

## Supplementary Materials

Table S1: Total number of pre-schoolers per district (Pre-Covid-19 and data collection)

| Municipality name    | Area type | Number of pre-schoolers per area type | Total number |
|----------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| Chief Albert Luthuli | Urban     | 360                                   | 1 130        |
|                      | Rural     | 770                                   |              |
| Dipaleseng           | Urban     | 283                                   | 1 274        |
|                      | Rural     | 991                                   |              |
| Govan Mbeki          | Rural     | 5451                                  | 5 451        |
| Lekwa                | Rural     | 1 516                                 | 1 516        |
| Mkhondo              | Urban     | 443                                   | 1 861        |
|                      | Rural     | 1 418                                 |              |
| Msukukaligwa         | Rural     | 90                                    | 1 470        |
|                      | Urban     | 1 380                                 |              |
| DR Pixley ka Seme    | Urban     | 157                                   | 783          |
|                      | Rural     | 626                                   |              |
|                      |           |                                       | 13 485       |

Table S2: Sample size calculation (Pre-Covid-19 and data collection)

| <b>Municipalities</b> | <b>Number of Rural pre-schoolers</b> | <b>Percentage contribution of municipality to the total population%</b> | <b>Required Sample number(n)</b> |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Chief Albert Luthuli  | 770                                  | 5,7%  | 223                              |
| Dipaleseng            | 991                                  | 7,3%  | 287                              |
| Govan Mbeki           | 5451                                 | 40,4%   | 1576                             |
| Lekwa                 | 1516                                 | 11,2%   | 438                              |
| Mkhondo               | 1418                                 | 10,5%   | 410                              |
| Msukukaligwa          | 1380                                 | 10,2%   | 399                              |
| DR Pixley ka Seme     | 626                                  | 4,6%  | 181                              |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>12 152</b>                        | <b>90,1%</b>  | <b>3 514</b>                     |
| <b>Municipalities</b> | <b>Number of Urban pre-schoolers</b> | <b>Percentage contribution of municipality to the total population%</b> | <b>Required Sample number(n)</b> |
| Chief Albert Luthuli  | 360                                  | 2,67%   | 105                              |
| Dipaleseng            | 283                                  | 2,10%   | 82                               |
| Govan Mbeki           |                                      | 0,00%   | 0                                |
| Lekwa                 |                                      | 0,00%   | 0                                |
| Mkhondo               | 443                                  | 3,29%   | 128                              |
| Msukukaligwa          | 90                                   | 0,67%   | 26                               |
| DR Pixley ka Seme     | 157                                  | 1,16%   | 45                               |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>1 333</b>                         | <b>9,89%</b>  | <b>386</b>                       |
| <b>Grand Total</b>    | <b>13 485</b>                        |   | <b>3 900</b>                     |

Table S3: Data collection using the calculated sample size.

| Municipalities       | Number of Rural pre-schoolers (actual number) | Percentage contribution of municipality to the total population% (pre-covid 19) | Required Sample number(n) (pre-covid 19) | Response number |
|----------------------|---|---|--|-----------------|
| Chief Albert Luthuli | 554   | 5,7%  | 223                                      | 173             |
| Dipaleseng           | 764   | 7,3%  | 287                                      | 200             |
| Govan Mbeki          | 3567  | 40,4%   | 1576                                     | 960             |
| Lekwa                | 1022  | 11,2%   | 438                                      | 297             |
| Mkhondo              | 927   | 10,5%   | 410                                      | 340             |
| Msukukaligwa         | 934   | 10,2%   | 399                                      | 301             |
| DR Pixley ka Seme    | 346   | 4,6%  | 181                                      | 101             |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>8 114</b>                                  | <b>90,1%</b>  | <b>3 514</b>                             | <b>2 372</b>    |
| Municipalities       | Number of Urban pre-schoolers (actual number) | Percentage contribution of municipality to the total population% (pre-covid 19) | Required Sample number(n) (pre-covid 19) | Response number |
| Chief Albert Luthuli | 315   | 2.67%   | 105                                      | 265             |
| Dipaleseng           | 219   | 2.10%   | 82                                       | 163             |
| Govan Mbeki          |   | 0,00%   |  |                 |
| Lekwa                |   | 0.00%   |  |                 |
| Mkhondo              | 334   | 3,29%   | 128                                      | 232             |
| Msukukaligwa         | 72  | 0,67%   | 26                                       | 32              |
| DR Pixley ka Seme    | 126   | 1,16%   | 45                                       | 81              |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>1 066</b>                                  | <b>9,89%</b>  | <b>386</b>                               | <b>773</b>      |
| <b>Grand Total</b>   | <b>9 180</b>                                  |   | <b>3 900</b>                             |                 |