

iSchoolAfrica

Education Trust

www.ischoolafrica.com

Empowering teachers and learners in a pandemic



Overview of iSchoolAfrica's activities 2020

Since 2009, iSchoolAfrica has had the mission of empowering South African teachers and learners with the world's best technology and classroom practices. In collaboration with public and private sectors - we have implemented our solution in over 200 township and rural schools across South Africa.

This year, COVID-19 created the largest disruption of education systems in history. The crisis has exacerbated pre-existing education disparities.

School closures necessitated a move to e-learning. In theory, this could be an important step towards a fairer education system. But the reality is very different in our schools. Most South African learners lack access to devices, data and quality educational resources

Another challenge faced was that understandably a majority of South African funding was switched from education to basic needs such as food .

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“iSchool Africa has worked tirelessly hand in hand with our partners to ensure that the most marginalised children of our country are not left behind. We have brought digital resources, skills and technology to our learners during a critical time, a defining moment in their educational careers. If it were not for the support of many of you, so many children would have missed out on their right to education. We have drawn strength from you. We have seen the power of collaboration, we have seen how you have stepped up to take care of our children during the worst global crisis of our lifetime. ”

- Yani Horn, Trustee, iSchoolAfrica



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“As schools across the country closed. We realised that the education environment would never be the same again. We had to find innovative solutions to continue to support our learners.”

- Michelle Lissoos,
Director, iSchoolAfrica



#MyFuture campaign

iSchoolAfrica response to COVID-19

The #MyFuture programme focuses on matric learners in vulnerable communities. Learners who have the potential to succeed, and whose futures were now in jeopardy due to the impact of COVID-19.

The iSchoolAfrica #MyFuture programme gave learners access to a support solution through a digital toolkit that included:

- Refurbished iPads
- Access to high quality curriculum content
- Live online study sessions with matric teachers
- Sufficient data to connect to the project.

Siya Kolisi and Saray Khumalo joined us in giving our matrics back their futures.

Siya Kolisi and Saray Khumalo addressed matrics in live iStoreMeets sessions - they encouraged our matrics to keep learning despite the uncertainty Covid -19 has brought. They shared wisdom and experience through stories of overcoming challenges in their own lives.

In September, the partnership between Siya and iStore made it possible to introduce the #MyFuture programme to Peak View Secondary School in the Western Cape. [View more here](#)

Saray has also been mentoring a group of 10 #MyFuture matric girls. Saray has spent time building the girls' confidence and giving them practical tools to work through their disappointments of 2020 and to restore hope for their futures.

#MyFuture impact (as at Dec 2020)

410

Matric learners participated

300

Live online tutoring sessions since July

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“ The #MyFuture programme really helped me change my mindset about life in a way no words can explain. The programme motivated me to do better academically. ”

- Munzeel Wallace,
Matric learner,
#MyFuture Programme



Thank you to #MyFuture partners: iStore, Tomorrow Trust, Afrika Tikun, Iress SA, Khula Education, Mazda Foundation, Tomorrow Leaders in Training, Save the Children, Snapplify, JAMF, Noteshare, Hello Tutor, SubjX, Nedbank Foundation

iSchoolAfrica Digital Library Programme with Saray Khumalo



This year, we also launched our partnership with award winning mountaineer, Saray Khumalo. With a common mission to change the narrative of education in South Africa - we joined forces to bring digital libraries to primary schools across the country.

On the 25th October 2020, Saray Khumalo together with cyclists, partners and supporters set the GUINNESS WORLD RECORD for the most money raised during an eight-hour stationary cycling fundraiser.

The funds are being used to set up an iSchoolAfrica digital library in a rural or township school in each of South Africa's nine provinces. Each library consists of a mobile iPad lab supported by curriculum-based apps, award-winning numeracy and literacy software, access to a full library set-up, dedicated programme facilitators and mentors.

During November 2020, the first two digital libraries were launched:

- Igugu Primary School in Soweto
- Schola Amoris Special School in Umzinto



5040 km

cycled in 8 hours

R704 790

raised

iSchoolAfrica Inclusion Programme

Continuing to support children with special needs during COVID-19

Our inclusion programme focused on meeting the educational needs for learners with disabilities amid COVID-19, activities included:

- Resources for home learning and support for families
- Online group sessions
- Online individual support and training.

Hosting of iPad Education Accessibility Summit (October 2020)

The theme for the iPad Education Accessibility Summit was #Accessible and #Inclusive learning during Covid 19.

Join iSchoolAfrica in changing the narrative of education in South Africa

Technology, when implemented effectively has the power to mitigate the potentially devastating consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic on education. It gives us the tools to accelerate change in teaching and learning.

Join iSchoolAfrica as we continue to focus on addressing learning losses; support the teachers; remove barriers to digital learning, strengthen digital literacy and support disabled learners.

“We understand that the need is huge and the demand on all of us is endless. But the consequence of us not working to address this educational crisis for our learners will extend way beyond the immediate effects of the pandemic.”

- Michelle Lissoos, Director ,
iSchoolAfrica

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