

## About HANGBERG EDUCATIONAL TRUST and HANGBERG PRE-PRIMARY SCHOOL

*"Children are the living message we send to a time we will not see." Neil Postman*

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### 1. INTRO

Hangberg is situated in Hout Bay, Cape Town on the slopes of Karbonkelberg with an idyllic view onto Chapman's Peak. It is home to the original fishing community of the Western Cape. Vibrant as it is, it is also plagued by unemployment, substance abuse, prostitution, poaching and gangsterism leading to unplanned pregnancies and low parental engagement. Based on 2010 research an estimated 8000 people live in Hangberg, of which more than 1000 are pre-school children. Sadly many of these pre-schoolers have no access to quality care.

A **dedicated group of individuals** intricately involved in the Hangberg community since 2011 quickly realised that if they wanted to make a profound change in the lives of young disadvantaged South African children a well governed, fully established legal entity was required. It was important to do it properly from the start: with contracts, annual financials, recorded trustee meetings et al. Hence in May 2012 Hangberg Educational Trust (The Trust, HET) was established.

The Trust was founded on the belief that in tough socio-economic environments the cycle of weak coping mechanisms and poor parenting skills cannot be broken without quality early childhood interventions. In 2013, in line with this key belief, HET set its medium term objective as the provision of quality, affordable and financially sustainable pre-school infrastructure to 300 children in Hangberg.

### 2. THE SCHOOL

As from July 2014 the Trust has been running an independent school, **Hangberg Pre-Primary School**. Initially the school was in two classrooms on loan from Sentinel Primary School for 60 Grade R children.

In **October 2016** the new school building opened its doors: a beautiful, green structure for up to 120 pre-school children. The school provides a well-managed and properly staffed environment in a safe space and includes a structured, playful school day with healthy nutrition.

### 3. THE BUILDING

In 2013 permission was granted for the development of a pre-school facility on the land of Sentinel Primary School by the Ministry of Education based on a Memorandum of Agreement between the Trust and Sentinel Primary School. During 2014 and 2015 the school plans were approved by Public Works and R5.5million was raised. Incredibly, sixty percent of the required construction funds were donated by Rotary Club Am Kap (Sea Point) and their German Rotarian friends. Various caring donors and the Annual Dinner Dances by auctioning donated prizes ensured that sufficient funds were raised to commence construction on **Monday 11 January 2016**. The building was completed 8 months later (September 2016) with the first classes taught there as from **Monday 10 October 2016**.

The school and after-care facilities have a gross construction area of more than 500m<sup>2</sup> plus an additional 400m<sup>2</sup> of external decks, ramps, under-cover playing area and amphitheatre. Key design elements include an after-care facility, high levels of security, two toilets per class room, a separate service delivery entrance, sufficient storage rooms, an observation room, the undercover play area, an outside amphitheatre, solar electricity supply and more. The structure is elevated on gum poles and is clad externally with metal sheeting symbolically painted in the colours of the strong, hard-working, little Kingfisher bird. The raised building capitalises on the scenic views and allows for the migration of sand and also makes space for the undercover playing area.

The structure will not only benefit up to 120 pre-school children but also the whole community as it is designed to host outdoor events using the small amphitheatre with disable-friendly access to toilets and cooking facilities.



#### 4. THE FUTURE

With the construction of the beautiful pre-school now completed and the incredible impact it already has on the children, the staff the community as a whole, and the team experience overwhelming feelings of gratitude and inspiration. The excitement and pride to come to school, the rapidly improving puzzle constructions and aspirational art pieces of the children continue to amaze. Further, Sentinel Primary School's results have shown a strong positive link between Grade 1 pass rate and children with some form of pre-school care exposure.

Inspired by these tangible outcomes, the belief that Rotary Clubs and other key funders placed in the Trust and the significant lessons learnt over the past 4 years the team is committed to deliver similar structures in communities that wish to share in its vision.



#### 5. YES, MONEY STILL MATTERS

The projected running cost of the school is R105 000pm<sup>1</sup> which equates to approximately R10 500pa per child. The monthly school fee per child is R300pm. To partially meet this significant shortfall the team is working hard to register for Department of Social Development- and Western Cape Education Grade R subsidies. This is a tedious, slow processes but well worth the effort as it is estimated to contribute an average of nearly R350pm per child. In the meantime various forms of fundraising and interim cost savings measures are implemented.

#### SUPPORT A CHILD?

One of our exciting initiatives is the “**support-a-child**” drive. Why not consider sponsoring a child at R4 000 for a year; a once off payment of R4 000 or ten monthly payments of R400 each. A wall with 120 handprints and donor names will be created in the school to recognise all “support-a-childers”.

<sup>1</sup> The R105 000 monthly outgo is roughly made up of salaries at R75 000, building expenses of R20 000 plus food and learning materials of R15 000.

#### VISITS AND DIRECTIONS

**Directions to Hangberg Pre-Primary School.** The school is on the premises of Sentinel Primary School, c/o Atlantic Skipper St and Karbonkel Rd. From Cape Town, drive straight through Hout Bay to the end of Victoria Road where there is a roundabout. Take the 2nd exit onto Harbour Rd, drive 1.2 km. At the stop street turn right onto Atlantic Skipper Street (the pre-primary school is visible on the steep embankment on your right hand side). At the next stop street after 250 m turn right onto Karbonkel Rd. The entrance to Sentinel Primary School is on your immediate right. Park in the school's parking lot. If the parking is full, there is also parking available on Karbonkel Road next to the school. Walk through the gate towards the colourful pre-primary school. See:

<https://goo.gl/maps/y7ffadFfHUt>

**Note to potential visitors.** Visits are encouraged but kindly need to be agreed prior to arrival. Hangberg Pre-Primary School is a hard working facility focusing on the pre-school education of less advantaged little ones. Hence disruptions need to be minimised. Further, the safety of the children is of the utmost importance and consequently only controlled access can be permitted. Please contact us at [hangbergeducationaltrust@gmail.com](mailto:hangbergeducationaltrust@gmail.com) or call Tania Gray at 082 491 5626 to arrange a visit.

#### NOTE TO DONORS<sup>2</sup>

HET, as a registered Public Benefit- and Non-Profit Organisation with its key focus on disadvantaged pre-school children, can issue donors with required receipts, tax certificates and BEE verifications.

<sup>2</sup> Our banking details are Hangberg Educational Trust, ABSA Code 632 005, Savings Account 927 428 6990. Ref: “Child” + YOUR SURNAME (Once-off or R400 x 10)