



# ANNUAL REPORT 2023

VUSA Rugby & Learning  
Academy



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# ORGANISATION DETAILS

## TRUSTEES

Tony Reeler (Chairman)  
Brendan Fogarty (Director)  
Crispin Sonn  
Greg Brown  
Richard Evans  
Delene Mark  
Charmaine Cheminais  
Sean King  
Mak Kahla  
Stuart Abbott  
Kay Lala-Sides  
Nosipho Poswa

## CONTACT DETAILS

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Trust No: IT 296/2019 (C)

NPO No: 229-180 NPO

PBO No: 930066707

BEEE : Procurement Level 1

## SECTION 18A

VUSA IS A REGISTERED  
PBO & CAN ISSUE A  
CERTIFICATE FOR ALL  
BONAFIDE DONATIONS

## LEVEL 1

BBEE  
CERTIFICATION



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# A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON



As Chairperson of VUSA Rugby and Learning Academy and as the Principal of Bishops, I would like to acknowledge the profound impact and benefit that VUSA has had on both the Langa and Bishops communities.

New to VUSA this year is the formation of the Early Childhood Development (ECD) Angels, a parents' volunteer group that dedicates Tuesday mornings to support VUSA children at the Dalukhanyo creche in Langa. Their commitment and care to the children has been nothing short of inspirational. They are fostering a sense of community by the care and kindness they are showing these young people. Similarly, Grade 6 & 7 Bishops parents come together each year to plan a magical Christmas party for VUSA's aftercare children. This event is talked about by the children all year long and has become a highlight on the VUSA calendar.

In addition to the work done by parents of the Bishops community, I am immensely proud of the Bishops boys who initiated the VUSA Peer Learning Programme, with a weekly journey to Langa to provide vital support in English and Mathematics to primary school children in the community. Their commitment to the upliftment of their fellow students in Langa is an example to us all as they redefine the spirit of community building.

The VUSA 24 Hour Cycle Challenge stands out in the calendar as a truly special moment. The Bishops community invested countless hours in the saddle, donated so generously to support VUSA's cause, and this is a testament to the passion and commitment that we share. Not only did we surpass our target in terms of funds raised, but the community spirit and enthusiasm was contagious as people from all parts of the Bishops community and the Langa community cycled together for this amazing cause.

The Atlas Digibus program, under the inspired leadership of Lebohang Mokoena and her team, continues to achieve spectacular results. I encourage you to turn to page 8 to read about the invaluable work they are doing to empower children through digital education. The mobile library project continues to ignite the love for stories in young children. Daily readings provide them with a sense of wonder and a lifelong love for learning. Similarly, the ECD program supports numeracy and literacy development through play.

The heart of VUSA is undoubtedly the rugby program, which continues to provide a safe space for over 200 young boys and girls. For many, rugby is more than a sport; it is a lifeline, imparting valuable life skills that they will carry with them into the future. In addition, it offers a sense of belonging to those children who may not come from stable homes, with some even serving as heads of their households, while they care for younger siblings. When we see stressed and troubled children return to the program day after day, we know we are providing a safe and happy space for them. VUSA's dedicated catering team further adds comfort by preparing a home-cooked hot meal for the children every single day. The outings, (many shared with their peers at Bishops) are another aspect of this programme that ensures children are given exposure to new places and opportunities, that they would otherwise not have access to.

South Africa undoubtedly faces many challenges, but it is heartening to witness the impact of this programme as we see the children grow and develop. As our much-loved Springbok captain Siya Kolisi and his team have shown us, time and time again, we are stronger together. We are thankful to be part of a South Africa where we work together for the future of all children. These children represent the future of our great nation, and it is our collective responsibility to support and nurture their growth.

In closing, I thank all members of the VUSA team who work tirelessly in support of the programme and I extend my gratitude to each of you who have been part of this journey, whether as a volunteer, donor, or partner. Your support has been invaluable, and it is through our collective efforts that we can continue to build a brighter future for South Africa.

Kind regards

Tony Reeler  
**Chairman**

# ECD PROGRAMME

## ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) PROGRAMME

This is the second year VUSA is running the innovative English as a Second Language programme developed by Project Playground's Mercedes Artigue-Beattie which has spearheaded a transformative educational initiative for non-English speaking children who progress to English medium schools. The program not only successfully introduced children to the English language but also imparted crucial themes in both isiXhosa and English, covering topics such as shapes, colors, letters, body parts, seasons, and emotions.

The primary goal was to see 75% of children progress from a basic understanding of English (per the curriculum) to the intermediate levels of orange or green. Remarkably, the results surpassed expectations, with 100% of learners having experienced an increase in their baseline point scores, while an impressive 97% advanced to either the developing (orange) or expanding (green) levels. Beyond language acquisition, the programme fostered essential skills by teaching children to collaborate in small groups and to follow instructions in a structured setting, which provided valuable preparation for those who will transition to Grade 1 next year. The success of this initiative underscores its significant impact on both language proficiency and broader developmental skills, which sets a promising precedent for future endeavors in these children's education.



### Outcomes Key

- Beginner level (red): 0-12 points
- Developing level (orange): 13-22 points
- Expanding level (green) 23-46 points

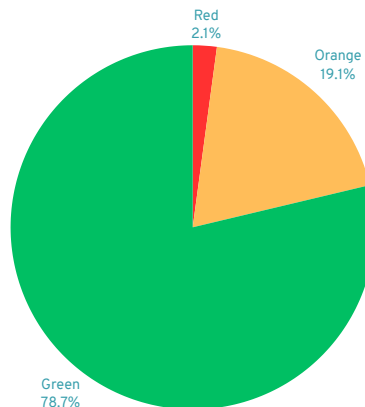
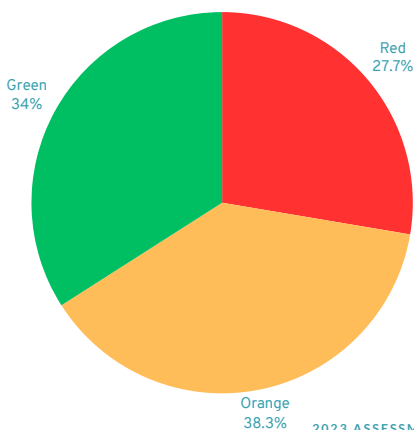
**Beginner level (Red)** Understands/ recognises and names very few words in English with the help of visual aids and the facilitator. . In some cases, there is no understanding of the English language at all.

**Developing level (Orange):** Understands/ recognises and names some words in English. Mostly responds to greetings in English without the help of the facilitator.

**Expanding level (Green)** Understands/ recognises and produces simple sentences in English on familiar contexts without the support of visual aids and facilitator. Uses familiar language and expressions to respond to greetings and introduction topics in English.

### BASELINE ASSESSMENT

### SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT



2023 ASSESSMENT RESULTS

**98%**

IMPROVED RESULTS. ALL BUT ONE LEARNER PROGRESSED FROM BEGINNER



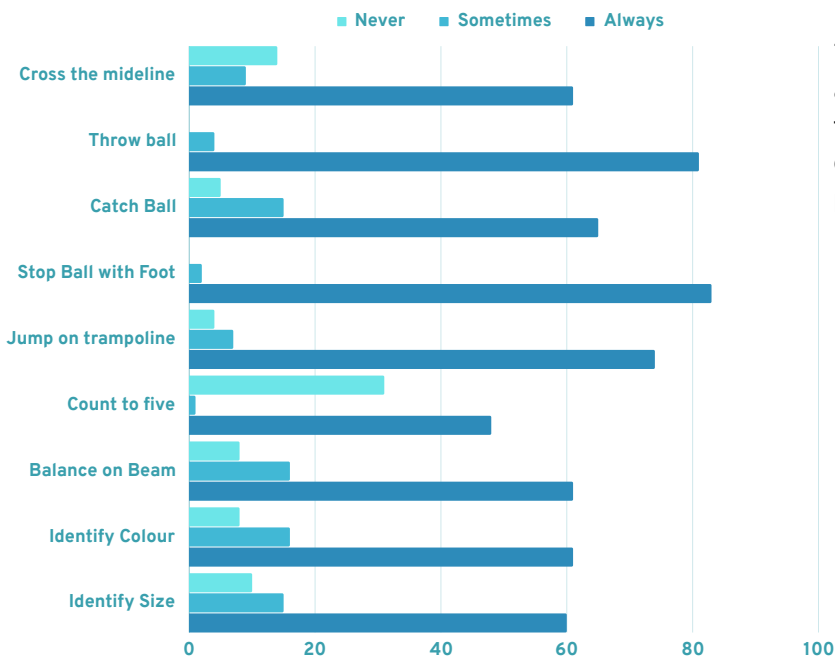
# ECD PROGRAMMES CONTINUED



## ACTIVE PROGRAMME

The impact of the Active programme at VUSA is reflected in the daily Phys Ed sessions led by VUSA coaches at the three supported centers—Dalukhanyo, Nomonde, and Gege's Creche. These sessions focus on the refinement of gross motor skills and coordination, with a creative incorporation of themes from the ESL programme into active games.

Programme success is measured through a termly obstacle course, where the progress of participants (aged 4-6) is clearly demonstrated. At the start of the year, over 60% of participants struggled with basic tasks such as crossing their midline and stopping a ball with their foot but the "always" line on the graph illustrates remarkable improvement, indicating that most participants can now competently complete these activities.



The resonance of children's laughter and the positive assessment results affirm that being able to learn through play is the most effective method, and it emphasises the success and vitality of the Active programme in nurturing holistic development.



# ECD PROGRAMMES CONTINUED



## MOBILE LIBRARY PROJECT

We are thrilled to showcase the significant strides made by the VUSA Tuk Tuk Mobile Library Project, which addressed the critical issue highlighted in the 2021 Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS). The study revealed that a staggering 81% of South African grade 4 pupils struggle to read for meaning across all 11 official languages, emphasizing the urgency of intervention. Over the past five years, the figure has risen from 78% in the 2016 study.

The VUSA Tuk Tuk Mobile Library plays a pivotal role and recognises the power of early intervention in combating this literacy challenge. Each morning, the mobile library, loaded with a diverse selection of books, embarks on a mission to visit three VUSA creches. Facilitator Lungile, armed with animated stories in both English and isiXhosa, captivates the young minds with tales that not only entertain but also impart valuable morals and lifeskills. Lungile firmly believes in the profound impact of starting literacy education at a young age. To ensure comprehension, he engages the children by reading stories, posing questions, and testing their memory skills. Lungile typically shares 2-3 stories daily, always keeping the favourites in his bag, ready to delight the eager listeners with an extra story if time allows.

420

BOOKS READ



93

CHILDREN



3

ECD CENTRES



# THE ATLAS DIGIBUS



## Overview:

The Atlas Digibus continues to make a significant impact on education in the Langa community through its support of five primary schools. The primary areas of emphasis this year were English (as a second language), Maths, and Coding, with the use of Reading Eggs, Matific, and Code4Kids, respectively.

## Reading Eggs:

The baseline test demonstrated that many children struggled with fundamental English skills. From difficulty in spelling their names to challenges in the comprehension the diverse levels of proficiency, required a tailored approach. The program's "Fast Phonics" segment was chosen for its adaptability.

Baseline results revealed that all children were placed at level one, with a score between 0% and 20%. This reflected their struggle with English and initial hesitation to use the program, given its requirement for reading aloud into a microphone. Despite this, progress was notable by the fourth term, with increased confidence, more frequent English usage, and improvements of 2-3 levels. On average, each child was exposed to 57 words, 13 phonetic sounds, and 4 books, which showcased promising advancements.

## Matific:

Children enjoyed Matific's vibrant interface, sounds, and engaging games, which fostered a sense of adventure. While language barriers initially impeded progress, the introduction of Reading Eggs significantly aided comprehension. Children, previously behind the standard learning level, started to read questions aloud and even translating them into Xhosa for better understanding. This practice led to notable improvements, particularly in the latter half of the year.

Matific covered a range of topics, including Number Operations and Relationships, Number Concept Development, Problem Solving in Context, Context-Free Calculations, Space & Shapes (Geometry), Whole Numbers, Fractions, and Measurements. The children's progress demonstrated an enhanced grasp of these mathematical concepts.



# ATLAS DIGIBUS CONTINUED

## CODING

Code4Kids has proven to be a valuable addition to the Atlas Digibus, offering grade 5 learners an opportunity to enhance their computer technical skills acquired in grade 4. The program covers HTML, Javascript, Robotics, and ICT (data manipulation), challenging initial perceptions that it might overwhelm students. On the contrary, grade 5 learners thoroughly enjoyed the program, finding it to be a fun platform that not only teaches a new skill but also facilitates engagement with schoolwork.

Code4Kids has become a catalyst for self-expression and creativity while learning new skills. For instance, in the first HTML lesson, students create a "South Africa" page and witnessed changes in real-time on a split screen. This hands-on approach allows children to add a personal touch to their work, fostering autonomy and a sense of pride. The program encourages a shift in mindset, emphasizing individual expression over pleasing the teacher.

The curriculum incorporates collaborative problem-solving through challenging activities. Each lesson includes a "Challenge" where students must apply their acquired skills to complete a complex task, thereby promoting teamwork and critical thinking. Students not only collaborate during these challenges but also voluntarily assist their peers once they've mastered the task, fostering a supportive learning environment.

Despite time constraints, Code4Kids made a significant impact, leading schools to reconsider their initial reservations and grant more time for the program in the upcoming year. Teachers have embraced the initiative, as they witnessed previously disengaged students become focused and enthusiastic. Code4Kids accommodates various learning styles and provides support for students often left out by traditional education models.

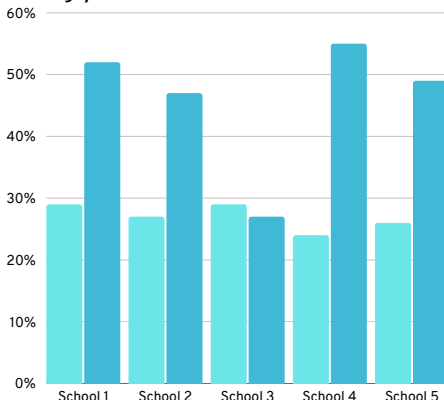
## DIGITAL LITERACY

Indicators of Digital Literacy: Although our assessments don't explicitly measure digital literacy, we observe certain indicators. The reduced need for interns through the course of the year (we require 4 at the beginning of the year and only 1 at the end), increased independence in program navigation (participants no longer need help logging in and can now navigate between two different programmes seamlessly), and decreased time spent on basic equipment and program familiarisation (more time is spent on course material than showing children how to navigate the mouse and keyboard) are indicative of improved digital literacy.

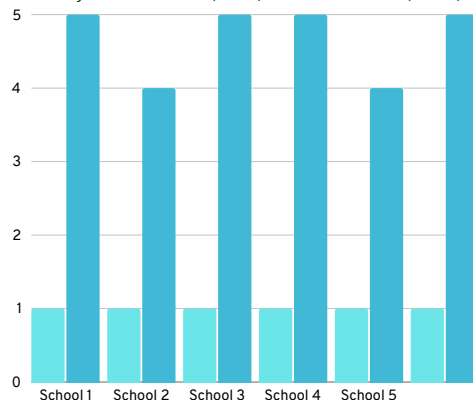
## CONCLUSION

The year 2023 witnessed considerable advancements in English, Maths, and Coding proficiency among the children in the VUSA community, thanks to the dedicated efforts of the staff on Atlas Digibus. While challenges were present, the adaptability of the programs and the commitment of the students and educators bode well for the future. The increased confidence, language proficiency, and academic growth observed set a positive trajectory for continued success in the coming years.

English Placement Test (Term 1) Placement Test (Term 4)



English Placement Test (Term 1) Placement Test (Term 4)



### KEY

0% - 20%	Level 1
20% - 30%	Level 2
30% - 40%	Level 3
40% - 50%	Level 4
50% - 60%	Level 5
60% - 70%	Level 6
70% - 80%	Level 7
80% - 90%	Level 8
90% - 100%	Level 9

78%

Would be left unattended each day if not at VUSA

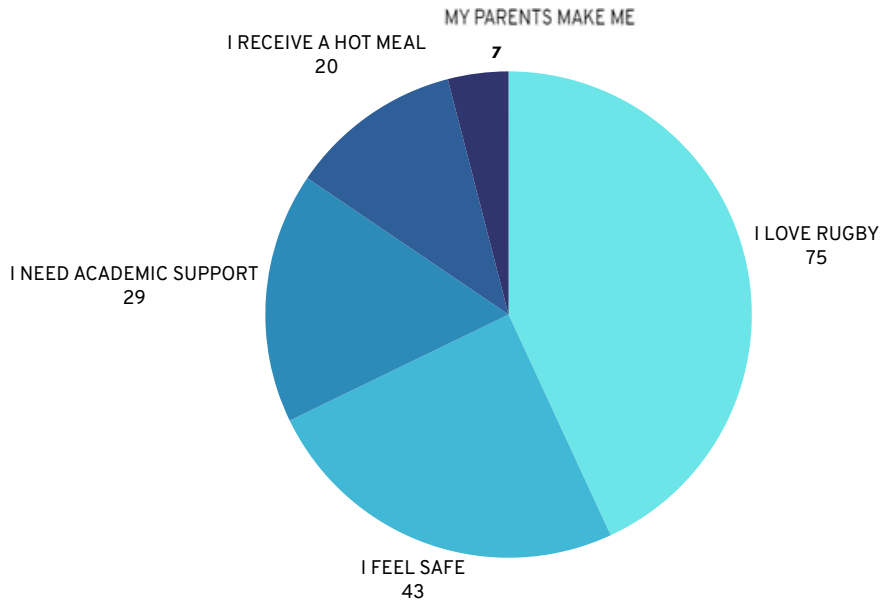
61%

Reported improvement in academic results.



# PARTICIPANT QUESTIONNAIRE FEEDBACK

## PRIMARY REASON WHY CHILDREN ATTEND VUSA



## IF I COULD CHANGE ONE THING IN THE WORLD IT WOULD BE...



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## RUGBY

VUSA's rugby teams, span various age groups (U9 to U13), and they have enjoyed a successful season, not only excelling on the field but they have also demonstrated remarkable growth and sportsmanship.

The extensive range of games played across the peninsula, from Masiphumele in the South to Kraaifontein in the North, showcases the breadth of VUSA's reach and engagement. Noteworthy opponents in the local schools league, including Bishops, Wynberg, SACS, Sweet Valley, WPPS, Kirstenhof, and Sun Valley, have provided our teams with challenging yet enriching experiences. The inclusion of club matches against Hamiltons RFC, Primrose RFC, NTK RFC, Brackenfell, SSDP and Schotsche Kloof Walmers RFC, further emphasizes the diverse and competitive nature of VUSA's rugby program.

The positive impact of playing rugby with and against formidable opponents is evident in the increased competitiveness of VUSA teams, with several victories highlighting their progress. Beyond the field, the growth in confidence among the players has transcended into their school lives and beyond, showcasing the transformative power of well-coached and spirit-filled rugby.



Central to this success are the dedicated coaches who serve as positive role models for the children. In an environment where such figures can be rare, these coaches play a vital role in instilling values of strict adherence to the rules, acts of bravery, mastery of skills, and the importance of love and kindness. The rugby season was further enriched by the global spectacle of the World Cup, where VUSA children collectively witnessed the excitement and impact of the sport, particularly the positive influence of players like Siya Kolisi and his team.

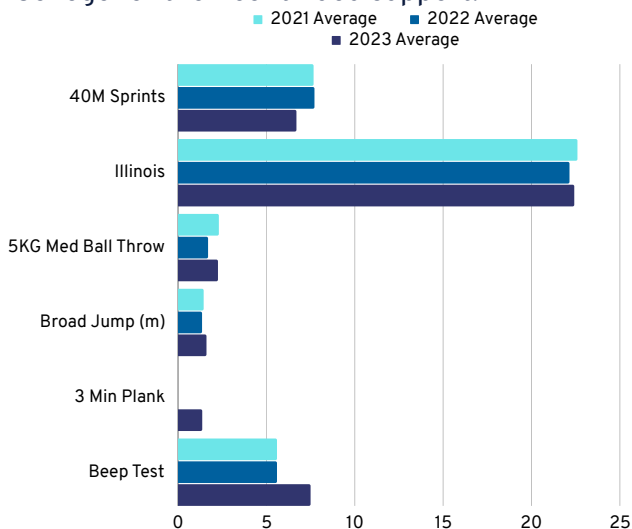
As we look ahead to the 2024 season, the anticipation for an exciting year is palpable, with possibilities of a tour for the U13A team and a continuation of engaging games and festivals. The gratitude extends to all players, coaches, referees, and medical staff who tirelessly contribute to creating a safe and friendly environment for the children to play this great game.

## RUGBY CONTINUED

The impact of VUSA's rugby program extends beyond the field, as evidenced in the second report covering the 2023 rugby season. The growth in the number of games played, the potential for a third team per agegroup in 2024, and the inclusion of more girls in the program highlights the continued development and inclusivity of VUSA's rugby initiative. The emphasis on life lessons, fair play, discipline, and teamwork underscores the organization's commitment to shaping well-rounded individuals.

Notable events such as hosting Bishops Prep and Western Province Prep in Langa, combined with a successful collaboration with the DHL Stormers Rugby Squad, showcase the positive relationships VUSA continues to build with partner schools and organisations. Invitations to prestigious rugby festivals like the Wynberg Rugby Festival and plans for future participation indicate the growing recognition and success of VUSA's rugby program.

As the organisation looks forward to another big rugby year, it is evident that rugby, beyond being a team sport, serves as a platform for building tomorrow's leaders. Our heartfelt appreciation extends to everyone who has supported VUSA throughout the year, with a special acknowledgment to Bishops Prep and College for their continued support.

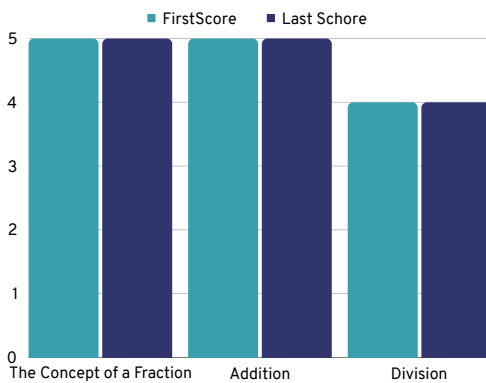


# ACADEMIC SUPPORT

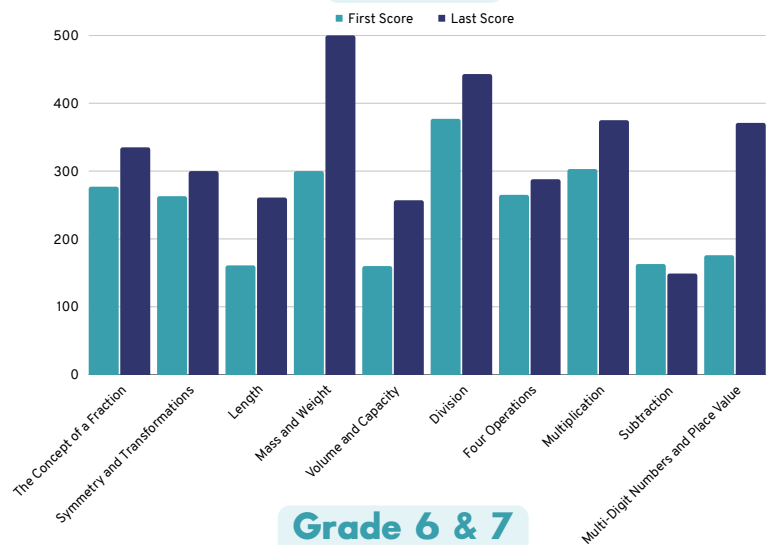
It is imperative to address the critical educational challenges facing South African children, as highlighted by the PIRLS 2021 reading results. The disheartening statistics reveal that 81% of Grade 4 students in the country struggle to read for meaning, underscoring the urgency of targeted interventions. Our academic after-school program remains steadfast in its commitment to addressing this issue, with a continued emphasis on English comprehension and Mathematics. The morning Atlas Digibus Reading Eggs initiative has shown to be a transformative addition, demonstrating a link between enhanced reading abilities and improved mathematical understanding. Notably, our Grade 4'ss have yielded remarkable results using the Matific Maths app, showing an impressive 45.7% improvement in Mathematics assessments from the initial to the final test. This is the same age-group who participate in the Digibus ESL programme in the mornings. While Grades 5, 6, and 7 exhibited commendable progress with improvements ranging between 17 and 18.6%, the focus remains on narrowing the educational gap. Looking ahead to 2024, we are poised to introduce Reading Eggs into our afterschool program, aiming to fortify foundational skills and contribute to a positive shift in the academic landscape for our students. This strategic initiative aligns with our unwavering commitment to fostering a brighter future through education.

## MATIFIC PROGRESS - AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMME

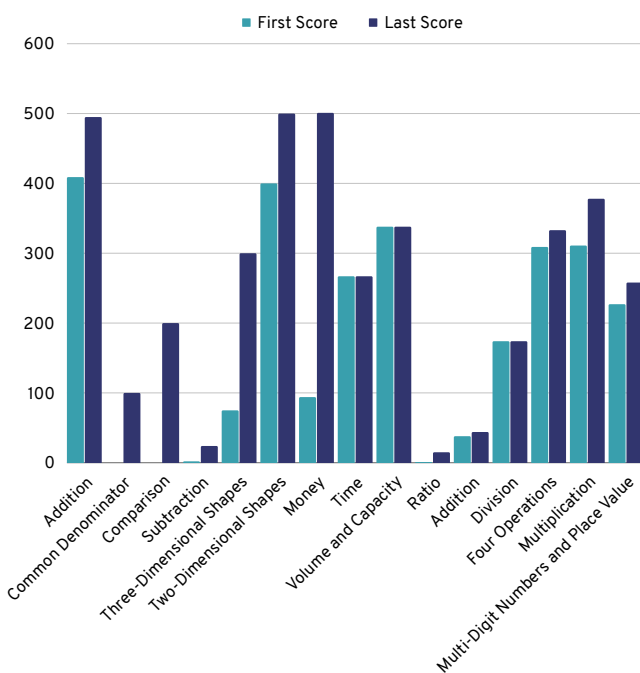
### Grade 3



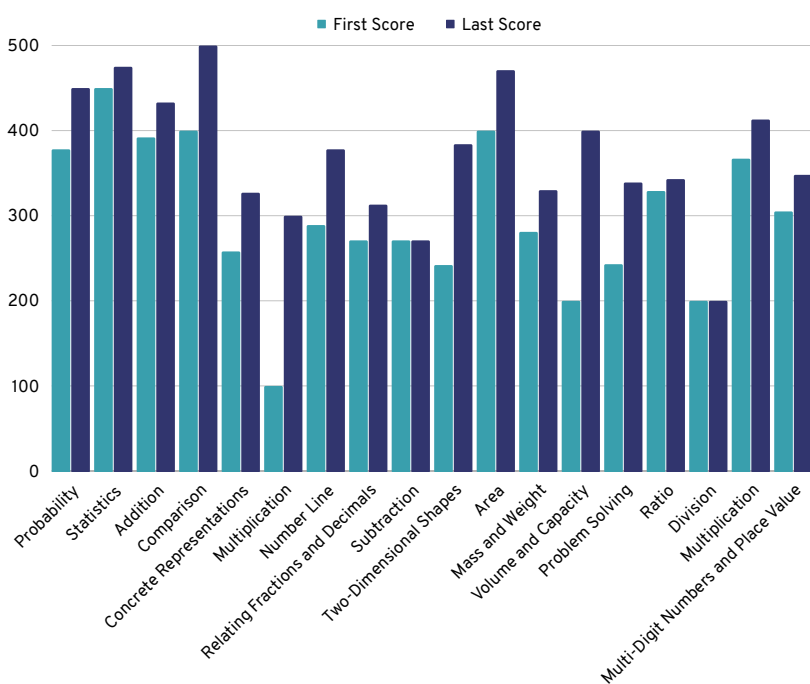
### Grade 4



### Grade 5



### Grade 6 & 7



# FOOD



This programme is not possible without the support of incredible organisations like The Lunchbox Fund and Shoprite (We Act for Change). Their unwavering commitment ensures that no child in our program goes to bed hungry. The collaboration with The Lunchbox Fund has been instrumental in providing nutritionally balanced meals, accompanied by meal plans and recipes, easing the process for our dedicated staff to deliver a healthy daily meal.

Recognizing that school nutrition plays a pivotal role in a child's ability to learn and thrive, we are grateful to be in a position to include this in our daily programme.

In a country where less than 50% of children who start school in Grade 1 make it through Grade 12, our partnership with The Lunchbox Fund and Shoprite takes on added significance. Beyond addressing immediate hunger, this collaboration serves as a crucial incentive for impoverished caregivers to enroll their children in our program, thereby contributing to increased attendance and to ensure that children are safe with access to great role-models and academic support.

For some households, it alleviates the burden of one less mouth to feed, while for others, it ensures that at least the children in the household won't go to bed hungry.

The generous support from the Shoprite Group extends beyond providing fresh fruits and vegetables to our feeding program. They have been instrumental in supplying food and beverages for outings and rugby matches, thereby demonstrating their commitment to holistic well-being. Moreover, Shoprite's active involvement in VUSA events, including the provision of soup trucks, essential products and the annual Christmas goodie bags for our children, underscores their dedication to making a meaningful impact to our VUSA children.

Together, these partnerships form the backbone of our mission to break the cycle of hunger and poor education. Through collaborative efforts, we strive to create an environment where every child has the opportunity to thrive and lead a healthier, more prosperous life.



## OUTINGS & EXPERIENCES



Over the course of the last year, VUSA has remained steadfast in its mission to enhance the lives of our VUSA children through a series of impactful recreational outings. These diverse excursions, have encompassed visits to the beach, Total Ninja Adventure Park, a soccer day at Bishops, and exclusive access to the Stormers high-performance center and have provided transformative experiences for the participating children. Particularly noteworthy is the emphasis on cultural and educational enrichment, evident in an outing organised by Culture Connect to the The Iziko South African National Gallery. Entries to races like the Deli2Sea and the Milkwood run expose children to new activities and experiences that they would otherwise not have access to. Beyond individual growth, many of these outings are conducted in collaboration with children from Bishops Prep, which fosters a sense of social cohesion and community connection. This collaborative approach not only broadens horizons but also nurtures essential skills, ranging from physical fitness and teamwork to social interaction and cultural appreciation. The annual Christmas party hosted by Grade 6 & 7 Bishops families add a special touch to the VUSA calendar - it creates a day where children feel seen and spoiled, something that is absent in many households. These outings, undertaken in partnership with others reflect VUSA's dedication to holistic child development, emphasizing enjoyment, education, cultural enrichment, and the cultivation of meaningful connections within the broader community.





# VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers play a pivotal role in enriching the lives of the children in our community. The ECD Angels, initiated by Aoife Doherty, a Bishops parent, has blossomed into a thriving weekly program. Every Tuesday, volunteers go out to Langa to engage with children at the Dalukhanyo Creche, indulging in activities such as puzzles, playdough, stories and fun learning activities.

Bishops Grade 11 students have established a peer learning initiative, with actively participating in afterschool programs in Langa, and collaboration with Herschel Girls students to expand the reach of this impactful program.

In 2023, a significant partnership with GVI was forged, bringing students from Stanford University to conduct a holiday camp for both our Grade 12s and ECD children. This successful program is set to continue into 2024. We are pleased once again to work alongside volunteers from African Impact, renewing an important collaboration and fostering a connection with individuals from around the world. These interactions not only contribute to our children's personal development but also serve as windows to different cultures, languages, and perspectives.

A highlight of 2023, the Capitec entrepreneurial programme, resumed which underscored the impact of volunteer efforts. Capitec volunteers generously dedicate their time each month to teach our children about small business development, They impart valuable skills and knowledge about marketing, identifying products, target markets and financial management etc.

We express our deep gratitude to all individuals and organizations whose commitment to volunteering goes beyond the ordinary. Their time, effort, and mentorship are instrumental in shaping a brighter future for our children and fostering a sense of community that extends far beyond our immediate surroundings. Volunteers leave with a far better understanding of the impact that they are able to make on individuals lives in South Africa.



# STAFF

10  
COACHES



12  
TEACHERS / FACILITATORS



4  
INTERNS



2  
CATERERS



At the heart of the VUSA program lies a deep commitment to the core strength of our initiative – our dedicated staff. These men and women are not just coaches and facilitators but trustworthy adults and mentors that our children look up to. At VUSA, we recognize that nurturing and helping our staff achieve their personal goals is as crucial as developing the children we serve.

VUSA has taken significant strides in supporting our coaches in the past year. We have facilitated driving lessons for two coaches, organized wellness and development workshops, and conducted specialized training sessions. Thanks to a collaboration with Bishops, our coaches have had access to the expertise of Caitlin Eagle, an intern psychologist at the Bishops Support Unit.

Fundile Badi, our Under 13 coach, is a passionate rugby coach but his most greatest love lies in music and the arts. Fundile, a self-taught guitarist, has participated in Bishops Prep Marimba lessons, always seeking opportunities for learning and growth. Last year, he started a minor music and arts program at VUSA and aspires to create a VUSA Choir.

Recognizing Fundile's enthusiasm, it was an easy decision when we learned about the Bridges Academy Music MBA course. We proudly supported Fundile's enrollment; he has just completed the course. When asked about its value, Fundile expressed, **'It is the breakthrough of my dreams when it comes to my art and going forward with it.'** In 2024, Fundile plans to apply the skills acquired to rejuvenate the VUSA arts program.

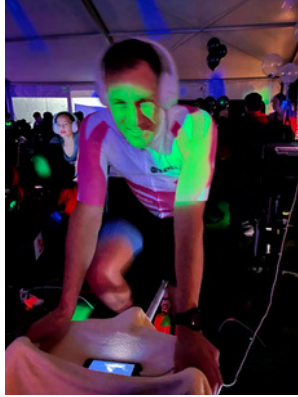
We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Bridges Music Academy for providing Fundile with this incredible opportunity. His success story is a testament to the impact of investing in our staff's personal and professional development, ultimately enriching the VUSA community as a whole."



# EVENTS - FUNDRAISERS



## 24 HOURS CYCLE CHALLENGE



Brought to you by



1,069,883.13

RAISED



## PA GOLF DAY



120,000

RAISED



# CAPITEC / SHOPRITE MARKET DAY



The VUSA Market Day, a highlight for our U13's, sees Capitec staff come to Langa each month to conduct inspiring entrepreneur workshops for our Under 13s. The culmination of their hard work is celebrated during our final home match against WPPS, where the young entrepreneurs showcase their products and skills. Shoprite and NOMU generously assist with provisions for the Market Day. This year, the excitement reached new heights as the DHL Stormers surprised our excited children, and offered encouragement and support from the sidelines. The VUSA Market Day not only nurtures entrepreneurial spirit but also creates a memorable and uplifting experience for our young participants.

**VUSA Christmas Party:** This magical event is hosted each year by the Bishops Grade 6 & 7 families. Thank you to Shoprite, The Crazy Store, Homechoice, Trendy Trees, Offshore Fishing Co, Blaauwberg Group and the Bishops PA for supporting the event.

## CHRISTMAS PARTY



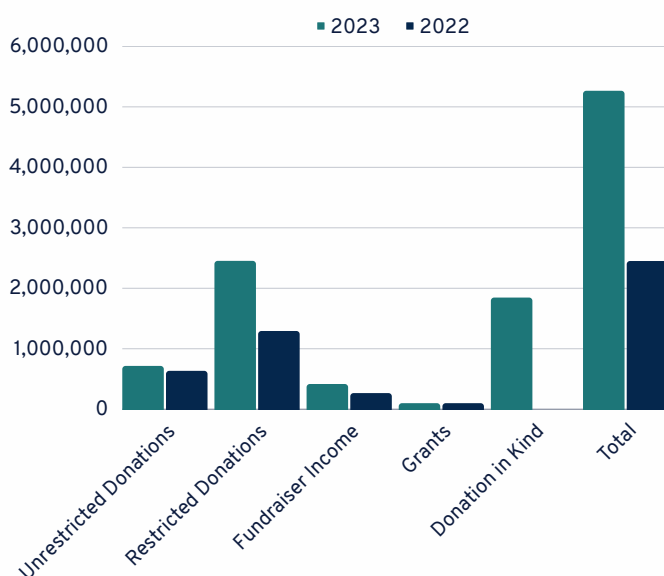
Dedicated to the meat trade since 1979



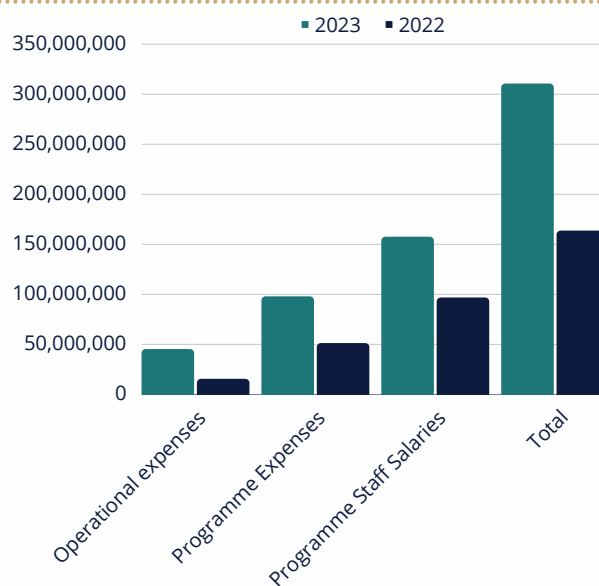
# FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT

## SUMMARY OF AUDITED FINANCIALS

### Income 2022 & 2023



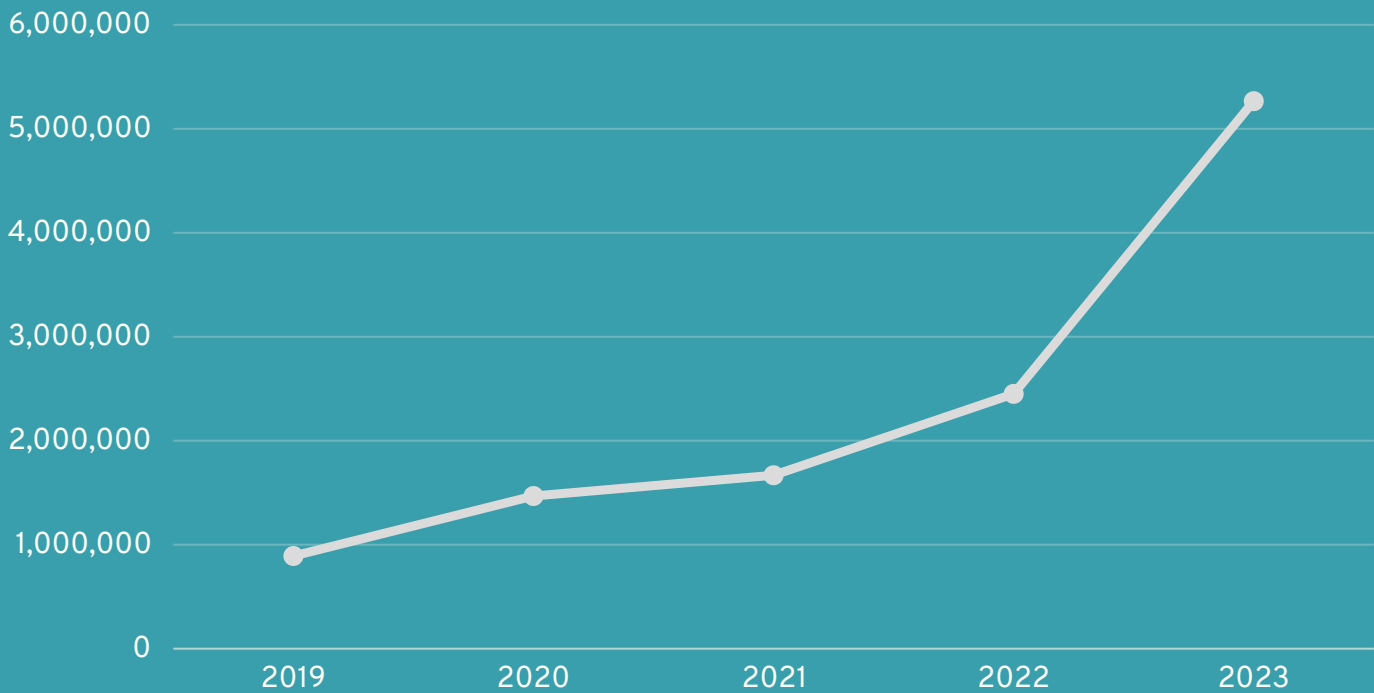
### Expenses 2022 & 2023



### Summarised Statement of Financial Position as at 28 February 2023

Assets	28 Feb 2023
Bank	1 730 479.00
<b>Total Bank</b>	<b>1 730 479.00</b>
Current Assets	
Total Current Assets	106,245.00
Fixed Assets	
Total Fixed Assets	1,787,464
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>3,624,188.00</b>
Liabilities	
Total Liabilities	135,089.00
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>3,489,099.00</b>
Equity	
Current Year Earnings	2,159,018.00
Retained Earnings	1,330,081.00
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>3,489,099.00</b>

Please click [HERE](#) to view full audited financials for the year ending 28 February 2023



## FINANCIAL GROWTH

A consistent pattern of growth is evident over the past five years since the organization's registration. The graph depicting this growth showcases a steady upward trajectory, a testament to VUSA's effective strategies and increasing support. It is important to note that the 2023 figures are somewhat inflated due to the inclusion of the Atlas Digibus and associated equipment, valued at (R1,846,475), which was registered under VUSA's name in the 2023 tax year.

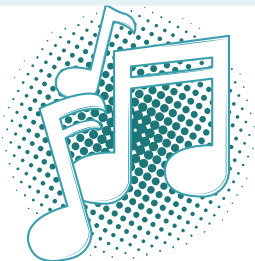
The report highlights the tangible impact of VUSA's programs on the children in Langa. These initiatives, while proving successful in their objectives, underscore the necessity for ongoing financial support. To ensure transparent and responsible financial management, VUSA's books are meticulously handled by the finance department of Bishops Diocesan College and audited by C2M Auditors. This partnership ensures sound financial governance, instilling confidence in stakeholders and contributing to the sustainability of VUSA's impactful initiatives.

## WHATS NEXT

In pursuit of our mission to create opportunities for children in Langa, VUSA remains dedicated to identifying and addressing community needs. As we strive to open new doors for children, we have identified key program areas that, while yet to be funded, hold immense potential for impact. These initiatives require a three-year commitment to bring them to fruition.

## UNFUNDED PROJECTS

### ART & MUSIC PROGRAMME



**Objective:** Provide a platform for artistic and musical expression, fostering creativity and catering to children who may not be inclined towards sports.

**Background:** Responding to the expressed interest from children who attend VUSA for academic support but do not wish to participate in rugby.

**Program Components:** The program will include visual arts, music appreciation, and hands-on practice with available instruments (guitar, Casio keyboard, marimba, and drums).

**Cost:** R170,000 per year

### SWIMMING PROGRAM:



**Objective:** To address the alarming rate of drownings, particularly among children under 14 years, by providing a comprehensive swimming program.

**Background:** The closure of the Langa pool due to drowning incidents necessitates urgent intervention.

**Cost:** R180,000 per year

**Rationale:** On average, South Africa witnesses approximately 1,484 drownings annually, with 29% (450) occurring among children under 14 years.

### ROCK CLIMBING PROGRAM:



**Objective:** Foster physical and mental strength, confidence, and a new avenue for talented children to pursue professional sports.

**Background:** Leverage Cape Town's world-class facilities to provide children with unique opportunities.

**Cost:** R300,000 per year

**Rationale:** Rock climbing promotes holistic development and offers potential pathways for talented individuals in the field of sports.

### SOCIAL WORKER



**Objective:** Address the learning challenges faced by children due to trauma experienced at home by employing a full-time social worker.

**Background:** Overworked community social workers often lead to delays in children accessing necessary support.

**Cost:** R250,000 per year

**Rationale:** A dedicated social worker will support Grade 4 & 5 learners during the morning program, easing the burden on schools, and provide crucial support for afterschool children and coaches.

### RUGBY COACHING FOR SENIOR CHILDREN:



**Objective:** Extend support for children beyond the age of 13 by offering rugby coaching, enabling them to play competitively for local clubs like Busy Bees.

**Background:** Coaches have identified a critical need to continue supporting children through their teenage years.

**Rationale:** Rugby coaching provides a constructive outlet, steering children away from anti-social behaviors prevalent among high school students.

**Cost:** r200.000 Per year

# VUSA'S THEORY OF CHANGE

## EXTERNAL CHALLENGES

- Gangs and peer pressure
- Social Exclusion
- Poverty
- Lack of safe spaces
- Family dysfunction / Neglect
- High community crime
- Lack of education and service



**TOXIC  
STRESS**

## INTERNAL CHALLENGES

- Low confidence
- Gang association
- Self-isolating behaviour
- Attention / learning challenges
- Anti-social behaviour
- Sense of isolation
- Low self-esteem
- High risk sexual behaviour

Activities

exposure to:



## INTERNAL CHANGES

- Improved self-esteem
- Instilled sense of pride
- Hope for the future
- Increased self-respect
- Sense of safety & belonging
- Improved self-motivation



## EXTERNAL CHANGES

- Improved self-control
- Improved self-discipline
- Improved personal and interpersonal social skills
- Improved school attendance
- Interest in sport
- Respect for cultural diversity
- Respect for the environment

**IMPACT**

Individuals who:

- Are motivated
- Confident
- Have self-belief
- Cope with change
- Have controlled behaviour
- Improved school attendance and academic outcomes
- Have become resilient children and teenagers