

<b>Publication</b>		
NEW AGE		
<b>Page</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>AVE (ZAR)</b>
9	Thurs 28 Sep 2017	18310.86



## Maths and science classes to benefit all

TISETSO MANOKO

THE South African Institute of Chartered Accountants (Saica) will host more than 100 pupils from across the province to participate in mathematics and science classes.

The classes are a partnership between the Square Kilometre Array and Bankseta and will focus on Grade 11 pupils in Uppington during the 10-day school holidays.

Senior executive transformation and growth from Saica Gugu Makhanya, said the camp will sharpen the skills of the pupils going towards the final examinations and ultimately prepare them for Grade 12.

"About 180 Northern Cape Grade 11 pupils who have shown a particular aptitude for mathematics will do something completely different. They will spend their time exercising their brains at the Northern Cape development camp," Makhanya said.

Makhanya said the camp, which takes place from October 1-7 at the Uppington High School, will provide pupils with extra lessons to improve their mathematics, science, accounting and English aptitude.

"Pupils are offered life skills training and career information to help them make appropriate career choices.

"When it comes to scarce-skill professions like medicine, engineering, actuarial science and chartered accountancy, the pool of pupils who are academically talented enough to apply is a small one," she said.

Makhanya said they were partnering with different stakeholders to ensure that the lives of previously disadvantaged communities were changed for



**IMPROVEMENT:** More than 2700 attended Saica camps in June. PICTURE: GETTY IMAGES

the better by "collaborating with key partners in the departments of education, members of the accounting profession, representatives from universities and institutions such as the financial services board, as well as various other professions".

Makhanya said the percentage of pupils who are black or coloured is even smaller because of lack of exposure and opportunities.

"It is therefore essential that Saica does what it can to assist and to grow the pipeline of the disadvantaged pupils who wish to study towards a career in chartered accountancy," she said.

Makhanya said more than 2700 pupils attended these camps in the June-July

holidays and it was now the Northern Cape's turn.

Spokesperson Geoffrey van der Merwe said the department was working around the clock to ensure that everything was in place for the final examinations.

He said MEC Martha Bartlett had visited all five districts to engage with the senior managers and school principals.

"We are satisfied with the work we have done for the 2017 academic year and we are confident that our pupils, especially our Grade 12s, are well prepared for the final examinations to further improve on our 78.7% pass rate of last year," he said.

*tisetso@thenewage.co.za*