

Education Indaba

South Africa 2026

Rebuilding the Foundations,
Reimagining the Future of
South African Education



Date:
16–17 September 2026



Venue:
Holiday Inn Parktown,
Johannesburg



Infrastructure
Development



SGB
Governance



District
Support



Foundation
Phase
Learning



AI in
Education



Teacher
Training



School
Transport



Maths &
Science



Partnerships



For Education Leaders, School Principals, SGBs, District Officials,
Teacher Development Specialists, NGOs, Corporate Partners and Policy Stakeholders



**Join the national conversation on building
stronger, safer and future-ready schools.**

Why Education Indaba South Africa 2026?



Welcome & Conference Background

South Africa's education system stands at a defining moment. While significant progress has been made in access to education, major challenges continue to affect the quality of teaching, learning and school performance.

Many schools still face infrastructure backlogs, weak literacy and numeracy outcomes, learner transport challenges, limited access to digital learning, uneven school governance, teacher development gaps and growing pressure to prepare learners for a fast-changing world of work.

Education Indaba South Africa 2026 has been designed as a national platform for practical dialogue, collaboration and solution-sharing. It brings together education leaders, school principals, SGBs, district officials, policy stakeholders, teacher development specialists, NGOs, corporate partners and education innovators to explore how South Africa can strengthen the foundations of schooling while preparing learners for the future.

“ This is not just another education conference. It is a practical working platform for leaders who are serious about improving South African schools. ”



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Holiday Inn Parktown, Johannesburg



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What the Indaba Aims to Achieve

Conference Objectives

The conference aims to provide practical insights, case studies and implementation strategies to support the upliftment of education in South Africa.



1



Strengthen school infrastructure planning and maintenance

2



Improve the role and effectiveness of School Governing Bodies

3



Position district officials as active drivers of school improvement

4



Improve Foundation Phase literacy and numeracy outcomes

5



Support maths, science and technology education

6



Prepare schools for AI, Coding, Robotics and digital learning

7



Strengthen teacher training, coaching and professional development

8



Improve learner transport, safety and access to education

9



Build meaningful partnerships between schools, government, NGOs and business

10



Translate education policy into measurable classroom impact



For Education Leaders, School Principals, SGBs, District Officials, Teacher Development Specialists, NGOs, Corporate Partners and Policy Stakeholders

Who Should Attend?

Target Audience

This conference is designed for senior decision-makers, policy leaders, governance structures, and strategic education partners who shape the direction, governance, funding, and implementation of education in South Africa.



NATIONAL EDUCATION OFFICIAL



PROVINCIAL EDUCATION OFFICIAL



DISTRICT OFFICIAL



SGB LEADERSHIP



SCHOOL PRINCIPAL /
EXECUTIVE SCHOOL LEADER



NGO / CORPORATE /
POLICY PARTNER



National Department
of Basic Education
Officials



Provincial Education
Department
Officials



District Directors
and Circuit
Managers



Chief Directors,
Directors and Senior
Managers in Education



School Principals
and Deputy
Principals



School Governing Body
Chairpersons and
Executive Members



Curriculum and
Assessment Policy
Leaders



Education Planning,
Infrastructure and
Support Services
Officials



Learner Transport and
School Safety
Decision-Makers



Universities, Faculties
of Education and
Research Leaders



NGOs, Education
Foundations and
Sector Leaders



Corporate CSI / ESG
and Strategic
Education Partners



Independent School
Association
Leaders



Policy Researchers
and Education
Think Tanks



Digital Learning,
AI and EdTech
Leadership



If your work influences education policy, governance, funding, district delivery, infrastructure, strategic partnerships or system-wide improvement, this Indaba is for you.

Day One: Strengthening the Education System

 **16 September 2026**

Governance, infrastructure, access, inclusion and leadership.



08:30		Opening Remarks
09:00		The State of Basic Education in South Africa: What Must Change Before 2030 Understand national priorities, performance gaps and the urgent reforms needed before 2030. Senior Official: Department of Basic Education
09:40		Infrastructure Development and School Readiness Learn how infrastructure, maintenance and partnerships support safer, functional schools. Tshegofatso Phala Executive Director: Equal Education Law Centre
10:10		The New Role of School Governing Bodies Clarify BELA implications, accountability duties and the SGB's role in school improvement. Deon Lerm Gauteng Provincial Manager: FEDSAS
10:50		Morning Tea Break
11:05		District Officials as the Engine Room of Education Delivery Discover how districts can move from compliance to real school support. Andries Nkadameng Director: Tshwane South District, GPED
11:45		School Transport, Safety and Access Explore practical responses to transport barriers, safety risks and absenteeism. Hendrick Mkaneta Foundation for Education & Social Justice
12:25		Addressing Social Challenges in Schools Gain strategies for tackling violence, bullying and gangsterism. Strini Naidoo Chief Education Specialist: Gauteng Department of Education
13:05		Networking Luncheon
14:05		Inclusive Education Learn how SIAS alignment, assistive technologies and barrier removal can support all learners. Somikazi Chabalala Director: Gauteng Department of Education
14:45		Transformational Leadership in Education Explore future-ready leadership, shared vision and teacher wellbeing. Tshamani Mathebula Head: Sasol Foundation
15:25		Closing Remarks
15:30		Afternoon Tea Break, Networking & End of Day 1



Day 1 Outcomes



Stronger understanding of governance and accountability



Practical insight into infrastructure and access challenges



Better approaches to inclusion, safety and social wellbeing



Leadership ideas to strengthen school improvement

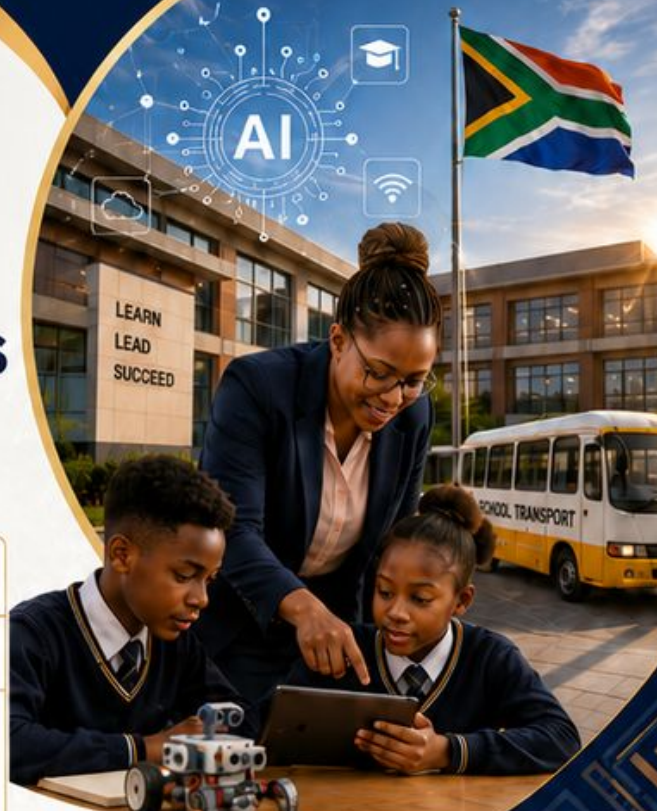


Day Two: Improving Learning Outcomes

 **17 September 2026**

Foundation phase, STEM, AI, teacher development and partnerships.

08:00		Welcome Tea and Registration
08:15		Recap of Day 1
09:00		Foundation Phase Learning Gain practical ideas to strengthen literacy, numeracy and early learning foundations. Dr Mthokozisi Mthethwa Associate Professor: Wits School of Education
09:45		Mathematics and Mathematical Literacy Pedagogies Explore practical maths teaching approaches, competency-based assessment and STEM integration. Prof. M. F. Machaba Academic Head: Mathematics Department, UNISA
10:30		Techno-Blended Support to Address the Mathematics Education Crisis in Secondary Schools Learn how blended models, gamification and differentiated support can improve maths outcomes. Prof Olivier Werner Professor of Mathematics, Govan Mbeki Centre: Nelson Mandela University
11:15		Morning Break
11:30		Scaling Quality STEM Education via EdTech Discover low-bandwidth digital tools, virtual labs and blended STEM learning models. James Lees CEO/Founder, Advantage Learn
12:15		Readiness of Schools to Teach Coding and Robotics Understand the training, tools and equity considerations needed for successful implementation. Dorothea Moeketse Chief Education Specialist: Gauteng Department of Education
13:00		Networking Luncheon
14:00		Teacher Training and Professional Development Move beyond once-off workshops toward continuous classroom support, coaching and mentoring. Prof Thokozani Mathebula Associate Professor: Division of Studies in Education, Wits University
14:45		Public-Private Partnerships & Systems Reform Learn what makes partnerships work and how funding can align with education priorities. Almaret du Toit Chief Education Specialist: Western Cape Education Department
15:30		Certificates, Closing Remarks
15:45		End of Conference



Day 2 Outcomes

-  Practical approaches to literacy, maths and STEM improvement
-  Clearer understanding of AI, coding and robotics readiness
-  Stronger teacher development strategies
-  Partnership ideas that can strengthen education systems





A Credible, High-Impact Speaker Line-Up

Education Indaba South Africa 2026

Senior education leaders | university experts | governance specialists | edtech innovators



Bringing together respected voices from government, higher education, school governance, social justice, STEM and digital learning.



Tshegofatso Phala
Executive Director,
Equal Education Law Centre



Public interest law & school infrastructure



Deon Lerm
Gauteng Provincial Manager,
FEDSAS



School governance & legislation



Hendrick Makaneta
Foundation for Education & Social Justice Africa



School safety & learner rights



Somikazi Chabalala
Chief Education Specialist,
Gauteng Department of Education



Inclusive education & curriculum support



Tshamani Mathebula
Head,
Sasol Foundation



Education leadership & skills development



Dr Mthokozisi Mthethwa
School of Education,
University of the Witwatersrand



Academic insight & teacher education



Prof M. F. Machaba
UNISA



Mathematics education expertise



Prof Werner A. Olivier
Nelson Mandela University / Govan Mbeki Mathematics Development Centre



Techno-blended maths innovation



James Lee
CEO & Co-founder,
Advantage Learn



Digital learning & STEM edtech



Mrs Molobane Dorothea Moeketsi
Gauteng Department of Education



e-Learning, coding & robotics leadership

Why this line-up matters



Real policy and implementation experience



Strong school governance expertise



University-led research and pedagogy



Practical STEM, AI and edtech innovation



Inclusive education and learner support



Cross-sector partnerships for real impact



16–17 September 2026

Holiday Inn Parktown, Johannesburg

CONFERENCE VENUE

Holiday Inn Johannesburg Sunnyside Park, Johannesburg

A tranquil Victorian-style national monument in the heart of Johannesburg. Surrounded by leafy gardens and historic charm, the Holiday Inn Johannesburg Sunnyside Park offers a welcoming conference environment close to key business centres. Beautifully landscaped, relaxed and effortlessly convenient.



FINE FOOD & WARM HOSPITALITY

At the Holiday Inn Johannesburg Sunnyside Park, dining is an experience to savour.

Milner's Restaurant offers an enticing à la carte menu and a lavish buffet with North African and European inspired cuisine. Guests can enjoy breakfast, lunch, dinner and dessert, with indoor dining complemented by outdoor seating overlooking the gardens. The breakfast buffet is a standout feature.

Pound and Penny delivers a lively pub atmosphere with hearty menu options and the perfect setting to unwind after a productive day.

From excellent conferencing to memorable meals, this venue combines professional excellence with genuine hospitality.



WHY DELEGATES WILL LOVE THIS VENUE

- ✓ Tranquil garden setting with historic Victorian charm
- ✓ Quality dining with exceptional cuisine
- ✓ Comfortable, well-equipped conference atmosphere
- ✓ Outdoor deck and pool area for relaxation
- ✓ Central Johannesburg location close to key business hubs
- ✓ Professional service and renowned hospitality



Why Your Organisation Should Attend

Benefits of Attending

Education Indaba South Africa 2026 gives education stakeholders an opportunity to step away from daily operational pressures and engage with practical solutions, proven models and strategic partnerships.



Benefits for Delegates

- ✓ A stronger understanding of national education priorities and implementation challenges
- ✓ Practical insights into school governance, SGB roles and accountability
- ✓ Strategies for improving Foundation Phase learning outcomes
- ✓ Ideas for strengthening maths, science and digital learning
- ✓ Insights into **AI, Coding and Robotics** in schools
- ✓ Practical models for teacher training and professional development
- ✓ Exposure to school infrastructure and learner transport solutions
- ✓ Opportunities to build partnerships with government, NGOs, schools and business
- ✓ Case studies that can be adapted to local school and district contexts
- ✓ Networking with education leaders and decision-makers



Benefits for Organisations

- ✓ Better-informed education leadership
- ✓ Improved planning and policy implementation
- ✓ Stronger school and district support strategies
- ✓ Exposure to innovative education solutions
- ✓ Practical ideas to improve learner outcomes
- ✓ Partnership opportunities with credible education stakeholders



For Education Leaders, School Principals, SGBs, District Officials, Teacher Development Specialists, NGOs, Corporate Partners and Policy Stakeholders



Join the national conversation on building stronger, safer and future-ready schools.



DELEGATE BOOKING FORM

EDUCATION INDABA SOUTH AFRICA 2026

REBUILDING THE FOUNDATIONS,
REIMAGINING THE FUTURE OF SOUTH AFRICAN EDUCATION

SkillingSA
RESEARCH | CONFERENCING



DATES:
16-17
SEPTEMBER
2026



VENUE:
HOLIDAY INN
PARKTOWN
JOHANNESBURG
& VIRTUAL

BOOKING FEES (VAT INCLUDED)

SPECIAL GROUP OFFER

FACE-TO-FACE

ZAR 9,999.00

VIRTUAL

ZAR 7,999.00

REGISTER 5 DELEGATES – 6TH DELEGATE ATTENDS FREE

Applicable to delegates from the same
organisation submitted on one registration form.

INCLUDED IN THE FEE



ACCOMMODATION NOT INCLUDED

DELEGATE NOMINATIONS

1	Name & Surname: _____ Job Title: _____	Email Address: _____ Contact Number: _____
2	Name & Surname: _____ Job Title: _____	Email Address: _____ Contact Number: _____
3	Name & Surname: _____ Job Title: _____	Email Address: _____ Contact Number: _____
4	Name & Surname: _____ Job Title: _____	Email Address: _____ Contact Number: _____
5	Name & Surname: _____ Job Title: _____	Email Address: _____ Contact Number: _____
6 (FREE)	Name & Surname: _____ Job Title: _____	Email Address: _____ Contact Number: _____

DELEGATE APPROVAL: PLEASE REGISTER ME / US / THEM

Authorised signatory must be authorised to sign on behalf of contracting organisation

Authorised Signatory: _____	Invoice Address: _____
Designation: _____	_____
Organisation: _____	_____
VAT Number: _____	_____
Telephone: _____	Purchase Order Number (Optional): _____
Email: _____	Date: _____
Signature: _____	_____



BANKING DETAILS

- Account Name: SkillingSA (Pty) Ltd
- Bank: FNB
- Branch Code: 250655
- Account Number: 62726066064
- Reference: Education Indaba 2026



IMPORTANT

No booking will be accepted or invoice
issued until the duly completed
registration form is received.



HOW TO REGISTER

Registration can only be confirmed
upon receipt of a completed and
signed registration form.



Email:
info@skillingsa.co.za



Telephone:
010 012 6691



Mobile:
083 446 8533



TERMS & CONDITIONS



PAYMENT TERMS

- Payment due upon registration.
- Early registration is advised due to limited seating.
- Public sector purchase orders accepted.
- Entry may be refused where payment arrangements have not been confirmed.



DELEGATE CANCELLATIONS

- Cancellations must be submitted in writing.
- More than 15 working days before the event: Full credit valid for 12 months.
- Less than 15 working days before the event: Full registration fee payable.
- Non-attendance constitutes cancellation.



EVENT CHANGES

- Programme, speakers and timings may change.
- If cancelled, delegates receive a full credit.
- If postponed, registration transfers automatically.



WARRANTY OF AUTHORITY

The signatory confirms authority to read
register and accepts personal liability
for payment if this is breached.



MEDIA CONSENT

By attending, you grant permission
for photos/videos to be used in
SkillingSA marketing.
If concerned, please notify us
at registration.



THIS REGISTRATION FORM IS EDITABLE
Delegates can complete and sign electronically
for a fast, easy and paperless registration process.



COMPLETE • SIGN • SUBMIT
Electronically for Paperless Registration



16-17 SEPTEMBER 2026



HOLIDAY INN PARKTOWN, JOHANNESBURG & VIRTUAL



REGISTER 5 DELEGATES –
6TH DELEGATE ATTENDS FREE

SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

Bring your solution into the room.



**PLATINUM
STRATEGIC
PARTNER**

R120 000

Maximum Visibility + Thought Leadership + Full Demonstration Workshop

- Recognition as Platinum Strategic Partner
- Prominent logo on brochure, programme, website and event branding
- Full-page advert in the conference programme
- Premium exhibition stand
- 20-minute plenary speaking opportunity
- 45–60 minute sponsored demonstration workshop
- Live product or platform demonstration opportunity
- Promotional item or resource in delegate bags
- Structured delegate networking and opt-in lead generation
- 6 complimentary delegate passes
- Post-event acknowledgement and approved resource link sharing



**GOLD
DEMONSTRATION
PARTNER**

R70 000

Strong Visibility + Sponsored Demo Session + Delegate Interaction

- Recognition as Gold Demonstration Partner
- Logo on brochure, programme, website and selected event branding
- Half-page advert in the conference programme
- Exhibition stand in a high-traffic area
- 10-minute speaking opportunity
- 30-minute live demonstration session
- Delegate interaction at exhibition table
- Opt-in lead capture during demo or exhibition interaction
- Promotional item or information sheet in delegate bags
- 4 complimentary delegate passes



**SILVER
EXHIBITOR
PARTNER**

R45 000

Targeted Exposure + Exhibition Presence + Practical Engagement

- Recognition as Silver Exhibitor Partner
- Logo on selected programme and event branding materials
- Quarter-page advert in the conference programme
- Logo on event website
- Exhibition stand in the designated exhibition area
- Informal one-on-one product demonstrations
- Brochure, product sheet or QR code display
- Promotional item or information sheet in delegate bags
- 2 complimentary delegate passes



POPIA NOTE: Delegate contact details are not automatically shared.
Sponsors may collect leads only through approved opt-in mechanisms in compliance with POPIA.

ABOUT US

At **SkillingSA**, we strive to provide the latest research and knowledge on the key issues impacting businesses and organizations in South Africa. Our main focus is to host high quality conferences and seminars, offering unique insights and networking opportunities to professionals across various industries.



Our team of experts is passionate about knowledge sharing and delivering innovative solutions that drive positive change in the business environment. We are dedicated to creating platforms that bring together top executives, thought leaders, and industry experts to share their knowledge, insights, and experiences.



Get in touch with us today to learn more about our services and how we can support your organization.



Let's Work Together

Partner with SkillingSA and be part of a community that is shaping the future of business in South Africa.

