



**THUTO TRUST STRIVES TO**  
PREPARE FUTURE TEACHERS FOR  
A SUCCESSFUL TEACHING CAREER



EDITION 1 2021 PREPARED BY THUTO TRUST



**THUTO TRUST**  
Advancing Education in Africa

# WE CONTINUE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO THE FACE OF EDUCATION

## New and expanded partnerships

We are extremely excited about the addition of several new partner schools, bringing our total network of partner schools to thirteen. We are grateful for our ongoing relationships with St John's College, Roedean School, St Peter's Prep School and Streetlight Schools all of whom continue to successfully host our full-time internship students. Our new school partners include four private schools and five public schools. The private schools are Redhill School, Kyalami and Beaulieu Preparatory Schools as well as Beaulieu College.

As part of our recent partnership with the Department of Basic Education and the Gauteng Department of Education, we have added five new public schools to our list of eight partner schools. These schools include Makhoarane Primary School, Nkone Maruping Primary School, Palesa Primary School, Princess Primary School and Vezokuhle Primary School, all from District 12 in Johannesburg West.

The process of continuously growing our network of partner schools encapsulates our ethos of excellence through collaboration, and assures our participating students in our teacher development programme of exposure to the best public and private schools. This practical experience throughout their studies prepares our teacher interns for a successful teaching career in which they can be confident and effective teachers across diverse school environments.

## Our students ... our pride!

At the end of 2020, four of our students graduated, completing the Thuto Trust teacher development programme, together with the two-year Post Graduate Certificate Education (PGCE). They are the first Thuto Trust students to complete the two-year PGCE programme. (Two students graduated in 2018 and two more in 2019, completing a one-year PGCE as part of the Thuto Trust teacher development programme.)

It is with great pleasure that we can announce that three of the four 2020 graduates have already been employed - two as teachers in the math and science department at Roedean School and one as a junior biochemistry lecturer at North West University. Two Thuto Trust PGCE interns will be completing the programme at the end of 2021, and eight B.Ed. interns will complete this year as well.

Thuto Trust is funding 57 students in 2021 - we aim to more than double the total number of students participating in our Teacher Development Programme in 2022. This year's cohort includes 50 B.Ed., five PGCE and two honours students, all of whom have been placed at our partner schools for their full-time internship.



**"A GOOD HEAD AND GOOD HEART ARE ALWAYS A FORMIDABLE COMBINATION.  
BUT WHEN YOU ADD TO THAT A LITERATE TONGUE OR PEN, THEN YOU HAVE SOMETHING VERY SPECIAL."  
NELSON MANDELA**

## SUCCESS STORY

### Another student appointed!

We are excited about the appointment of Sabela Ramafoko, another one of our 2020 PGCE graduates in a temporary teaching position at Ribane Laka High School in Mamelodi, Tshwane. He was appointed as a Life Science teacher. We wish Sabela all the best in his new teaching position



*Photograph caption*

*From left to right: Sabela Ramafoko and Busi Makhanya, Programme Director, Thuto Trust.*

## Mentorship and Psycho-Social Support

### “Teach like a superhero”- Motivate, Inspire, Support

Thuto Trust is excited about its newly launched “Teach Like a Superhero” teacher support programme developed by Dr. Francois Naudé. This is an interactive addition to the current Thuto Trust psycho-social support programme.

“Teach Like a Superhero” comprises monthly virtual group talks on such topics as - discovering your teaching strengths, getting to know your learners, professionalism in the workplace, financial literacy for teachers, re-designing learning opportunities, classroom management, and many other exciting subjects. In addition to these virtual talks with the interns, students can also participate in private Facebook group sessions, giving them access to various mentors (such as teachers and leaders) within the education field, to ask questions and engage online.

The purpose of the Facebook online engagement is to motivate, inspire and support the students.

The objective of the “Teach like a superhero” talks and online support is to:

- Steer the interns to dream about a life beyond being interns – becoming a teacher.
- Add value to their environments such as character building and coaching.
- Equip them to be efficient in their own personal circumstances – for example persevering mechanisms in uncertain times.
- Help them break a destructive trail of thought due to anxiety and a feeling of helplessness.

*About Dr. Francois Naudé*

*His experience in evolutionary biology and science education garnered him a national teachers' award. He has a Ph.D., has trained more than 1400 teachers in five years, and launched two EdTech start-ups. He shares his learnings about science, software and school leadership with business and school leaders so they can turn their leadership potential into leadership practice.*

# 2020 Highlights

## Smart Partnerships for Primary School Teacher Development in Gauteng

Thuto Trust recently concluded a five-year tripartite agreement with the Gauteng Department of Education (GDE) and the Department of Basic Education (DBE), to offer full bursaries to thirty-five eligible B.Ed. students, to participate in the Thuto Trust teacher development programme at Primary School level. This is an exciting addition to the Thuto Trust programme and facilitates the inclusion of public schools to Thuto's network of host schools in Gauteng, this being a fundamental component of the Thuto Trust strategy.

The selected cohort of teacher trainees (twenty in 2021, and additional fifteen in 2022) will receive funding for tuition, books, and accommodation from the DBE through the Funza Lushaka Bursary Programme\*. Thuto Trust will fund the students' stipend, psycho-social support, and internship-mentorship programmes. Through the Thuto Trust programme, our teacher trainees will benefit from a holistic experience encompassing full-time internship at five excellent partner schools, coupled with personal and professional development through continuous mentoring and coaching. These students will be well equipped with the best teaching methods to apply to primary school teaching.

The internship partnering schools have already been identified in District 12, Johannesburg West, the 20 students have been placed, and we are ready to launch the programme.

*Watch this space for an official launch announcement!*

*\*Footnote:*

*The Funza Lushaka Bursary Programme is a multi-year programme that promotes teaching in public schools.*



For more information on how to financially contribute to Thuto Trust (a registered PBO and NPO) visit [www.thutotrust.org](http://www.thutotrust.org) or call +27 (0)11 285 0148