

The Learner Sponsorship Programme involves the identification of learners from the group of "historically disadvantaged South Africans" who demonstrate talent in the fields of Maths and Science. Where it is found that talented learners are succeeding in an environment where there is weak infrastructure for the teaching of Maths and Science, these students will be provided with the opportunity to continue their education at a school that has an excellent track record of teaching and achievement in Maths and Science.

Thandulwazi seeks to place these talented learners in suitable schools across South Africa (i.e. not limited to St Stithians College), focussing primarily on finding an appropriate "fit" between the learner and his/ her new school. The option of weekly boarding is also considered if it would be in the best interests of the learner.

Mentorship is a key feature of the programme. Bursars are assigned a mentor in the school attended as well as a designated Foundation Governor, who meets with the learner on a regular basis, and provides appropriate support on a personal basis for the learner.

Potential sponsors of this programme are requested to commit support for a learner for a minimum of three years, as it is preferable to ensure that the student is able to complete his/her senior high school education without having to face the uncertainty of whether or not funding is available.

Over the last five years, Thandulwazi has been fortunate enough to obtain multi-year funding for three scholarships:

• The 2008 and 2009 scholarships were provided for two young ladies to complete their schooling,

Grade 11 and 12 years, at Sacred Heart College. Both learners excelled in Maths and Science, and achieved well in their 2009 Matric exams, one attaining five distinctions (>=80%) and the other achieving four distinctions. Both went on to study at universities in 2010.

- Sonia (Matric Class of 2009) completed her studies at UCT and graduated with a Degree in Economics in December 2013. Sonia secured a position at Anglo American in the Economics division in 2014.
- Nomonde (Matric Class of 2009) completed an Honours degree in English Literature at Wits University and hopes to pursue doctoral studies in the years ahead.
- The scholarship holder for 2010 to 2012 matriculated from St Stithians Girls' College in December 2012. Faith is in her third year of study at Pretoria University, studying towards a BCom (Marketing Management).
- In partnership with Mr Tim Nash and Galactic Unite, a scholarship was awarded to a talented student in November 2013. Rofhiwa who commenced her studies in Grade 10 at St Stithians Girls' College in 2014; and is currently in Grade 11.
- In 2014 the Virgin Galactic staff raised funds in support of Mandela Day and have sponsored a multi-year learner scholarship for a Grade 10 boy to complete his FET-phase of education (Grades 10-12) at St Stithians Boys' College

For further information on this programme, please contact the Thandulwazi Director on: Tel 011-577-6415 or <u>thandulwazi@stithian.com</u>