



**Education
programmes to
help South African
schools succeed**

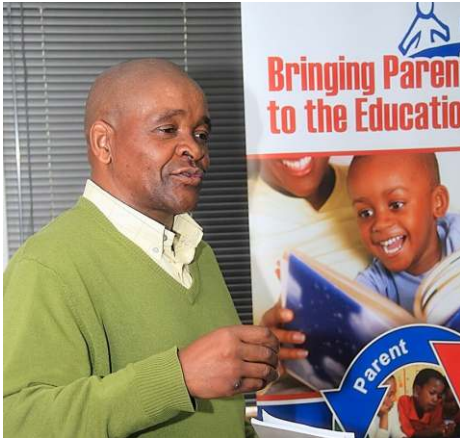
Our Vision

For all schools in South Africa to become effective self-managing institutions that provide quality teaching and learning.

Our Mission

To provide training programmes that:

- are aligned to the needs of the South African education system, and
- help school communities make a valuable contribution to the education of their children.



Siyawela is an independent training agency and its programmes aim to help schools improve in four areas of Whole School Development:



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Leadership and Management

Effective school leadership is vital if schools are to improve learning outcomes. So to help schools strengthen their leadership teams, Siyawela offers the following programmes:

- **Curriculum Leadership and Management**

To help principals and teachers manage the delivery of the curriculum, Siyawela offers two short learning programmes (SLPs):

- *Subject Head Roles and Responsibilities*: to build the capacity of heads of departments and subject heads so that they can manage their subjects effectively.
- *Curriculum and Instructional Leadership*: to support deputy principals and phase heads by teaching them how to structure their schools' teaching and learning processes.

- **Leadership Matters**

Directed at primary schools, this programme helps school management teams (SMTs) to create a learning culture within their schools. It focuses on leadership, development and personal growth.

- **Principals and SMT Leadership Development**

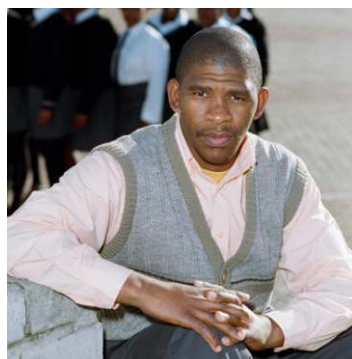
This programme:

- develops and strengthens the leadership of high school principals and SMTs to ensure sustained improvement in learner achievement; and
- helps the Department of Basic Education to develop an effective, standardised approach to training South African high school principals.

- **School Self-Evaluation and School Improvement Plans**

The Department of Basic Education requires every school to conduct an annual School Self-Evaluation (SSE) to obtain an honest assessment of their school's performance. The results are then used to develop a School Improvement Plan, detailing the school's key challenges and how these will be addressed.

Siyawela helps primary and high schools with this process, aided by the GM South Africa Foundation's web-based SSE instrument which helps schools determine their strengths and those areas that need improvement.





Parents and Governance

At the heart of the South African Schools Act is the idea that government will partner with parents and the community to provide effective education to learners. To facilitate this partnership, Siyawela offers the following programmes:

- **Bringing Parents to the Education Table**

Bringing Parents to the Education Table is a programme for parents, carers or guardians of learners in Grade 1, Grade 4 or Grade 8. It gives them the information and tools they need to contribute towards their children's academic success.

- **Governance & Community Leadership**

Schools are required to have School Governing Bodies (SGBs) – comprising teachers, parents, community members and learners – to take collective responsibility for developing their schools and improving education. In this programme, Siyawela develops participants so that they can be competent and effective SGB members.



Curriculum Matters

Learner achievement is directly linked to teachers' skills and content knowledge. Siyawela offers programmes that help teachers to improve their delivery of the curriculum in the Foundation and Intersen Phases.



Foundation Phase

- **Backpackers – Foundation Phase**

- *Backpackers* equips learners with the skills, knowledge and values to make sensible decisions. These life skills ('tools') are then placed in their 'backpacks' for life's journey. The *Backpackers* programme is CAPS-aligned, so teachers are able to use the materials as part of their Life Skills lessons.

- **Grade R Practitioner Capacity Building Programme**

This programme gives Grade R practitioners guidance on how young learners develop and how to teach effectively. It is delivered through workshops and on-site mentoring.

- **Grade 3 English First Additional Language (EFAL) Programme**

Many Grade 3 learners are unable to understand or communicate in English, yet this becomes their language of instruction from Grade 4 (except in Afrikaans medium schools). The *Grade 3 EFAL Programme* builds teachers' skills so that they can prepare their learners for this language transition.

- **Mathematics in Foundation Phase (MFP)**

It is essential for Foundation Phase learners to develop a good sense of numbers and the ability to solve basic Maths problems. *MFP* provides teachers with the skills to plan lessons and do assessments that will help their learners develop in these areas and meet the CAPS requirements for Maths.

- **Seeds of Compassion**

Seeds of Compassion teaches children empathy by having a mother and her baby visit a Grade 3 classroom over a period of eight months. Guided by a teacher or facilitator, the learners observe the baby's development, feelings and interaction with the mother. This shows them the importance of considering others' feelings.



Intersen Phase

- **Backpackers – Intersen Phase**

Backpackers equips learners with the skills, knowledge and values to make sensible decisions. These life skills ('tools') are then placed in their 'backpacks' for life's journey.

- **Masikhulisane Reading Programme**

Masikhulisane (may we grow one another) helps learners meet the reading requirements for their age groups in both their Home Language (isiXhosa) and English. This programme emphasises reading for enjoyment, reading bilingual stories and reading in pairs.

- **Mathematics in the Intermediate Phase (MIP)**

To improve the quality of teaching and learning of Maths, the *MIP* programme equips Grade 4 teachers with the skills to plan effectively and to use a wide variety of teaching strategies.

- **Peace Lessons**

The *Peace Lessons* programme provides teachers with structured and guided lessons to teach essential concepts and skills to learners in Grade 4 to Grade 6. The lessons are aligned to the Life Skills curriculum (CAPS) and encourage the use of stories and active learning.

- **Teachers for Technology & Science (TTS)**

TTS aims to help Grade 4 to Grade 10 Natural Science teachers to use technology when:

- preparing and presenting lessons;
- undertaking scientific investigations; and
- doing subject management and administration.





School Environment

Children learn best when they feel safe. Siyawela offers programmes that help school communities create a safe and healthy learning environment.

- **Building Peaceful Classrooms**

This programme aims to help teachers explore positive approaches to discipline, promote healthy relationships and develop supportive classroom environments.

- **Peace Clubs**

This programme provides primary and high school learners with fun opportunities to learn peace-building concepts. The programme also fosters a culture of service at home, at school and in the community.

- **Peer Mediation**

In this programme, learners are taught to use peaceful methods of resolving conflict situations in which they and/or their peers may be involved.

- **School Safety**

In this programme teachers are supported and mentored as they implement school safety initiatives in line with legislation and the National School Safety Framework.

- **Teacher Learner Care (TLC)**

This programme offers teachers and School-Based Support Teams skills and strategies that will allow them to become more effective in providing psycho-social support. It enables teachers to identify a learner's problem, contain learners who are in distress, and then refer them accurately for additional support.



Siyawela is an independent training agency, established to implement and manage education programmes aligned to the needs of South African schools.

Should you be interested in having any of our programmes presented at your school or in your district, please contact us on:

Email: admin@siyawela-rts.co.za

Fax: 086 272 2784

www.siyawela-rts.co.za



Please note that Siyawela is a self-sustaining organisation and implementing our programmes will carry a cost.