



Star for Life
— empowering young people

Esiqiwini High School

Schools programme

A partner report compiled for Star for Life
Norway on Star for Life activities.

Name of Principal: **Mr ST Xulu**

Name of Area Manager: **Mrs S Ngubane**

Name of the Coach: **Thabile Buthelezi**

Total Enrolment: **781**

Reporting period: **August 2024-March 2025**

Introduction

Esiqwini High School is situated in Gunjaneni area under ward 14 in Umtubatuba. This school is surrounded by a community that is highly struck by poverty because of the high rate of unemployment in the country. This report will elaborate on the activities that were implemented by the Coach from the month of August 2024 to March 2025. The Star for Life activities have received a lot of support from the schools hence all planned activities were a successfully executed. Grade 8 to 10 wrote internal marked examinations papers while grade 11 and 12 wrote external examinations. Grade 12 examination is also marked externally.

Esiqwini High School	Pass rate	% of grades 12 who wrote
2024 Matric result	88%	100%

In South Africa the national pass rate was 87.3%.

In 2023 the national pass rate was 89.2% and the school pass rate was 88%.

Learner-Centered Activites

Learners' workshops during the report period: January to March 2025

Grade	Theme of the workshop	Month	Learners reached	Total per grade
Grade 8	LW1: Dreams can be fulfilled	February 2025	130	136
Grade 9	LW2: Power is within me	February 2025	155	160
Grade 10	LW3: Knowledge is power	February 2025	190	196
Grade 11	LW4: Stress management	February 2025	155	161
Grade 12	LW5: Shine on	February 2025	120	128



Classroom sessions

The Coach started delivering Classroom Sessions soon after the Learner Workshops execution. In 2024 the Coach had implemented most of the classroom sessions before the month of August. The few sessions that were delivered during this period were Grade 10 classroom sessions on: Assertive Communication, Sexual & Reproductive Health Rights, Decision-Making and Transactional Relationships. These sessions were conducted in classrooms setup with an aim of giving

learners free platform to engage in a topic delivered and gain more knowledge and clarity through questioning, role plays and presentation. During these sessions the Coach starts by recapping on their last session to figure if they still remember what was discussed and to also remind them what they have forgotten. The sessions were energetic through deploying energizers to keep them focus. The Coach reached 158 learners in through 8 classroom sessions conducted.



One-on-one Consultations

Individual one-on-one consultations are conducted by the Coach with learners who are facing different challenging situations. They are conducted in a private room which is usually one of the educator's offices for privacy and confidentiality. Some cases are referred by educators, induced by the Coach and sometimes some learners come to the Coach themselves. Most of the cases were domestic issues, career guidance, and dating affairs. The total number of 41 individual consultations were reached between the month of August 2024 to March 2025.

Daughters of Africa (DoA)

The Coach recruited 30 girls from grade 8 between the age of 13 to 15 years to form

a girls' club. The objective of this program is to give young girls knowledge about Gender Equality, Sexual & Reproductive Health Rights and Entrepreneurships. The aim of DoA is to empower young women to be independent, know their rights and be able to tell when they are treated unfairly because of their gender. With the 2024 DOA club we had a successful Market Day and girls were able to sell all their products on the day and they made good profits. This club enrol girls in 13 sessions. Other special activities during the period.

Star for Life Norway visited the school in January and donated sporting equipment which included soccer and basketball jerseys, soccer balls, basketball poles and many more. A big thank. It's always needed.

An example of individual consultation

A grade 8 girl and a boy (14 years) were found kissing behind the school water tank during class time. These learners were referred to the Coach as their affair actually interfered with their schoolwork and impacting negatively on their academic performance. The Coach engaged each learner through one-on-one consultation, spoke about dreams and the importance of education, highlighting to each learner what things can delay or destroy one's dreams. They were educated about relationship and delaying sexual activities. The Coach conducted Classroom Sessions on dating affairs and consequences of engaging in intimate relationships as teenagers as these two were not the only learners in this grade who were in this kind of relationship.

Some challenges

Esiqiwini High School is a rural, under-resourced school. The school has several learners who have an interest in taking careers in the science field, but they are disadvantaged because the school does not have laboratories and computers to equip the learners with basic computer skills and knowledge about science experiments. They don't have enough classrooms and currently some learners are using park home as classrooms; however, those park homes are full in a way that it's difficult to move around the desks.

We at Star for Life would like to sincerely thank you Star for Life Norway for your continued sponsorship to Star for Life. Without you the work at Star for Life would not be possible. You make it possible.



Signed by the Coach: Thabile Buthelezi

I am the life Skills Coach. I have worked at Star for Life since 2019. I am holding a degree in Bachelor of Social Work and the best thing about my work is witnessing the journey of many learners who have big dreams about their future and trying each day to be better version of themselves. It is incredibly rewarding to see them growing and develop the essential skills they need to navigate the challenges of life. Being part of their journey towards becoming well rounded individual is truly fulfilling. Moreover, being able to provide guidance and support in shaping their self-awareness and emotional intelligence is a privilege that I cherish.