

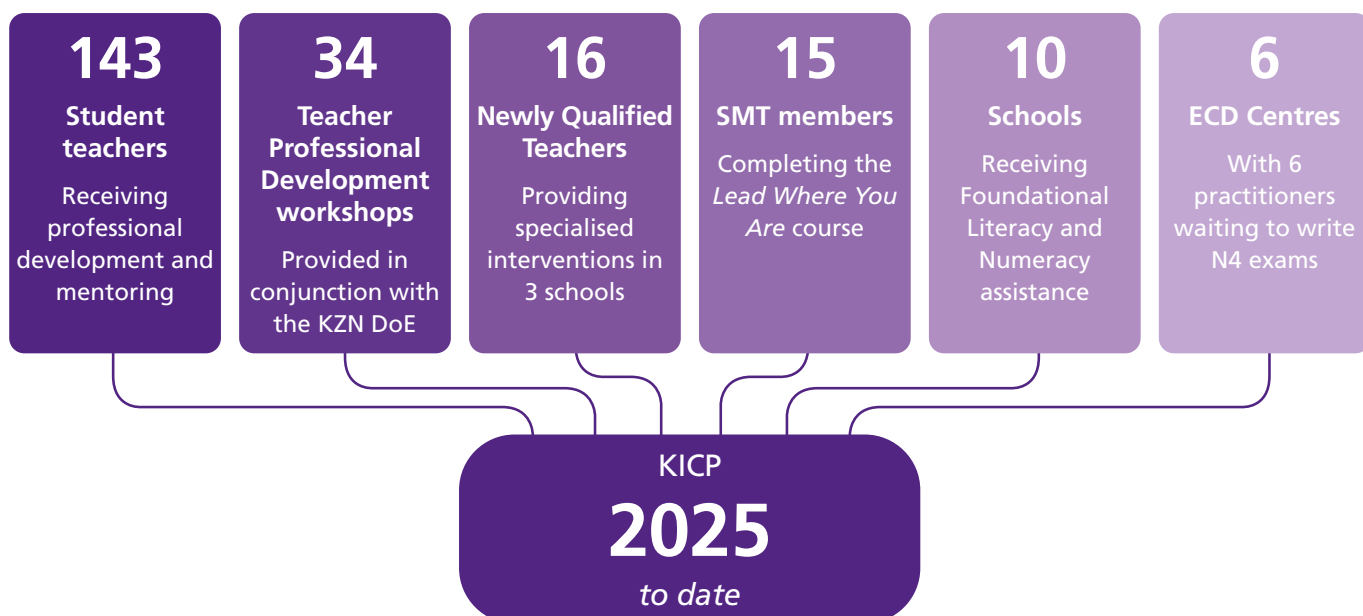


# Improving the quality of education in South African schools in order to bring about socio-economic equity

KICP Newsletter

Fourth Quarter 2025

## Output Overview:



# ITE Final Virtual Summit 2025

The final ITE Summit which is traditionally hosted in a virtual format, provided an engaging, well-structured learning experience for all student teachers. Key sessions focused on identity and wellbeing, inclusivity (with strong emphasis on dyslexia and dyscalculia), global education priorities, and effective teaching habits. Practical guidance on study skills and learner agency was well received, and participants appreciated the balance of theory and practice. Feedback was highly positive, with student teachers valuing the relevance of the content and the supportive environment.



## Engine room for the Virtual Summit

# Year end Reflections

## Student Teacher and Project Mentor

The ratings selected by the student teachers in their Term 4 reflections indicated notable overall progress. They reflected strong competence in assignment submission, that they were supported by ongoing mentorship, while their increasing classroom confidence showed clear gains linked to the structured academic and practical support provided.

Project Mentors reflected that student teachers' had continued to show improvement in areas such as classroom management, guidance from school-based mentors, self-care, and creative pedagogy, reflecting sustained growth and enhanced overall teaching effectiveness.



# Year end Reflections



## Principal and School Mentor reflections

By engaging its partner schools in reflective sessions, these discussions allowed school principals to consider both the advantages and challenges of hosting KICP student teachers, highlight the benefits their schools had experienced, and provide feedback on the programme's implementation. Mentors also reflected on their mentorship journeys and the growth they had witnessed in their student teachers. As a gesture of sincere appreciation, KICP presented principals and mentors with branded notebooks, pads, and planners. This small token acknowledged the invaluable partnership, support, and commitment demonstrated by our partner schools throughout the year.



# The KICP Leadership Programme: Lead Where You Are 2025 Closing Celebration



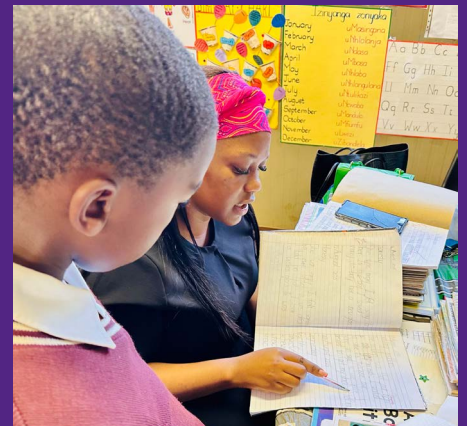
The LWYA programme strengthens professional communities of practice by supporting and developing school leadership teams through a seven-month blended learning course. KICP recently celebrated the 2025 cohort's completion with a reflective event which featured a keynote address by Mr. Tanyanyika, Principal of LIV School, who spoke on sustaining leadership growth through professional learning communities. Ms T. Ndlovu, Principal of Khanyanjalo Primary School, offered reflections on the everyday challenges of school leadership and emphasised the importance of building strong connections with teachers. The event furthermore featured a 'fireside chat' with course participants who reflected and shared insights gained. The event concluded with the awarding of certificates to acknowledge the cohort's achievements.



# Newly Qualified Teachers



As the 2025 Newly Qualified Teachers (NQT) Programme concludes at Umzamo, Empilweni, and Inkazimulo in KwaNyuswa, and at Groutville High and Ethel Mthiyane in the Thuthuka Hub, KICP celebrates a year of growth and transformation. NQTs have progressed from cautious beginners to confident, reflective educators who strengthened their practice, embraced inclusive strategies, and contributed to learner progress and well-being. Their reflections highlight greater confidence, improved classroom management, purposeful planning, and a stronger professional identity - teachers who began "surviving" now proudly describe themselves as thriving. Mentors affirm improved routines, stronger learner engagement, and measurable academic gains, including higher pass rates and reading fluency in the schools. This year has equipped NQTs with essential skills, adaptability, and aspirations for further study, leadership, and long-term impact. KICP is proud of every NQT, mentor, and school community who made this journey possible.



# Inclusive Education Programme

For the past two years, Groutville High School has received dedicated support in its Grade 8 and 9 classes, where learners with barriers to learning were identified. Through the weekly guidance and mentorship of a KICP specialist, alongside the daily presence of four NTQs, teaching and learning were strengthened. This was achieved through ongoing coaching, lesson modelling, and targeted interventions in reading, comprehension, and mathematics. As the programme concludes at the end of the academic year, the recent exit meeting with the Deputy Principal and Grade 8 and 9 teachers highlighted the school's appreciation for the KICP Inclusive Education Programme. Teachers expressed that the initiative equipped them with practical strategies to support learners facing diverse barriers to learning. Their reflections affirmed that, with differentiated instruction and the right support, all learners have the opportunity to thrive.



The KICP Inclusive Education Programme has worked alongside the staff at Ethel Mthiyane Special School to enhance learner engagement, communication, independence, and functional skills, while transforming classrooms into autism-friendly spaces with structured routines and resources that support inclusive teaching. Teachers benefited from ongoing training and mentorship, parents gained practical skills through workshops to reinforce learning at home, and the school strengthened its infrastructure and partnership with KICP, ensuring sustainable, learner-centred practices that positively impact the entire school community.



## KICP 2026 Planning Day

KICP's organisational planning process began with strategic discussions led by the Executive Committee, reaffirming the organisation's vision of improving education quality and advancing socio-economic equity. The session, enriched by insights from the virtual Global Leadership Summit speakers, included prayer, reflective check-ins, and a focus on empowerment, ensuring all voices were heard. Key priorities highlighted the importance of monitoring and evaluation, the unveiling of the 2026 theme Cultivating Connections, and discussions on structural changes, funding uncertainties, and strengthened leadership. The session closed with appreciation for the team's unity, collaboration, and commitment.



## Farewells

Our staff said a sad farewell to two valued members of the KICP family this year.

Glenn Harper, who has helped pioneer new ground since joining KICP seven years ago, is stepping down from his executive role to pursue a full-time law degree next year. He will be joining his father at Harpur & Associates in an internship capacity while he returns to study. We wish him every success in this new chapter. We are confident that his exceptional communication abilities will set him apart in the legal field.



Nomusa Jobe, who has served as a field worker in the ECD project, leaves behind strong organisational support across the six ECD centres in which she worked daily. She now moves on to pursue her own teaching aspirations, with plans to establish an ECD centre in her community. We wish her every success as she brings this important vision to life.



# KICP Student Teachers in Action





MERRY  
*Christmas*  
&  
HAPPY NEW YEAR



As the year draws to a close, KICP thanks our partners, staff, and friends of the organisation for their support

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and a joyful, prosperous New Year.

### Contact Us

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