556	KwaNokuthula Initiation site

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No.	Initiation Forum	Chairpersons	Contact Number	Initiation Site
27	Robertson	Mr Litha Sibhara Mr John Adonisi	0746740590 0826613744	Nkqubela
28	Saldanha Bay	Mr Skhoma	0717940546 0635444056	Saldanha Bay
29	Vredenburg	Councillor Joubert Skye Mr. Michael Phakamisa Khulu	0823078894 0783336352	Vredenburg
	Wolseley	Mr Stanley Ndabeni Mr Rufus Swangaza	0738626860 0784375609	Pine Valley
30	Worcester	Mr M. Mgxagxama Mr Thabang Sebetoane	076 584 7911 0787793341	Zweletemba initiation site Skietbaan initiation site

## Emergency Numbers

Fire & natural disaster management	107 from landline or 112 from mobile
Police	10111
Ambulance	10177

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Afrikaans and isiXhosa versions of this publication are available on request.  
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