

## Joining forces to make a lasting difference to the lives of countless children in one of the poorest communities in Johannesburg

Diepsloot Combined School (DCS) is situated in an informal settlement on the northern outskirts of Johannesburg. Over the years the ever-increasing number of learners has outgrown the accommodation and the school's resources are severely overstretched. There are now 2,200+ children attending DCS from foundation phase to Grade 12, with classes of up to 80 pupils per teacher.

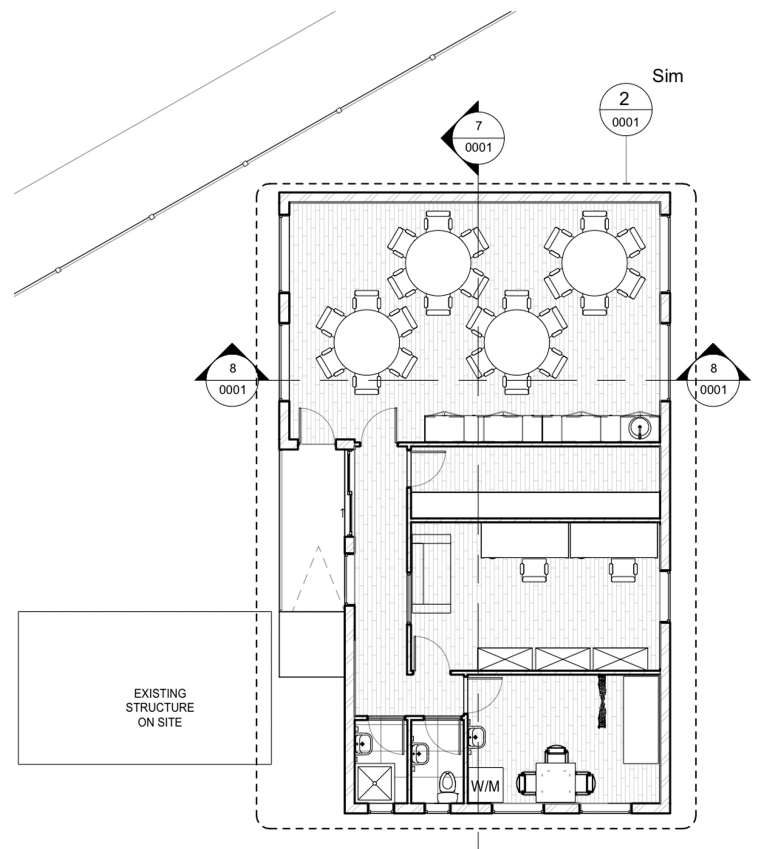
In addition to having no sickbay, the staff struggles to provide basic first aid. There is also insufficient access to advice on health and wellbeing issues. Several girls fall pregnant each year (some as young as 10) and their education is affected as a result.

In order to address the chronic lack of healthcare provision, the Rotary Club of Swindon in the UK and Rotary Club of Sandton in Johannesburg have joined forces to deliver a sustainable solution at DCS. Working in partnership with Edu Fun - a South African NPO that has been providing educational support services at DCS since 2003 - the project team is planning to build a new multi-purpose 'health hub'.

This important new resource will serve as a dedicated base in which Edu Fun volunteers can work closely with the school's Learner Support Educator (LSE) team, other NGOs, and local healthcare professionals to address the wide range of problems currently adversely affecting the wellbeing of children attending DCS.

The Hub will include:

- An all-purpose classroom / meeting room. One wall will feature a whiteboard suitable for showing educational films (a projector has already been donated). Another will have a row of countertop cupboards complete with sink, enabling art therapy and other activities.
- A large, secure storeroom with floor to ceiling shelves running its full length.
- An office for coordinating all the daily activities taking place in the hub.
- A sickbay with hand basin, top-loader washing machine, hospital bed, and consulting area for private counselling.
- Separate toilet and shower.



## The current situation

Thanks to the generosity of Empowered Spaces Architects and Norval Wentzel Steinberg Quantity Surveyors, we now have the architectural drawings and bill of quantities needed to move forward.

We have held preliminary meetings with the school's Board of Governors in order to reach out to the Diepsloot community and employ local tradesmen to build the hub – ideally family members of children attending the school who have a vested interest.

We know that we have enough funding to construct the shell of the building without ceilings, electrics and plumbing. So we now need to find sponsors to donate other fixtures and fittings, including the windows and doors. Needless to say, if we can find a builders' merchant willing to donate bricks, for instance, we will be able to use our limited funds for other essentials.

Please note that we have two versions of the bill of quantities. The one accompanying this document is only for the building, with no finishes or services allowed for.

The basic quantities required are:

Concrete (in footings and surface beds) – approx. 35 m3  
Reinforcement (mesh and other) - 2,8t  
Face bricks - 15 000  
Stock bricks - 15 000  
Roof sheeting - 112 m2  
Insulation - 112 m2  
Windows and doors - per the schedule

We are also seeking a company willing to provide onsite supervision.

## Can you help?

As an NPO/PBO with 100% B-BBEE Socio-Economic Development (SED) Recognition, Edu Fun is authorised to issue Section 18A tax exempt receipts for cash donations and materials, but unfortunately not for pro bono services.

If you know of potential sponsors who may be interesting in contributing to this exciting collaborative project, please introduce them to us.

The person to contact is Mark Batchelor (Rotary Club of Sandton) on **082 887 0770** or **mark@sedgeley.co.za**