



THEMBELIHLE SCHOOL

QUALITY HOLISTIC PRIMARY SCHOOL EDUCATION

IMPACT REPORT
2024





OUR

VISION & MISSION

OUR VISION

"To be a beacon of hope in the pursuit of excellence."

OUR MISSION

Thembelihle School brings hope to our community through service to disadvantaged children and families.

We will

- Provide a holistic and multicultural education rooted in Christian values for children of all backgrounds;
- Ensure a safe environment to learn and grow academically, socially, physically, emotionally and spiritually;
- Remove barriers to education and provide inspirational preparation for each child to reach their full potential; and
- Partner with families in caring for the needs of the whole child, beyond the classroom.

Working as a community, we will give each individual child the tools they need to take their next steps and achieve success in every phase of life. Our collective impact will shape the future of our children and South Africa.

OUR VALUES



DISCIPLINE



RESPONSIBILITY



IMPACT



INTEGRITY



PARTNERSHIP



EXCELLENCE



DIVERSITY



FAIRNESS



RESPECT



COURAGE



OUR FOCUS AREAS

STEAM Academics

We focus on STEAM Education, the core subjects:

- Science
- Technology
- English
- Creative Arts
- Mathematics

This teaches our children CORE critical thinking skills

Emotional Wellness

is supported through our partnership with Angels' Care Centre with access to a school nurse, as well as a social worker at any time. Life Skills are also a major focus of the curriculum.



Spiritual Wellness

is Access to a school chaplain, who focuses on spiritual development, counselling and mentoring.



Physical Wellness

Sport: Cricket, Swimming, Netball, Athletics, Hockey & Soccer

Nutrition

Creating a school environment where hunger does not exist, allowing the children to develop, learn and thrive. This is done through the provision of a hot daily meal and snack.

Extracurricular Activities

Allowing our children to thrive and learn new skills.

- Chess
- Art & Music
- Eco Club & Sustainable Schools
- Choir
- Marimba & Djembe Drum Club
- Science Club
- School Outings

OUR ENROLLMENT HAS INCREASED BY

93.5%

SINCE 2012 AND IN 2024, 422
CHILDREN WERE ENROLLED
(GRADES 1-7)

90%

OF OUR PAST PUPILS
COMPLETE HIGH
SCHOOL COMPARED TO
APPROXIMATELY 37,6%
NATIONALLY ACCORDING
TO STATS S.A.



77%

FACE FOOD
INSECURITY

62%

LIVE IN WOMEN OR CHILD
HEADED HOUSEHOLDS WITH
LITTLE TO NO INCOME

80%

OF OUR CHILDREN CANNOT
AFFORD SCHOOL FEES



NUMBER OF MEALS SERVED IN 2024

173,020

**NO. OF EMPLOYEES HAS INCREASED
BY 9X SINCE 1993. FROM 3-36 IN 2024**

ESTIMATED HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

11%

IN INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS, INCLUDING
ST ANNE'S, DURBAN GIRLS COLLEGE,
TREVERTON, AND GRACE COLLEGE.

37%

IN HIGH FEE, WELL
RESOURCED LOCAL
GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS.

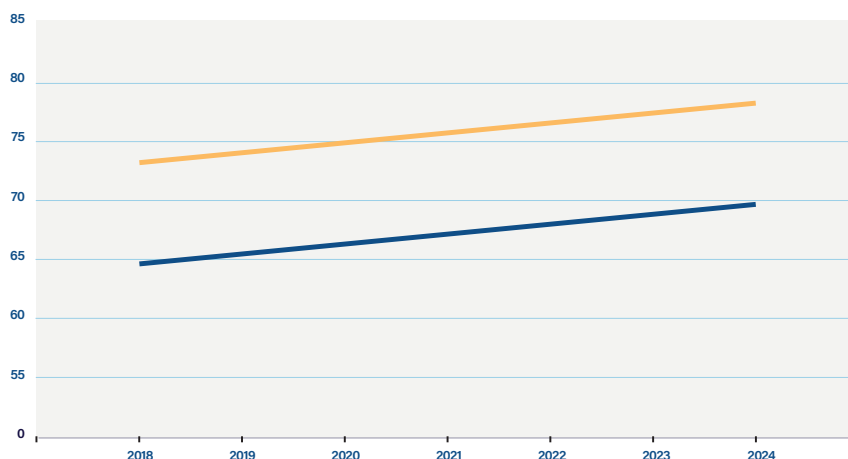
52%

IN LOW, OR NO,
FEE GOVERNMENT
SCHOOLS.



STEAM Based Approach to Teaching and Learning

Thembelihle School prioritizes academic excellence through a STEAM-focused educational approach (**Science, Technology, English, Arts, Mathematics**) across the Foundation (Grades R-3) and Intermediate/Senior (Grades 4-7) phases. Utilizing project-based, experiential learning, the school offers an engaging academic curriculum in modern classrooms equipped with top-class resources. We actively focus on improving English Literacy and Mathematics through comprehensive learner support programs.



The graph shows the average for the core subjects (English, Mathematics and isiZulu) for the two phases: Foundation (Grades R-3) and Intermediate/Senior (Grades 4-7).

KEY — Foundation Phase
— Intermediate/Senior Phase

SPORTING HIGHLIGHTS:

GIRLS NETBALL: Our girls played **15** matches against other schools and had a **95%** win rate

CRICKET: Our girls team played their first match and our boys team remained undefeated throughout the season.

SOCCER: Our girls team had a win rate of **83%** and boys were undefeated.

HOCKEY: Both our girls and boys teams had overall win rates of **83%**



A circular portrait of a young girl with dark hair tied back, wearing a white school shirt and a dark tie. She is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background of the portrait is a soft, out-of-focus outdoor scene.

Mawande Sibisi

CURRENT STUDENT: Thembelihle School

Mawande's journey at Thembelihle School began in grade RRR, and she has consistently demonstrated exceptional academic excellence throughout her years.

Her dedication, discipline, and innate desire to excel are evident in her consistently outstanding performance.

Despite the challenges of coming from a single-parent household with very limited resources, Mawande has remained in the top 3 learners throughout her time at Thembelihle, securing top positions in her class and demonstrating exceptional leadership as Head Girl.

Her dedication, coupled with her mother's unwavering support, has allowed her to overcome adversity and achieve remarkable success in both academics and extracurricular activities.

CURRENT HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT: St. Annes Diocesan College

Lwandisa Mkhize's life is a testament to resilience and determination. During the week, she thrives academically at St. Anne's Diocesan College, Hilton, a world away from the harsh realities of her weekends and holidays spent with her single mother in the impoverished ShiyaBazali informal settlement.

Her presence at St. Anne's, made possible by a high school bursary, speaks to her exceptional potential and allows her to break free from the cycle of poverty. Her Grade 10 report praised her as *"an absolutely delightful pupil,"* and her housemother admires her capability, focus, and contributions to the school community. Lwandisa isn't just surviving; she's flourishing as a netball player, choir member, and active participant in the school outreach program.

Her dedication was celebrated at the school's annual awards ceremony where she received recognition for academic excellence and grade prizes in both drama and isiZulu.

A circular portrait of a young girl with dark hair in braids, wearing a white collared shirt under a dark jacket. She is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background of the portrait is a solid grey color.

LWANDISA MKHIZE



2023 MATRICULANT:
**Durban Girls
College**

**SISANDA
MADLALA**

Starting her education at Thembelihle Primary, **Sisanda** excelled and earned a bursary to the prestigious **Durban Girls College**. There, she continued to shine, culminating in an outstanding achievement of 6 distinctions in her final high school exams.

Adding to her impressive accomplishments, Sisanda was also **placed in the top 1% of students nationally in South Africa for Zulu**. Her success is an inspiration, proving that with dedication and the right opportunities, dreams can be realized.

EMPLOYED

Khalipha Ndlela: From her early education at Thembelihle Primary (2012-2014) through her studies at M.L. Sultan Secondary and culminating in her Mechanical Engineering certification from TVET College (2022), Khalipha invested deeply in her education.

This investment has paid off: she now thrives at **Toyota South Africa Motors**, where her skills are valued and she is empowered to make a real difference in the field of engineering. Khalipha's success demonstrates how educational attainment directly translates into meaningful and impactful employment.

STUDYING FOR A TERTIARY QUALIFICATION:

Andiswa Mnguni, an alumna of Thembelihle and Howick High, is in her fourth year of a Bachelor of Commerce degree at the University of the Witwatersrand.

Zevangeli Adam, who began at Thembelihle Pre-Primary (2010) and excelled at Linpark High (2023), is now pursuing a degree in Biomedicine at the University of KwaZulu-Natal.

