

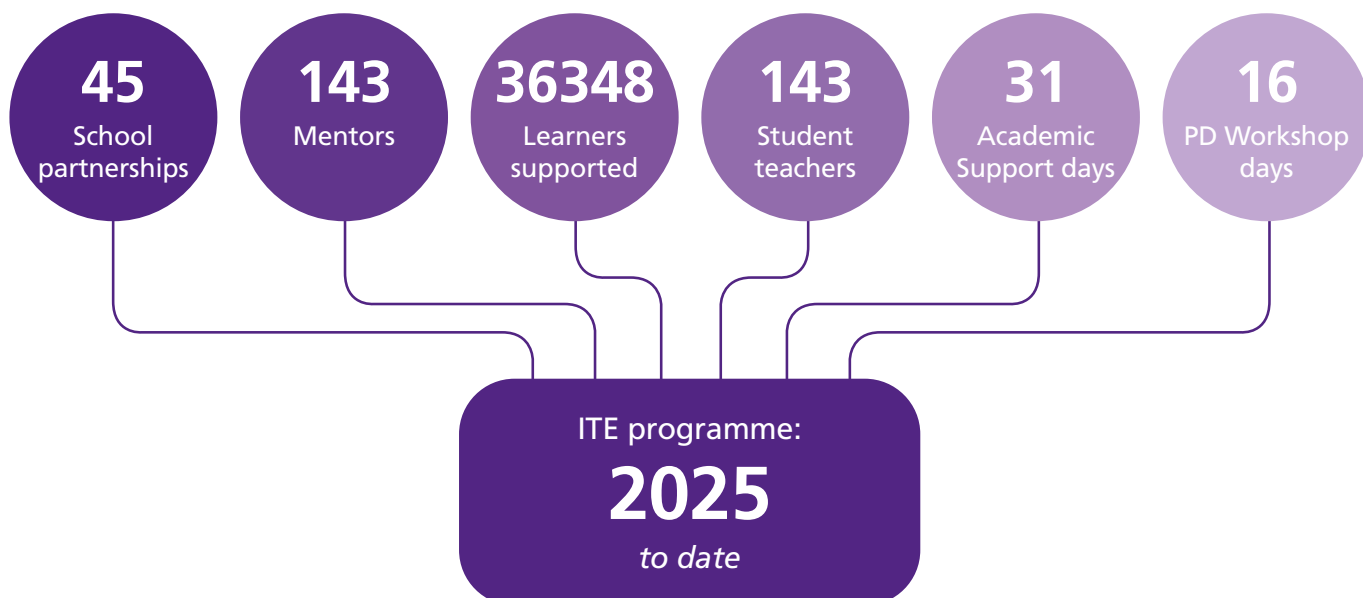


Improving the quality of education in South African schools in order to bring about socio-economic equity

KICP Newsletter

Third Quarter 2025

ITE Output Overview:





Winter Summits

KICP hosted a two-day Winter Summit for both new and returning student teachers, strengthening their professional and leadership skills. Sessions explored the legacy of June 16, inclusive and differentiated teaching, and strategies for meaningful classroom conversations. Workshops on Responsible Citizenship, Undertaking a Life Audit, and Understanding the Child Protection Act deepened student teachers' sense of accountability, while practical sessions on referencing sharpened academic skills. Further Reflective Learning sessions were included in the daily programmes and boosted confidence in teaching maths through innovative numeracy support.



School Mentors' Workshops

Themed around Inclusivity in schools, the KICP partner school mentors gathered in Hubs for an insightful workshop focused on understanding and addressing ADD and ADHD within the classroom environment. They were equipped with strategies to foster an inclusive and productive learning space for learners. As this quarter's meeting was held during Women's Month, the mentors were also warmly encouraged to continue their vital role in empowering women and girls in their schools and communities.



ECD



Field workers closed out practitioner skills training with Brain Jar, and supported the principals of the centres toward DoE registration, preparing ECDs for Silver and potentially Gold status. A closing principals' meeting was conducted where an opportunity to celebrate successes and a future commitment to growth and sustainability were expressed. KICP supported the development of the early stages of their becoming independent as a CoP in 2026. Two lively community workshops at the Khanyisa Community Centre base reached 64 practitioners, showcasing play-based learning, creative use of recycled materials, storytelling, song, and early numeracy as powerful tools for ECD settings.



New base for the BHI Hub at KwaNuyswa

Inkazimulo Primary has become the new Hub after Imbeleko was no longer available. Conveniently located, the school provides a spacious venue and has hosted KICP academic support sessions, quarterly Saturday Workshops, and Hub Summits. The principal, Ms. Dlamini, and her staff have warmly welcomed the programme, creating a supportive environment for KICP student teachers.



Saturday Workshop

The Saturday Workshop opened with a warm welcome and check-in, celebrating the uniqueness of every student teacher. The theme of Inclusivity allowed for all sessions to focus on aspects of neurodiversity. Sessions were offered on Social Emotional Learning (SEL) and deepening understanding of relationships. Further opportunity was given for STs to engage with mathematical skills in the Reflective Learning programme. Other inclusivity topics included practical strategies for supporting learners with ADD/ADHD, and how to address speech barriers such as selective mutism, stammering, and non-verbal communication. The morning further encouraged all STs to ensure that all learners feel seen, valued, and included.



KICP Teacher Professional Development

Comprising work with teachers at various post levels, this quarter's workshops have helped participants to explore the ways in which inclusion-infused environments help learners and teachers to fulfill their potential.

- Digital Teaching and Learning workshops allowed teachers to explore the ways in which polls and QR codes can assist them with respect to data gathering and dissemination.
- Social Emotional Learning workshops helped participants distinguish between technical challenges and adaptive challenges. These workshops also helped participants to recognise the opportunities for growth that exist at each stage of team development.
- Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) workshops supported teachers with numeracy concepts like place value and resource making.
- Facilitation around inclusive Education helped school leaders differentiate between deliberately disruptive behaviour and behaviour resulting from neurological barriers to learning.



Inclusivity Project



KICP hosted a workshop at Ethel Mthiyane Special Needs School to equip staff and parents, and celebrate learner progress. The programme included Makaton training, strategies for consistent classroom practice, and insights into sensory needs and behaviour support. The role of therapists in supporting learners on the autism spectrum, along with the importance of school/home collaboration, was highlighted. Guest speakers, Mrs. Nozipho Zuma (DoE Inclusive Education Coordinator) and Miss Ningi (Counselling Psychologist, District Clinic), enriched the workshop. Parents reviewed their children's work, left encouraged, and openly shared progress seen at home.



Lead Where You Are Leadership Programme

The third quarter of *Lead Where You Are* embraced a Heritage Day theme and received excellent ratings, with participants noting “Aha!” moments that reshaped their understanding of leadership. Modules on communication, learning culture, and evaluation empowered leaders to influence, collaborate, and value others. Many committed to concrete next steps, including sharing knowledge with staff, engaging stakeholders, and strengthening school culture. One participant said, “Don’t miss any session - you leave equipped and ready to lead better than before.”



Foundational Literacy and Numeracy



KICP's Foundational Learning Programme which strengthens literacy, numeracy, and inclusive practices in ten Pinetown primary schools saw teachers implementing strategies in reading comprehension, phonics, vocabulary, and numeracy. This project is supported by trained Education Assistants through reading clubs, phonics dramatisations, and practical classroom resources. Innovative tools like base ten cards and integrated numeracy exercises increased engagement. As one teacher observed, "Using practical tools like phonics tables and base ten cards has transformed my classroom - learners are more excited to learn every day."

Staff Trailblazers

KICP is proud of Robyn McQueen who authored the Essential Wrap-Around Support for Extended Student Teacher Internships model. Developed over several months in collaboration with peer implementing partners supporting ITE student teachers, this document sets out a scalable, cost-effective, and impactful approach to supporting student teachers as they complete their B.Ed. through distance learning.

[*Click here to view the full article.*](#)

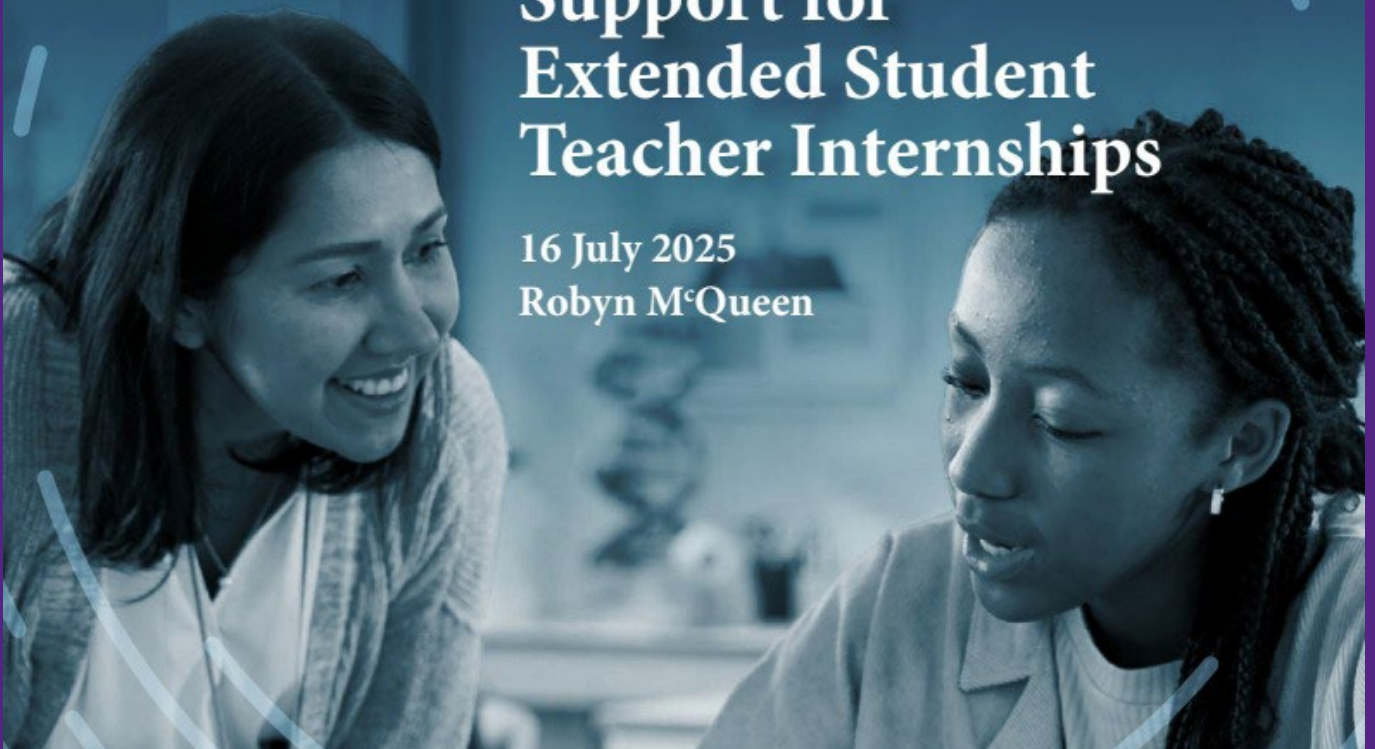


Robyn McQueen



Essential Wrap-Around Support for Extended Student Teacher Internships

16 July 2025
Robyn McQueen



KICP Student Teachers in Action





Our mission is to provide high quality professional development to teachers, teacher interns and educational leaders, using school-based experiential learning. We look forward to the next quarter to continue fulfilling our purpose.

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