REPORT 2020



Lesotho

April 2020

Action Ireland Trust: Who Are We?

Action Ireland Trust is a Registered Charity in Ireland since 2011 (Registered Charity Number: CHY20533 CRO Registration: 503049) that provides skills exchange Programmes in Education, Healthcare, Information Technology, Planning and Development, Architecture, Construction, Agriculture, Sport and Recreation. Since 2007 we have brought nearly 600 Transition Year Students from Portmarnock Community School to Africa as part of the Transition Year Programme. Initially, we commenced in 2007 in South Africa with the late Marian Finucane and "Friends in Ireland", working in KwaZulu-Natal, the Eastern Cape and many rural parts of South Africa.

In 2012 we moved to Lesotho and commenced a project at Ha Hlalele High School which has seen a major expansion of classrooms, science lab, kitchen, administration block, toilets, the introduction of the UNICEF WASH and Child Friendly Schools Programmes. The school numbers have increased from 316 to 600 learners and 35% of learners now enter into Tertiary Education.

The recently opened Early Childhood Development Centre provides education for children from aged 0-5 in a building that was generously funded by the late Feargal Quinn and family which is a key project and leading example of education in Lesotho.

Our educational training programme reaches out to over 275 teachers and 10,000 learners in Lesotho and we continue to support 6 women's Co-Ops who are manufacturing and selling school uniforms, table cloths, sheets and tourism memorabilia.

Action Ireland Trust assisted the development of the Lesotho Business Forum which included the Lesotho Hotel's Association, Lesotho Potato Growers Association, the Lesotho Tourist board, Lesotho Leather and Lesotho Chamber of Commerce.

In February 2020, we hosted the second Mini Trade Expo where local entrepreneurs sold their produce to our volunteers and other hotel guests.

Over the past number of years we have also extensively renovated St. Joseph's Hospital, Roma which is a Hospital serving a community of over 125,000 people 40 Km from Maseru.



Ha Hlalele High School

OUR FOCUS

Focus Point 1:

Income generation for the poorest and most marginalised communities.

The World bank Report, "Lesotho Poverty Assessment " published in December 2019 highlights that poverty remains high and widespread with nearly half the population living in poverty and 75% of the population either poor or vulnerable to poverty. The report goes on to say that poverty levels are highest in rural areas and among the less well educated, the unemployed and large families. The people of Lesotho, the basotho are born in so many cases into a life of poverty where HIV / AIDS and TB are prevalent and many of the children are orphans struggling to get into an educational system. The recent report "Fill the Nutrient Gap" by the World Food Programme found significant numbers of children have stunted growth due to malnutrition in Lesotho. We believe that since 2012 when we commenced our operations in Lesotho our projects have been innovative, sustainable and empowered people to be self sufficient. We set out examples in this document that highlight the success in all these areas.
Our educational programme from "Cradle to Career" has the core objective for the creation of entrepreneurship in the community and a pathway out of poverty.

Focus Point 2:

Entrepreneurship - providing access to education.

At Ha Hlalele High School through our infrastructural projects, new classrooms, science lab, computer lab, kitchen, administration block, toilets and extensive agricultural project have all added to the capacity growth at the school from 316 learners in 2012 to over 600 in 2020. Most importantly over 35% of learners have now gone on to Tertiary Education a very significant increase from 2% in 2012. As detailed later in the submission our teaching Programme has moved away from being results driven to giving learners life skills. These life skills can assist them in starting their own businesses, creating jobs, tackle social problems, thereby creating a strong and vibrant Human Capital. This Human Capital will transform Lesotho's economic development as highlighted by King Letsie III at the opening of the Early Childhood Development Centre recently. This Facility would not have been possible without the generous support of the Quinn Family Foundation. We also note the Quinn family members interest in participating and taking an active part in the development of Lesotho's Human Capital and particularly in the area of sharing their vast entrepreneurial skills.

Focus Point 3:

Social and Family issues, Homelessness, Substance and Domestic Violence.

We have dealt with this area in more detail later in the submission document. Action Ireland Trust have learned from our experience at Ha Hlalele, that once corporal punishment is abolished at school and with community involvement removed from home life, the family dynamic changes dramatically. It is clear from research that children who suffer from the fear and result of corporal punishment will go on to become violent and abusive in the home. We believe the impact of the Child Friendly School and WASH Programmes cannot be implemented without the removal of corporal punishment which also must be accepted by learners, parents and the community at large.

Action Ireland Trust believe that we have made significant inroads to improving education, providing water, sanitation, hygiene and food production at schools. Within the community Action Ireland Trust has supported the formation of women's co-ops, mentoring and skills exchange programmes across a wide range of areas that continue to grow with our support.

Our Proposal: Lithabaneng Hub Schools, Maseru, Lesotho, 2020

In consultation with the Ministry of Education and Training and the positive experience and results at Ha Hlalele High School, the Ministry identified 5 schools where they believed we could create a model and make a significant impact on the future of education in Lesotho. We are of the view that this project will be in line with the Quinn Family Foundation aims as set out in Focus Points 1,2 and 3.

Action Ireland Trust have developed a 5-year strategy with our key Partners for these 5 schools in an urban area within the capital of Maseru called Lithabaneng. This is
a densely populated area with a young demographic and a very significant demand for education.

As part of that plan, the Hub schools have committed to the "Child Friendly Schools" Programme. This Programme involves a change in the educational approach away from the drive for high grades to teaching learners to acquire additional life and entrepreneurial skills. The Principals and 96 teachers of the 5 new schools have started workshops over the past year in this regard.

A key issue at these schools is meeting the objectives of the UNICEF - WASH Programme, which relates to the provision of clean water, sanitation and hygiene. With over 5500 learners enrolled in these 5 schools there are essentially, no sanitation facilities or hand washing facilities. The result is very poor hygiene and significant disease risks for learners with consequential risks to teachers, family and the community. The fear of Covid 19 and its potentially devastating impact in Lesotho, highlights the need for urgent action to implement WASH, water, sanitation and hygiene into these schools.

Community participation will be key to the long-term success of this project, we have met extensively with representatives from the 5 communities and the response was extremely positive. We believe that these schools will be the driver of change in Lesotho, this project will inspire other schools to follow this example and ensure that children are educated with a purpose of becoming the future leaders and entrepreneurs of Lesotho.

THE PROJECT PLAN:

Over the past number of months Action Ireland Trust have commenced the design process on all 5 school sites in association with RISE, our local partner. We carried out topographical surveys which the Quinn Family Foundation very kindly funded earlier this year. The surveys were a critical part of the design process to determine the overall site area, site constraints, level changes and to locate all existing buildings and features.

We have attached in this proposal the detailed layouts for each school site and in essence we have created a Masterplan whereby the schools can plan for their immediate needs and into the future.

The overall design philosophy is where possible to utilize the same building design on each site, toilets, kitchen, reception classrooms, early childhood centre. This will also make the projects more cost effective and easier to manage on site, particularly if we can also locate all the proposed buildings in the one area on site.

Phase 1 as already set out will involve the delivery of Sanitation buildings, septic tanks and percolation areas to all 5 schools over a three-year period.

In terms of Child Friendly School principles, we have introduced rainwater harvesting on each site. Once again, the topographical survey allows us to determine where to locate water tanks at each building on site, allow for natural gravity to a holding tank adjacent to the proposed vegetable gardens as we have already created at Ha Hlalele in conjunction with Country Crest.

As with the extensive gardens and farming programme at Ha Hlalele, the 5 Hub School sites are sufficiently large to accommodate large areas for crop production. This element will be part of the School's Curriculum and most importantly allows the school to be self sufficient in terms of food production but also allows the school and learners sell surplus crops to the local community thereby developing entrepreneurial skills.

RISE and the PARTICIPATORY DESIGN DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION PLAN:

The design development has been led by WCA Architects to create the Master Plans and ensure best utilization of the sites. Our partner RISE who are based in Lesotho have also been working with us over the past few months.

Ahead of starting on site, Action Ireland Trust and Rise will carry out further participatory design meetings with each community, parents, students, local representatives and Chiefs. These meetings will ensure long lasting buy in to the project and more so to ensure their security and maintenance well into the future.

RISE

A key part for involving Rise is due to their unique Fellowship Programme where unemployed professionals and trades persons, Architects, Engineers, Blocklayers, Carpenters, Electricians get an opportunity to work on a range of construction projects. We jointly plan to recruit these personnel to work with the Contractor as "Fellows" for the duration of the project. On completion they will be awarded a Certificate, most importantly they get a chance to work and gain experience to populate their CV.

RISE has a vast experience of construction projects in Lesotho as follows:
The first **in loco** cohort designed and built a Residential & Entrepreneurial Centre for adolescent youth for an orphanage called God's Love Centre in Sekamaneng, Berea.
The second fellowship designed and built the country's first Centre for Intellectual Disabilities & Autism for a parent-led association called IDAL in Ha bua-sono, Berea.
They have also partnered with a rural community in Ha Sekantši in collaboration with another NGO called Possible Dreams Foundation. Therein, we have successfully launched a Sewing Project, as well as built a bridge so that the community is no longer cut off from the rest of the world whenever it rains.
Together with their fellows, they have been working in partnership with the INGO Catholic Relief Services (CRS) to design a model daycare centre for factory workers' infants in the industrial area of Maputsoe, while also coming up with some low-cost recommendations for improvements to currently existing centres.
Following mentorship and guidance, the fellows won a European Union tender to design and build 19 mobile shops for energy efficient stoves manufactured by African Clean Energy in Lesotho. The Rise alumni have designed the Football Stadium for Kick4Life, which is going to be a sport, cultural, and arts centre named Stadium of Life.

During the Fellowship process the Rise and Action Ireland Team will also mentor these professionals and trades persons in how to set up their own business and become young entrepreneurs in Lesotho. Under Focus Point 2 in the Application document it is noted that members of the Quinn Family might wish to participate and share their expertise to promote understanding and awareness of entrepreneurship at community level. This would be a tremendous addition to our long-term vision in Lesotho and the opportunity to discuss this aspect in more detail would be very welcome.
One of the Fellows from a previous project is Tumelo Lerata a young Architect that has worked with us on the Early Childhood Centre as site Architect, will commence detailing all the working drawings. Tumelo will act as Site Architect throughout the projects over the next 3 years. Rise also have a Construction Manager, Quin Mohlokaqala who will be monitoring all projects together with Daniela Gusman, Founder of Rise will oversee the projects when members of Action Ireland Trust are not in Lesotho.

Our History in Education and Training at Ha Hlalele

The Action Ireland Trust (AIT) professional development education Programme is lead by Niall FitzGerald and Michael McGlynn, who between them have over 70 years experience in education, Michael at primary level and Niall at secondary level. Niall was assistant principal of Portmarnock Community School. Michael was Principal of St. Mary's National School, Tallaght , Dublin. This 25-teacher primary school housed mainstream classes along with special classes catering for travellers and pupils with special needs.

Michael has spent the last 10 years working for St Patricks Primary Teacher Training College in Drumcondra as a School Placement Supervisor where he has supported, monitored and inspected 450 young trainee teachers. Together they have lead over 150 teachers, volunteers and experts in education from Ireland in the delivery of our "*Cradle to Care er"* Programme to parents, pre-school workers, teachers, principals and community leaders in South Africa and Lesotho over the last 12 years.

In a systematic review of the quality of student learning in developing countries since 1990 Masino and Nino-Zarazua (2016) identified 3 vital drivers of change in any support intervention.

1. Supply Side Interventions: e.g. physical and human resources / educational materials
2. Incentivised behavioural Interventions: e.g. targets, food or personal skills / development
3. Participatory and Community Management Interventions: e.g. management reform and upskilling, awareness raising and knowledge diffusion.

The review concluded that "interventions are more successful when 2 or more drivers of

change are combined". Action Ireland Trust's "Cradle to Career Programme"

incorporates all 3 drivers.

"Cradle to Career" has introduced professional development Programmes for school staff, provided teacher training Programmes following the sustainable model of "Train a Trainer" and developed Cultural Exchange Programmes in Lesotho between 600 Irish learners with thousands of African Learners. Action Ireland Trust has successfully delivered education Programmes for the last fifteen years where the service delivery indicators have been very encouraging.

Our History in Education and Training at Ha Hlalele

In Lesotho Action Ireland Trust began its operations (February 2012) in a rural village called Ha Hlalele, 40 kilometres outside Maseru, the capital of Lesotho. The location was chosen by the Lesotho Ministry of Education and Training. This is a rural disadvantaged village in the mountains with a high level of HIV/AIDS, TB and a significant number of orphans attending the school at Ha Hlalele. We believe this project is empowering people through education to be self sufficient, in accordance with **Focus Point 2 of the Quinn Family Foundation Application Requirement.**

Before our interventions the school was performing poorly, as was evident from its enrolment, results, attendance, high dropout rates and numbers graduating into university. This has dramatically changed since we commenced in 2012 with new classrooms, science block, computer lab, kitchen, staff room, administration blocks and sanitation blocks which has improved access to education and created a pathway out of poverty. The Action Ireland Trust "Cradle to Career" Programme incorporating our support of local cooperatives and business demands a focus on school staff teaching their learners Agriculture Skills, Relationship Skills, Art/Craft, Music, Sport Skills and I.T Skills as well as a more academic examination skill set. This focus often results in formal exam results stagnating, although the reality on the ground is that there are now far more learners learning life skills and realising their full potential and aspiring to start their own business. Much of the Programme "Cradle to Career" is about developing co-curricular activities that encourage entrepreneurial skills meeting Focus point 2 of the Quinn Family Foundation aims for developing Entrepreneurship through access to quality education. With the support of Country Crest, Irritec Ireland and Lesotho Potato Association activities such as beekeeping, crop production, pig farming, poultry production and rabbit production was introduced to the school campus at Ha Hlalele and was supported by the local community.

Improvements carried out by Action Ireland Trust at Hlalele High School.

1. Infrastructure (Environment) :

- Two classrooms
- Science Laboratory
- Kitchen
- Borehole and installation of water tanks
- Flushing Toilets
- Administration block
- Electrical installation in the classrooms/ Computer Laboratory
- Computers
- Music equipment
- Early Learning Centre was opened in February 2020

2. Human Resources

- Teachers training on Information Technology
- Learners training on music and swimming
- Teachers training in classroom management.
- Teachers training in teaching and learning.
- Ha hlalele teachers training staff from their feeder 5 Primary Schools.
- Ha hlalele teachers + Primary School teachers training surrounding schools.

3. Agriculture

- Irrigation system
- Poly Tunnel
- Beehives Honey Extractor
- Protective clothes
- Potato Planter

Our History in Education and Training at Ha Hlalele

Action Ireland Trust are delighted that more and more learners are attending Ha Hlalele High School. We recognize that the walk to school can take hours and that the hunger for learning is very strong. The fact that attendance has increased from 316 in 2012 to nearly 600 learners is a very positive sign of the educational quality at Ha Hlalele. The fact that the number of learners attending Tertiary level has risen from 2% to 35%, gives our Action Ireland Trust Volunteers a huge satisfaction and encouragement to continue working with the basotho people each year.

Action Ireland Trust has engaged the community at Ha Hlalele and supported the development of many local self-financing cooperatives and local entrepreneurial businesses in many different areas including Crop Growing and Food Production, Manufacture of Clothing, School Uniforms and Tourism Memorabilia. Personal and business Financial Advice was provided, in keeping with the international best practice model of Trade Not Aid, and was of particular interest to the local community. The concept of ongoing "School - Self Evaluation" was introduced and will be expanded over the next 5 years (**Focus Point 2 of the Quinn Family Foundation Application Requirement**).

Action Ireland Trust have also resourced 8 other schools across Lesotho, 5 of which are the feeder primary schools of Ha Hlalele. We have provided these schools with educational materials, classroom furniture, 375 computers and thousands of books. Our cultural exchange Programme, facilitated by our adult volunteers but carried out mostly by the Portmarnock Community School learners was enjoyed by all with Irish Music and Dance performed alongside local community entertainment. During the year our Programme includes at least three additional follow up visits to Lesotho. During the other periods various components of the Programme are now more often delivered by teachers and principals from local schools on the ground. Our goal from the outset was to establish a self-help sustainable Programme which would be facilitated by Action Ireland Trust, UNICEF and school communities.






Our History in Early Childhood Development

At Ha Hlalele High School in association with UNICEF, our Early Childhood "flagship" project was officially opened in February 2020 by King Letsie III and Queen Masenate of Lesotho.

This Centre is the first of its kind to be developed in Sub-Saharan Africa and will provide education for children between 0 and 5 years, their most formative years. It is hoped that this pilot project will be replicated throughout Lesotho. His Majesty King Letsie III, who is also Ambassador for Human Capital (an initiative by The World bank) praised the project as the catalyst for education of the young children of Lesotho and to begin their pathway out of poverty. Without the great support from the Quinn Family Foundation this project would not have been possible.













Our History in Food, Nutrition and Climate Change

The learners and local community at Ha Hlalele successfully planted over 5 acres of potatoes and a range of vegetables, over 1,000 fruit trees have been planted, we introduced beekeeping, a chicken coop and piggery.

This initiative is supported by Country Crest, who sent out Agricultural advisors to assist in the project. In 2019 Country Crest brought 3 farmers to Ireland during the potato planting season in March, the initiative was to impart skills for better crop production. This project gives the learners a chance to develop life skills, realise their full potential and allows them to aspire to start their own businesses (Focus Point 2 of the Quinn Family Foundation Application Requirement).







Ha Hlalele Agricultural Project

THE IMPACT OF THE LESOTHO EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME ON PORTMARNOCK COMMUNITY SCHOOL STUDENTS.

Since the inception of the development education Programme at Portmarnock Community School in 2006 almost 600 students have visited South Africa and now Lesotho since 2012 as part of the Programme. This experience has influenced the learners in many different ways from career choices to personal choices and all have described the experience as life changing.
The Programme inspired a significant number to enter into medical careers, nursing, planning, IT and teaching. Others were inspired to pursue research and development projects that featured in Young Social Innovators, BT Young Scientist and
SAGE World Cup (Students for the Advancement of Global Enterprise).

Young Social Innovators: In 2016, students from Portmarnock Community School won the Young Social Innovators Award, a national competition where 500 entries competed for this coveted prize. Their project was titled "Global Citizens Mapping the Future". Using the open source software, Open Street Map (OSM), this project generated a digital map of Lesotho which included in excess of 27 million edits or pieces of information, creating the best and most comprehensively mapped country on the continent of Africa (This work can be viewed in #MapLesotho).
Not satisfied with this achievement the students went on to create two online applications (APPS), one for tourism and one for emergency call out services. A prototype was designed and tested in Ireland and in India that had proven success. Dublin Fire brigade, IBM Ireland and Fingal County Council were key partners and supporters of the students work. Other studies included a study on soil erosion in Lesotho, land use efficiency and the provision of "The Golden Hour" protocols for trauma incidents in Lesotho. The land use study was entitled "Enterprise Wise" and allowed the Lesotho Government at national and local level to assess how land was being used in a particular locality and if it was being used in a sustainable and viable manner. Students in the following two years 2017 and 2018 went on to represent the school in the bT Young Scientist competition in Ireland where their work was highly commended and won a number of awards.

The SAGE World Cup: In 2017 the students represented Ireland in Ukraine where they were outright winners with their project "*Glo bal Cit ize ns Mapping The Future*".

Ford Mobility Challenge at the Enactus World Cup/ Silicon Valley: In 2019, two past students from Portmarnock Community School, Tom Finucane (Dublin City University) and Colm MacAndrew (Maynooth University of Ireland) went on to present the "*Glo ba l Cit ize ns Mapping the Future*" project at the Enactus World Cup, representing Universities of Ireland and won second place.

BT Young Scientist and Scholarship to Yale University: In 2020, Arron Cullen who won an award at the bT Young Scientist, subsequently won a scholarship to Yale University where his application included his work from the digital
mapping of the project #MapLesotho.

These are but a few examples of the impact of the school's development education Programme on learners from Portmarnock Community School. The Programme has allowed students to tackle real global problems with innovative solutions. It is also a good example of how the use of technology is a key resource for tackling issues in developing countries, further highlighting the importance of data and how data can solve challenging problems.
"When a nation counts it solves problems". This is a perfectly good example of what 21st century education should deliver, team building, problem solving, good research, effective collaboration and active learning. This overall project has seen significant opportunities created for young learners not only in Lesotho but also in Ireland.

Planning and Development Fingal County Council

A strategic partner of Action Ireland Trust since 2015, Fingal County Council, signed a “Memorandum of Understanding” in early 2016 with the Ministry of Local Government and Chieftainship and Action Ireland Trust. In this agreement we clearly set out our commitment to train and equip local planners in spatial planning and mapping so as to develop a foot print for the future of Lesotho.

#MapLesotho saw the collaboration of Fingal County Council, Action Ireland Trust, Portmarnock Community School, Lesotho Planners and a worldwide online community of mappers using “Open Street Map” which has seen Lesotho become the most detailed, mapped country on the African continent.

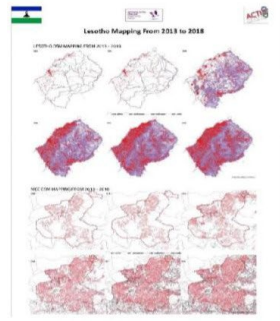
This significant mapping project can now be used to plan Lesotho, locate schools, clinics, child care facilities, transport and housing. UNICEF and other NGOs are now keen to utilize these maps to plan their projects in Lesotho.

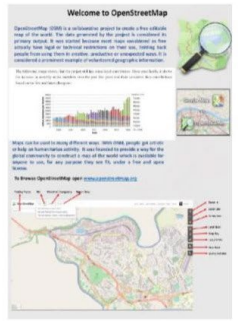
The Planning Team once again in February 2020, led by planners Harry McLoughlin, Mark Whelan and Camille bleytou, provided an extensive training Programme on the production of Local Area Plans, in particular for the areas of Khebelu and Ha MatJotJo. These Plans will continue to be developed throughout the year and our Planning Team has committed to providing continued training support from Ireland with the selected Land Use Planners across Lesotho throughout the year to ensure this.

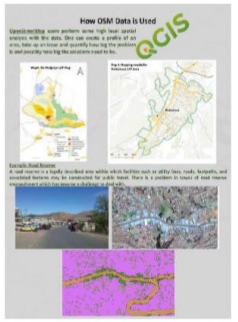
This year, presentations were also given by our Planning Team to senior students at local High Schools in Maseru, some of whom it is hoped may go on to study planning and development at the National University of Lesotho. These presentations demonstrated the significant advancement that has been made in planning and development in Lesotho as a result of the fantastic work undertaken by our partner, Fingal County Council.

After returning this year from Lesotho in February 2020, Fingal County Council have been shortlisted as finalists in the prestigious Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) Planning Awards in London. This nomination is the category of "International Award for Planning Excellence" which is a great recognition of the hard work, commitment and partnership with Action Ireland Trust and Portmarnock Community School in the delivery of quality planning and development in Lesotho.















RTPI AWARDS FOR PLANNING EXCELLENCE FINALIST 2020

rise Relationships Inspiring Social Enterprise

unicef

MoET Quality Education our Commitment
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING LESOTHO

The Lesotho Town and Regional Planning Institute (LTRPI) Climate Change Conference February 18th , 2020

This year our partners, the Irish Planning Institute and Fingal County Council supported the Lesotho Town and Regional Planning Institute's second ever Conference on the Impacts of Climate Change. This was an historic event for planning and development in Lesotho and was attended by over 100 planners and professionals from throughout the country who travelled long distances to attend the event. Central to this conference was the recognition of the great work that has been undertaken by Fingal County Council in recent years and the strong relationship that has been established locally. The conference was chaired by Tshedy Thobei Letsie who is the current President of the Institute, having returned from Ireland following the scholarship Programme with Fingal County Council and TU Dublin. There were a number of speakers at the event including representatives from the Ministry of Local Government and Chieftainship, The Lesotho Meteorological Office and The National University of Lesotho. Mr. Brendan Allen also gave a presentation on behalf of the Irish Planning Institute and the provisions of the Draft Khebelu and Ha MatJotJo LAP's were also presented. The magnitude of this historic conference attracted significant media attention including the Lesotho National TV.





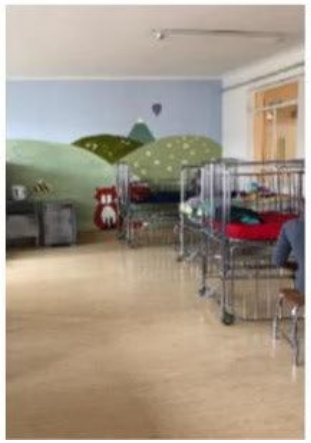


St. Joseph's Hospital, Roma, 2020

We completed extensive renovation works at this 130 bed hospital built in 1935. The flooring and roofing was replaced, heating and electrical works, rain water harvesting provided and new beds and medical equipment donated by the HSE and shipped by DHL as part of our partnership. Jointly with Austria Aid we introduced solar panels to heat water and installed wash hand basins throughout the hospital to reduce the risk of hospital acquired infections. We have also worked closely on improving management processes and the management team have continued to grow in strength and serve their catchment population of 125,000 people to the highest healthcare standards.









2020 - 2025 STRATEGIC VISION

Lithabaneng Hub Schools Project

2020 - 2025 STRATEGIC VISION

Lithabaneng Hub Schools Project

As already set out in this proposal, the 5 Hub Schools at Lithabaneng were selected by the Ministry of Education and Training as these schools have a very energetic and young team of Principals, Teachers and a tremendous community involvement of parents, local businesses, Councillors and the Chiefs from each area.

The project proposes a major construction stage which provides for water, sanitation and hygiene to all five schools under the UNICEF WASH programme. The Masterplans attached for each school sets out a medium and long term vision which includes Toilets, Kitchens, Vegetable Gardens, Rainwater Harvesting, Early Childhood Development Centres and Reception Classrooms.

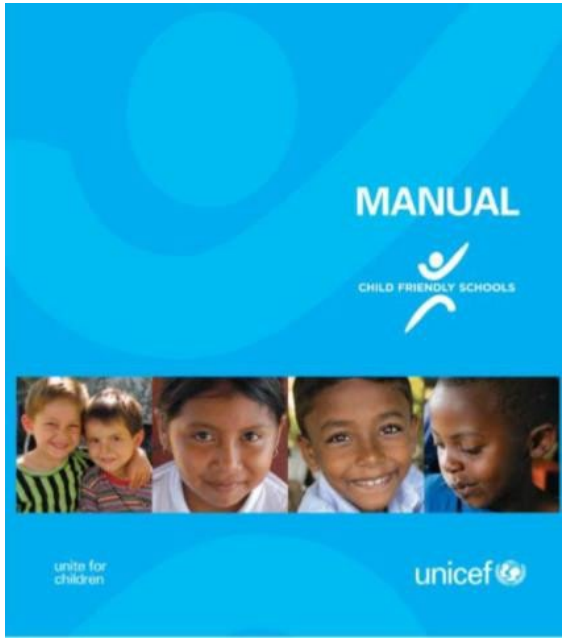
Our most immediate focus is on providing toilet facilities, clean water with soap and towels for the 5,500 learners, where currently no such facilities exist. Most importantly, the construction project will run in parallel with an extensive Educational Training Project which is guided by UNICEF's Child Friendly School's Manual and the UNICEF WASH Programme which are set out in this section of the proposal. Our aim is to have the Programme increasingly lead by practitioners and educational leaders on the ground and that it becomes a process of reform and self-evaluate from within.

Education is critical to the success of a nation. It is the key that unlocks the potential of the individual. Teachers are key to its delivery.

CHILD FRIENDLY SCHOOLS AT LITHABANENG:

In the UNICEF “Child Friendly Schools” manual, its abiding principle is that “Quality education is education that works for every child and enables all children achieve their full potential.” The WASH manual is the companion guidance for best practice in providing sanitation, clean water and hygiene in parallel. These manuals are a key component under the Global Capacity Development Programme, the manuals offer key guidance on how to implement the Programme.

In 2019 we commenced our training Programmes on Child Friendly Schools in association with the MoET and UNICEF. All Schools completed the training in February 2020. This will enable the schools to implement the model to champion, advocate and promote quality education for every girl and boy in Lithbaneng Schools.



CHILD FRIEDNLY SCHOOLS, REMOVAL OF CORPORAL PUNISHMENT AT LITHABANENG

In 2010 corporal punishment was made illegal in Lesotho (Article 4 of The Education Act 2010). However corporal punishment has persisted largely because of cultural beliefs and it continues to be perceived in a positive light by a large section of society. In reality, the abolishment of corporal punishment is easily said but in the context of class sizes of 60 to 100 learners it's not easily achieved. Action Ireland Trust are conscious that removing corporal punishment is a complex process. All Programmes and training for teachers include techniques and strategies for the management of large classroom sizes. Teacher training in this area has just begun but a lot more training and community interaction is planned.

In a country where there continues to be a high rate of domestic violence studies link its existence to corporal punishment. Education is the one experience that most children the world over take part in and is the starting point that determines their outcomes in life. It is the one opportunity the adult world can provide in order to give children the best possible start in life. "Education is a powerful driver of development and one of the strongest instruments for reducing poverty and improving health, gender equality, peace and stability" (World bank). Developing countries have made tremendous progress in getting children into the classroom and the majority of children worldwide are now in primary school. The challenge is making sure schools are resourced, equipped and built to a standard that delivers quality education coupled with the professional development of teachers.

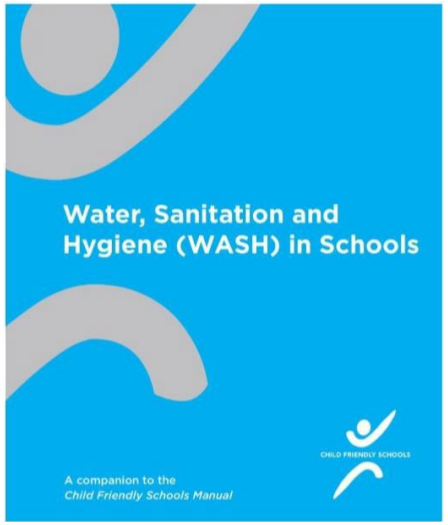
We believe that removal of corporal punishment and with community involvement and acceptance, this will help to improve many of the
social and family issues.

WASH PROGRAMME:

The WASH Programme in parallel to the Child Friendly Schools Programme will result in guaranteeing all children the right to schooling in a safe and protective environment, offers clean drinking water, hand washing facilities and clean safe toilets. In Child Friendly Schools children learn about hygiene and how to protect themselves and their families from infectious diseases including COVID-19. The Millennium Challenge Goals estimate that over 1.9 million school days could be gained if safe water and sanitation are achieved and the incidence of diarrhoeal illness is reduced.

As we have achieved in Ha Hlalele we have introduced an in-depth guide to promoting WASH through the school curriculum and classroom practices. This could not have been achieved without the generous support of the Quinn Family Foundation to ensure a well was bored and water brought 1.5 km to the school and also providing clean water to the villagers.

At the Lithabaneng Hub Schools over 5500 learners have little or no sanitation facilities and a poor water supply as a result of contaminated wells. Our aim is to remove conditions that are detrimental to the learners health, where disease can spread quickly and where existing toilets are left in disrepair without ventilation, hand washing and soap. Every Child Friendly School requires appropriate wash initiatives to ensure the school environment is free from smells, viruses and parasites.





From this!

Ha Hlalele High School Toilets





To this!

NEW KITCHENS

In addition we plan to replace the existing kitchen facilities that are unhygienic, have poor ventilation and antiquated cooking and food storage facilities, particularly with such large numbers of learners at each school.

We are also proposing that similarly to what we have achieved at Ha Hlalele, extensive vegetable gardens will be introduced together with a complete rain water harvesting system collecting all rainwater off the school building roofs and storing same for irrigation and washing.









PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

The Lithabaneng Hub Schools

School Site Masterplans

- Toilet Facilities
- Clean Water
- Kitchens
- Vegetable Gardens
- Early Childhood Development Centres
- Reception Classrooms

Lithabaneng Hub Schools, Proposed WASH Programme

Sanitation and Hand Washing Facilities, Clean Water for the 5 Hub Schools



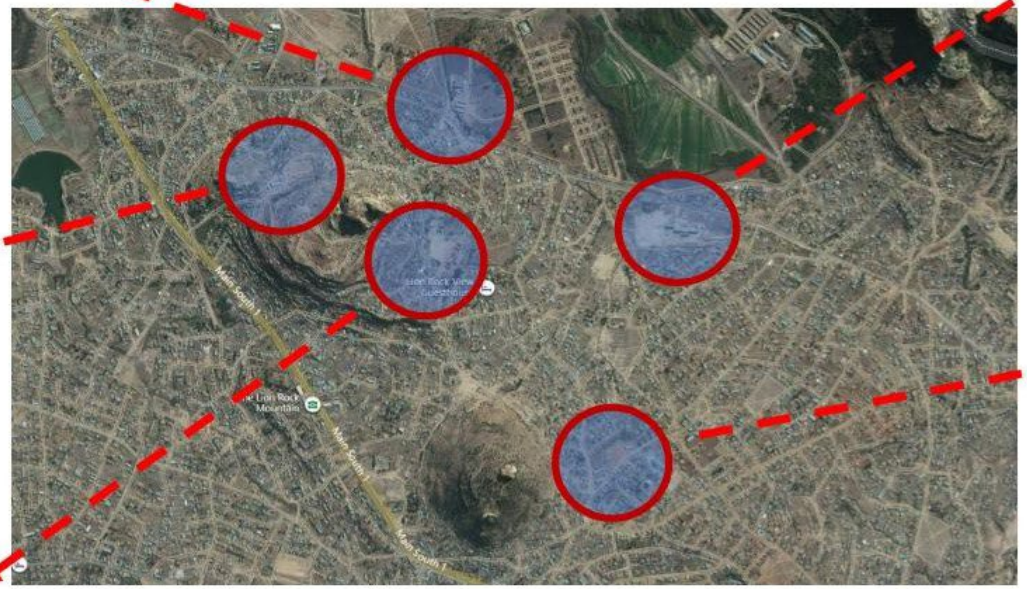
Makoanyane School



Lithabaneng High School



Lithabaneng Primary School

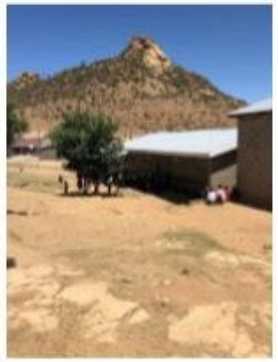




Leqele Primary School



Seboka Primary School







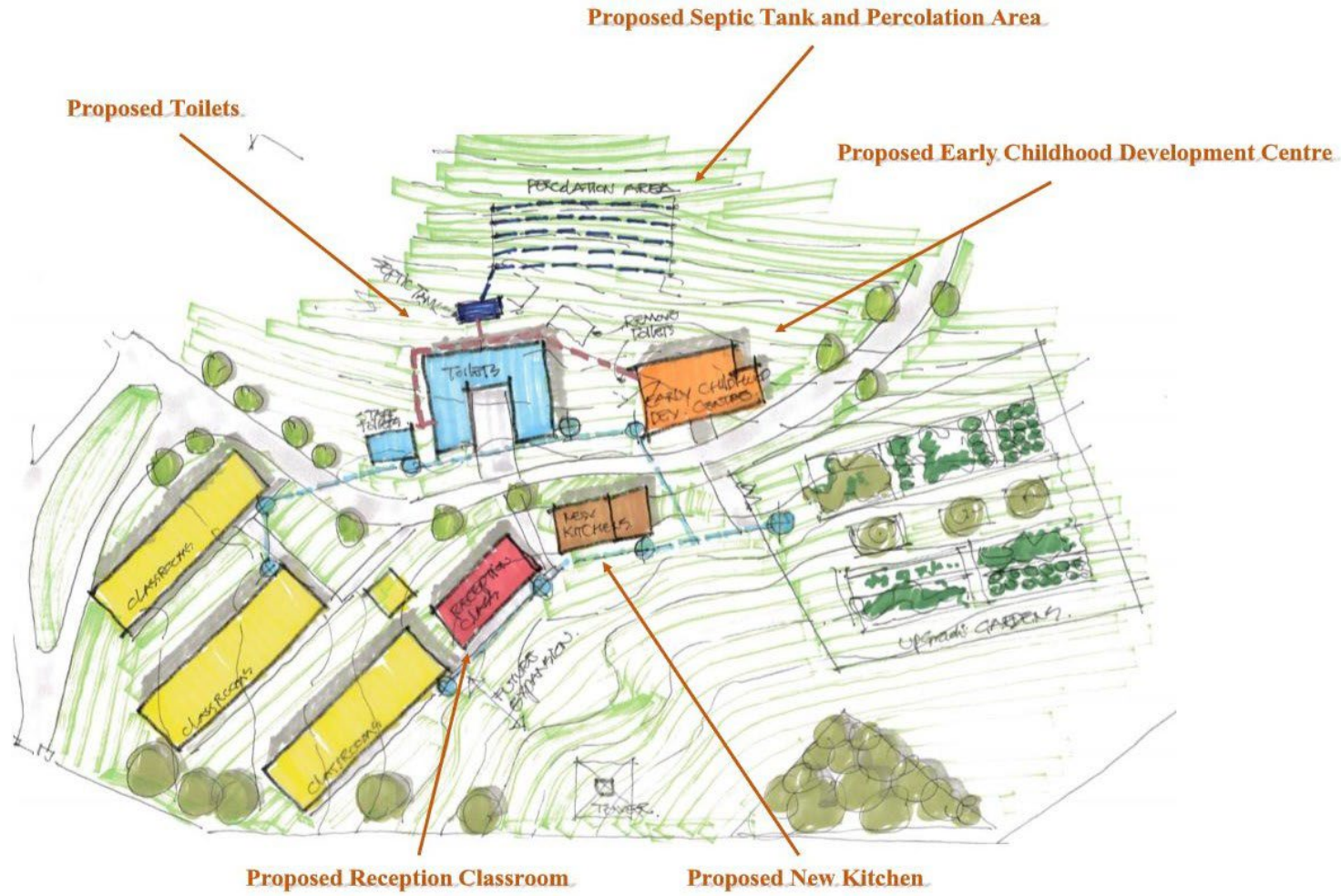
SEBOKA PRIMARY SCHOOL



Masterplan Seboka Primary School



MAKOANYANE PRIMARY SCHOOL

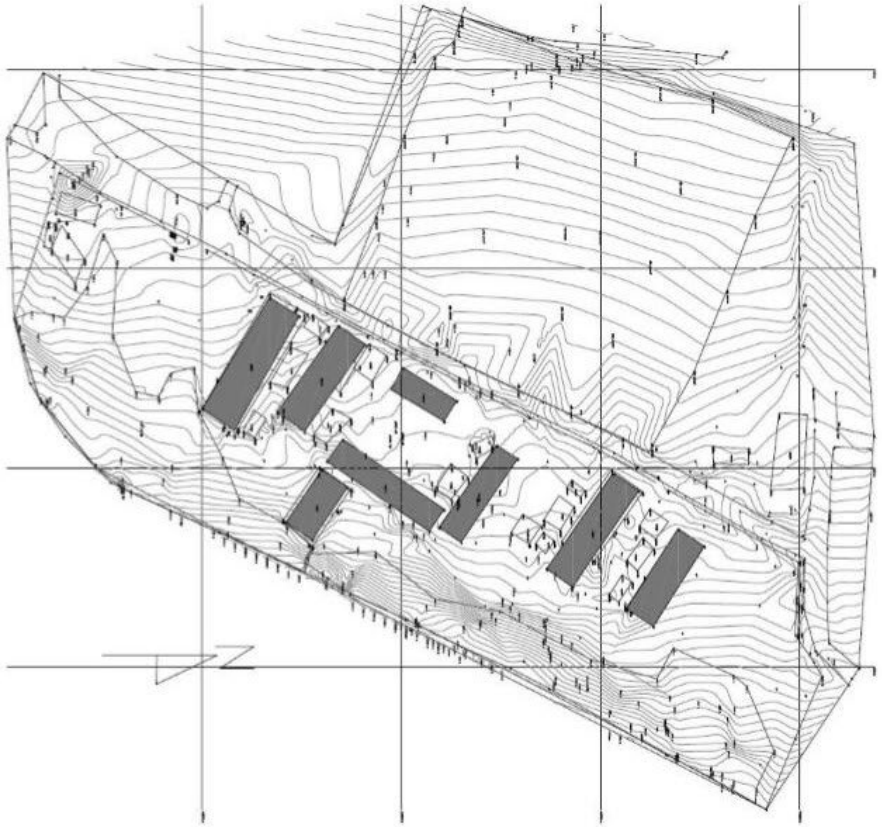


Masterplan Makoanyane Primary School

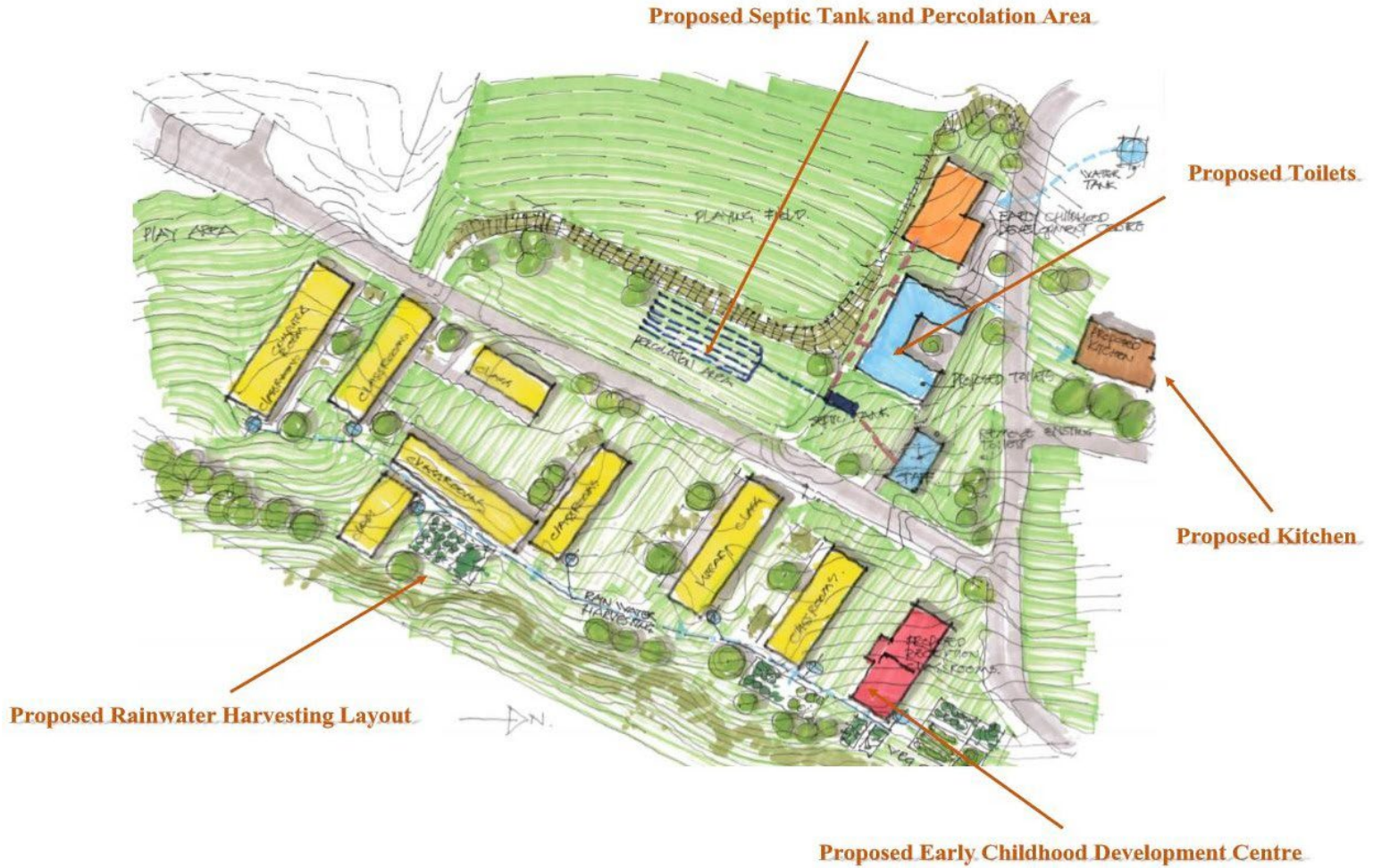




LITHABANENG PRIMARY SCHOOL



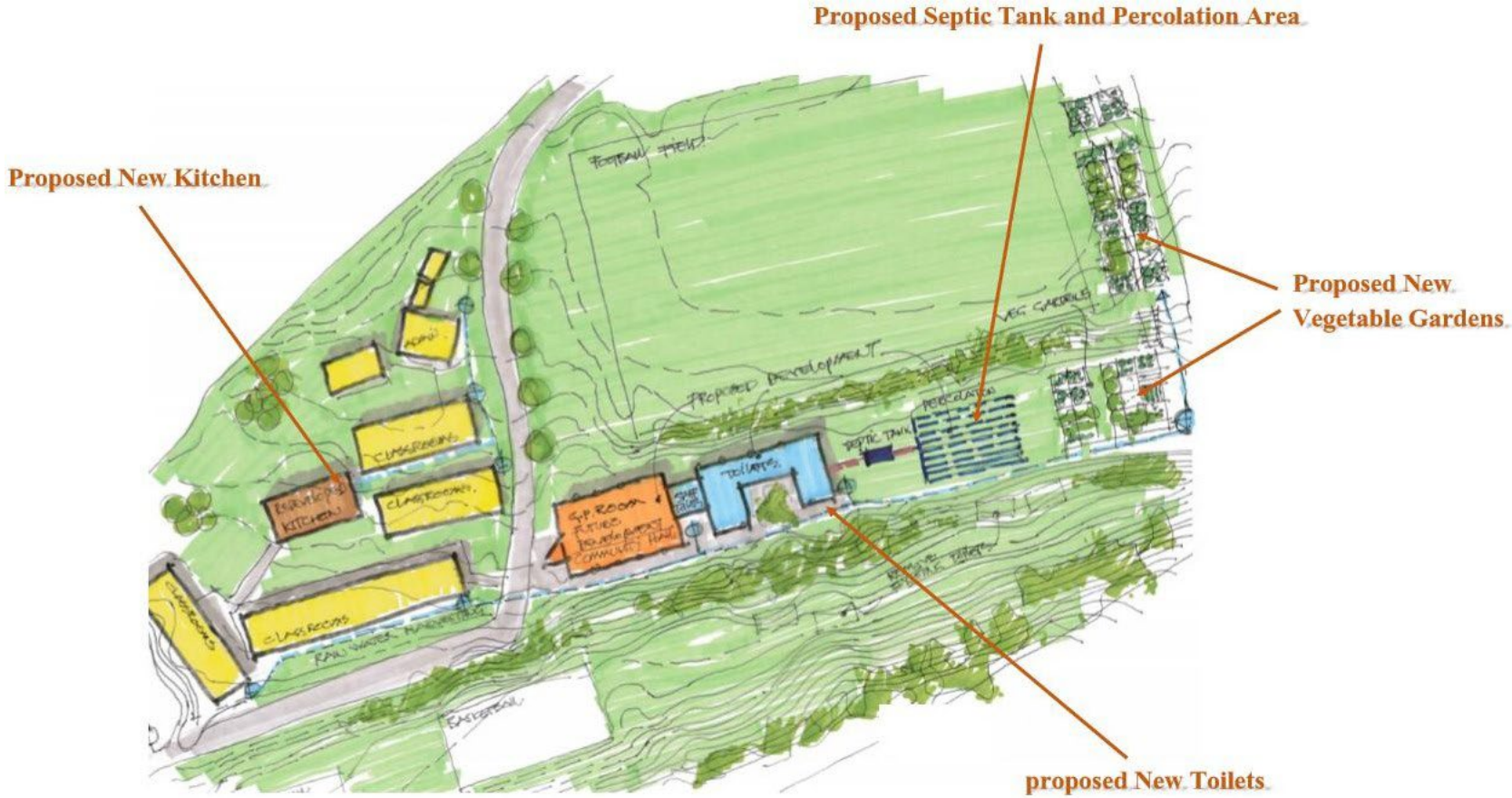
LITHABANENG Primary
School Topographic Survey



Masterplan Lithabaneng Primary School



LITHABANENG HIGH SCHOOL



Proposed Early Childhood Development Centre

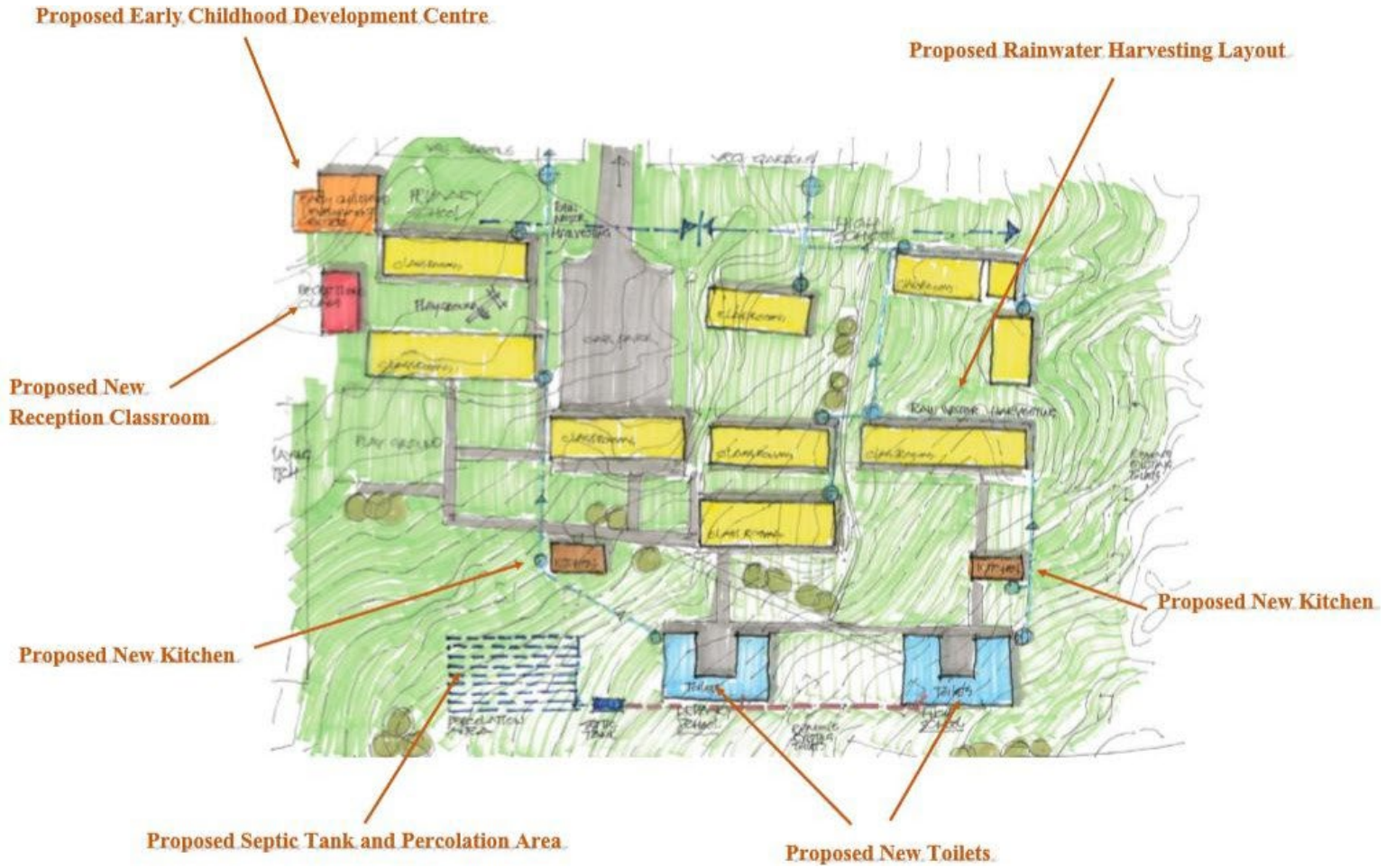








LEQELE PRIMARY SCHOOL


Proposed Early Childhood Development Centre
Proposed Rainwater Harvesting Layout
Proposed New Reception Classroom
Proposed New Kitchen
Proposed New Kitchen
Proposed Septic Tank and Percolation Area
Proposed New Toilets