



Empowering teachers through ICT integration





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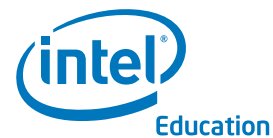
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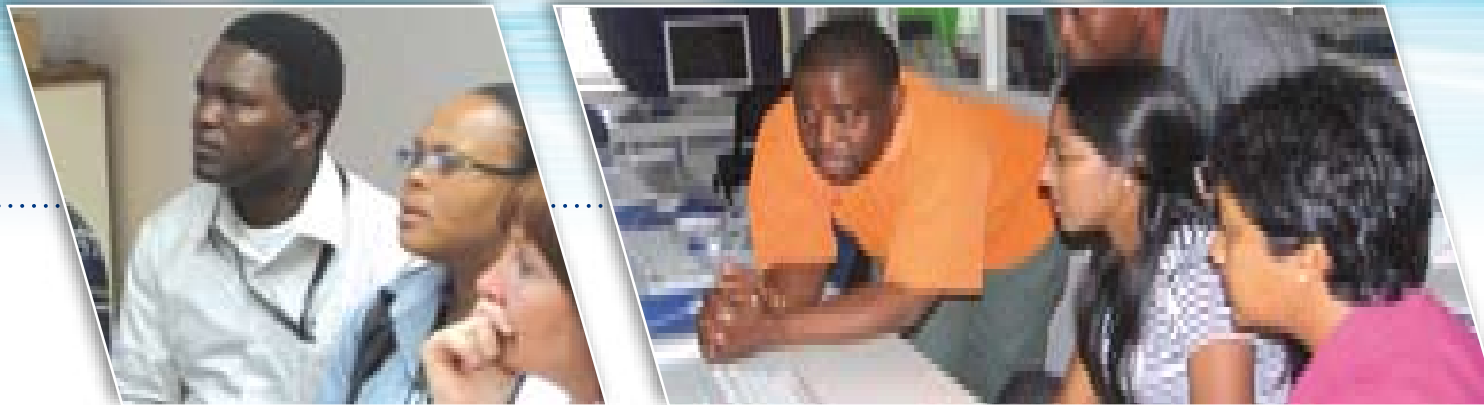
Website for Intel® Teach:
<http://www.school.za/ttf>

Website for Partners in Learning:
<http://www.school.za/atwork/pil.htm>

Website for ACE details:
<http://ace.schoolnet.org.za>

ACE queries by email to:
info@ace.schoolnet.org.za





Creating communities of teachers and learners using ICTs

SchoolNet SA has a reputation for providing course materials of substance and training that is tailor-made for teachers and education managers. SchoolNet SA offers specialised training that endeavours to enhance teaching and learning experiences.

SchoolNet SA promotes innovation through educational competitions such as Mtandao Afrika, Microsoft Innovative Teachers Forum and Oracle Think Quest. SchoolNet SA also runs Bridges of Learning - a global inter-classroom collaboration project based on the learning circles model.

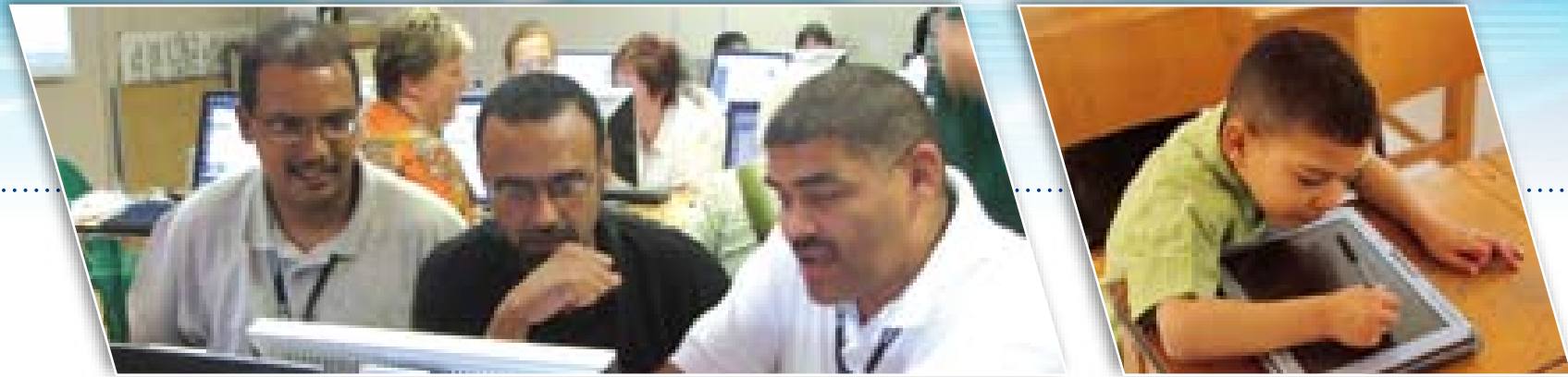
SchoolNet SA works together with provincial departments of education as implementation partners for teacher professional development in ICT integration.

Why ICT Integration?

The e-Education White Paper outlines ICT integration as the preferred mode of ICT use in schools. Through ICT integration, learners are helped to master so-called 21st Century thinking and learning skills such as thinking, communicating, collaborating, problem-solving, information skills and self-direction.

Current SchoolNet SA Programmes:

- Intel ® Teach Essentials
- Microsoft ® Partners in Learning
- ACE – Advanced Certificate in Education ICT Integration with the University KZN
- Bridges of Learning Project - Learning Circles
- Sizanani - ICT literacy for the community
- Oracle ThinkQuest / Mtandao-Afrika
- Oracle 21st Century Learning Institute



SchoolNet History

SchoolNet SA was established as a national organisation due to the efforts of volunteer educators and innovative thinkers in school networking during the 1990s. SchoolNet SA was formally founded in 1997 with the support of the Department of Education's Centre for Educational Technology and Distance Education and several corporate sponsors. The first projects included training teachers in the Telkom 1000 project, an Open Society Institute for South Africa project and the World Bank's Links for Development. SchoolNet SA operated as a core funded project of the Canadian IDRC (International Research and Development Centre) until 2001 when it became a Section 21 non-profit organisation. SchoolNet SA has more recently played a role in influencing decisions and content in the e-Education White Paper and the Teacher Development Framework. Tens of thousands of teachers have been trained through SchoolNet projects over the past 10 years..



“We are using computers to learn not learning to use computers”

What SchoolNet believes in:

- Addressing the needs and interests of educators
- Skills development, courses and events that will be immediately meaningful to educators in the classroom
- Developing capacity in people to sustain better teaching, learning and school management
- Lesson improvement skills
- Finding appropriate ways to use ICT as a resource to enhance learning
- Using ICT to learn, not just learning to use ICT
- Helping to make teachers more innovative

SchoolNet strives to:

- influence decision-making in the interests of a better education for all.
- support teachers to integrate ICT in imaginative ways



Partners in Learning

Microsoft Partners in Learning is a worldwide initiative in which Microsoft engages with Ministries of Education to assist with the needs of educators in that country. In South Africa, Microsoft is using SchoolNet SA to develop and deliver a whole range of teacher ICT skills and integration training programmes as part of a five year intervention. More than 17 000 educators have received training between January 2005 and the end of 2008.

Microsoft is currently funding capacity building in provinces and is offering training to provincial personnel in all programmes. So far 7 provinces have trained personnel on a variety of the Partners in Learning courses on offer. The entry level course, ICT Skills for Teachers has proved to be particularly successful possibly due to its unique learning approach to ICT literacy adopted by the SchoolNet trainers.

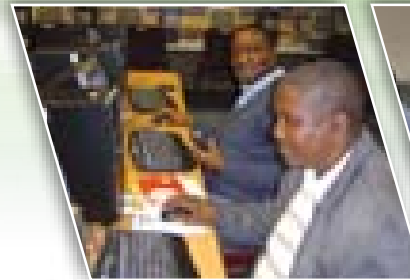
Partners who have either funded training or adopted aspects of it include: Telkom Foundation, Nelson Mandela Foundation, Oprah Winfrey Foundation/Cisco, Angloplat, Lonmin, NEPAD, ISETT SETA, Multichoice, Thutong and the national Department of Education.

What Microsoft offers teachers:

- A range of carefully planned and unique courses specifically designed for teachers as well as school management, district officials and technical support groups
- School-based training where possible
- All courses aligned to the Guidelines for Teacher Training and Professional Development in ICT (DoE)
- Short courses for forthcoming professional development points

What is provided?

- The two Microsoft Partners in Learning CDs
- Training from a specialist SchoolNet facilitator
- Digital Literacy Curriculum
- Certificate of participation



What is required from a school or a provincial department of education?

- Relationship between Microsoft SA and the Provincial DoE
- Pre-requisites vary per course
- Liaison with SchoolNet SA

Partners in Learning courses on offer

- **ICT Skills for Teachers / Principals**
Introduces ICT skills scenarios to teachers / principals with a range of ICT experience. The course caters for mixed-ability groups and multiple learning styles.
- **ICT Integration One Step Further**
An ICT integration course that takes teachers one step further on from basic ICT skills. The course focuses on information skills and the creation of learning objects using Microsoft* One Note and Encarta.
- **ICT Integration (WebQuests)**
Structured but simple classroom projects. WebQuests are developed worldwide. Teachers find and adapt existing WebQuests.
- **Student Help Desk**
Technical support training - for learners and teachers in school clusters.
- **ICT Leadership for Education Managers**
Targeted at school and district managers, the course is about how to be an ICT leader in the school and district.
- **Peer Coaching**
This course trains school peer coaches in communication skills, ICT integration and improving lesson design. School leadership participation is required as leaders and peer coaches develop school peer coach plans. This grows a spirit of collaboration in whole school staff development.



ICT Skills for Teachers

This introductory ICT skills training provides teachers with both an initial and ongoing computer experience using scenarios that directly relate to their roles as teachers. This programme's focus is catering to the teachers' needs and interests, emphasizing the development of independent learning. Participants' different levels of confidence and ICT experience are acknowledged which allows for each participant to work on ICT-based scenarios that best suit his/her skill level.

This is the ideal introductory course as it offers scenarios that include a wide range of skill levels.

This course usually includes 5 days of training which is split into 2 sessions approximately one month apart. Each training session can accommodate 20-25 teachers and Microsoft certificates of participation are provided to participants who successfully complete the course.





Comments from participants

- “I enjoyed the training more especially the exploration part of it.”
Teacher from F J Wells Senior Primary (Gauteng)
- “I have gained a lot since it was my first time to be exposed to computers.”
Teacher from Intakemazolo Combined School (KwaZulu Natal)
- “The training was an eye opener to me. The course is educational and helpful.”
Teacher from Hlohlolwane Primary School (Free State)
- “The programme really helped me to improve my computer skills. It was challenging to do some of the exercises. I enjoyed it and look forward to enhancing and put to use what I have learned.”
Teacher from New Generation School (Eastern Cape)
- “The workshop was good, productive, useful and helpful to me as an educator. It simplifies learning and teaching.”
Teacher from A B Makapan (Limpopo)
- “Thank you very much for opening up a new world to me which will save me some time, but will also open up new possibilities for teaching. This makes it more exciting for me and the learners.”
Teacher from Ipopeng High School (Free State)
- “The course was good and improved my computer skills. I think the course will help me in my studies and my lesson preparation on a daily basis.”
Teacher from Qhasana High School (Eastern Cape)



ICT Leadership for Education Managers

This course is designed for leaders at schools and departmental offices. Empowering senior management to assume an ICT leadership role is the first step toward successful adoption of ICT integration in the school. In this way the effective use of ICTs can become a catalyst not only to improved administration but also to pedagogical change.

The course introduces ideas about ICT leadership in order to create a better understanding of ICT in the educational institution. Education managers are encouraged to record their thoughts and tentative plans in a course journal.

The course workshops include:

- What teachers and learners do with ICT
- Issues regarding the ICT policy
- Management of ICT resources
- School ICT learning programmes
- School ICT readiness

The duration of the course can be either 2 or 3 days depending on the modules that are completed. Usually 3 members of senior management are invited to attend the training. Microsoft certificates of participation are provided to successful participants upon completion of the course.





Comments from participants

- “This course was very informative and the sharing of ideas and information helped to discover the improvement needed at my school. The methods the presenter used to transfer the course information and knowledge was very good and encouraged communication and participation of all present.”
- “The working together with different schools so close to us was an eye opener. The course was informative and it will help us to create awareness in our school of the importance of ICT. Thanks for the time you put in and I wish you success.”
- “If this type of workshop could be done with follow up assistance managers and the SMT could run schools easily and all teachers could improve on ICT and learners can benefit more.”
- “The ICT workshop was highly informative, empowering and augmented my knowledge in the usage of computer, this will undoubtedly be of great use today and the future.”



Help Desk

Deploying Student Technical Support Solutions

This programme empowers learner teams at schools with computer technical knowledge. Educators and learners (from grade nine to eleven) attend five days of training. Five or six schools are normally clustered together for this training. The training includes:

- How to establish an effective Helpdesk at the school.
- Introduction to computer hardware.
- How to assemble computers.
- How to support the operating system (Windows XP)
- Troubleshooting methods
- How to support networked computers.
- Hardware and software security
- How to use a Helpdesk database

After acquiring this kind of knowledge:

- Learners are able to maintain their computer laboratories back at school as junior technicians
- Learners give technical support to their schools and their communities
- Learners form school computer clubs and teach others
- School leavers could start small 'businesses' based on the skills learnt at the Helpdesk
- Schools save a costs by using these junior technicians





Comments from participants

- “I had some computer skills before attending, but after the trainer had taken me and others through this course, I feel more confident to support students help desk and also fix school's computers as to help the school cut down maintenance cost.”
- “Thanks to the trainer for his time and patience, and more than all he was dedicated to his work.”
- “The trainer was well prepared indeed. The materials/Aids were efficiently utilised. Let the department organise these types of workshops in future.”
- “The course was quite profitable because I gained a lot. I now know how to replace internal parts of a computer.”
- “It was good because now I will be able to train others to set up a computer.”
- “To me this training was very enjoyable. I didn't want to go back home because I have been enjoying with all my heart.”
- “The course will be helpful to schools and I recommend that training is extended to other schools.”
- “The course material is quite relevant and very specific. I am now very confident in such a way that I can safely say I can help others.”
- “I find the course interesting because problems that I am having with computers at school are going to be solved as I got advice and techniques.”



ICT Integration: One Step Further

This course is designed in Microsoft One Note, which gives participants the opportunity to experience the power of this resource while participating in this course. Microsoft One Note is included in the SA Schools Agreement Software.

This ICT integration course follows the ICT Skills for Teachers course. It aims to develop the information skills and take teachers one step further in their developing ICT literacy. The course focuses on working with information and what to do with it in simple, yet pedagogically sound ways.

The materials include separate workshops for mathematics and science teachers.
The course outcomes are:

- Grow teachers' confidence with ICT
- Develop basic information literacy skills using Microsoft Encarta
- Develop learning objects using a range of resources
- Evaluate Microsoft One Note as an educational tool
- Evaluate Microsoft Encarta as an information source
- Introduce mathematics and science teachers to simple resources





These outcomes combine to offer a collection of course content that can be used flexibly to grow teachers in the ICT adoption phase of teacher development and better prepare them for the next phase, the appropriation phase, when teachers are introduced to WebQuests. The duration of the course is 2 or 3 days and requires teachers have basic ICT literacy. Certificates of participation are provided upon successful completion of the course.

Some of the topics included in this course:

- Learning objects – their purpose in the learning process – innovative uses of learning objects
- Information bytes – scavenger hunts – graphic organisers – mind tools
- Tips on using Encarta and Live Search – using the fun features of One Note
- Information skills – why learners should gather information – improving informations searches - finding and using images
- Help on copyright issues – testing the accuracy, credibility and bias of information found on the Internet – references and citing sources

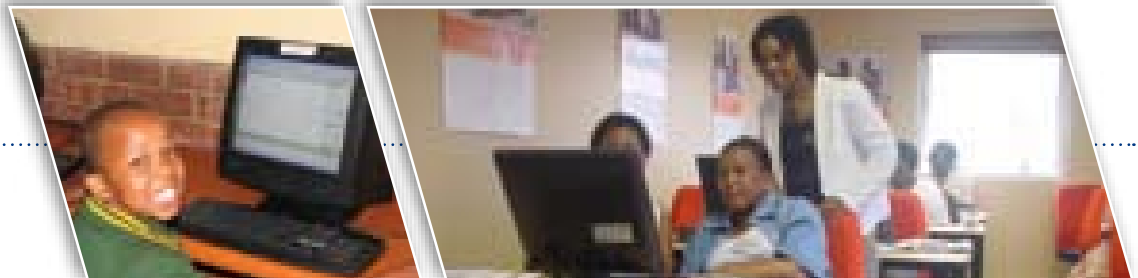


ICT Integration: WebQuests

This training course introduces teachers to a simple project template for implementing ICT-integrated projects in the classroom. Webquests are learner-centred and inquiry-based; they promote higher order thinking skills and challenge learners to explore the web for information. The course is designed to help teachers understand the nature of the Webquest, find examples online, evaluate them, analyse them and adapt them for their own use.

There are approximately thirty two localised samples and thirty additional examples of Webquest projects provided in this programme.

This course is usually over 3 days for approximately 15-20 teachers. Participants are required to bring with them their subject resources to develop projects that will be utilised in their lessons.





Comments from participants

- “I found the course extremely useful in terms of learning new skills on a computer and able to use the webquests to assign projects and incorporate this with other learning areas.”
- “Webquest is a powerful teaching tool. This is something that should have been made known sooner. Definitely a tool that every teacher should equip themselves with!”
- “This course was excellent as it allowed for hands on participation. I feel confident that I can easily design webquests for my subject.”
- “Webquest is a powerful tool that can be used to introduce our learners to a new and exciting way of teaching and learning. Webquest is very suitable for the new curriculum and inline with the current changes in education with respect to new technology introduced into our schools today.”
- “Although I initially felt that the timing of the training (during the holidays, right after exhausting last days of school) was not appropriate, I thoroughly enjoyed the presentation of the workshop and I am empowered to develop my own webquests. I shall surely use this as a tool in my classroom practice from now on.”



Peer Coaching

Peer coaches are more than ICT champions; they are trained in communication skills, ICT integration and lesson improvement skills. The training model is designed to grow many peer coaches per school. This programme aims to develop a spirit of collaborative peer-to-peer staff support, a critical component of whole school staff development. Peer coaches provide ongoing peer support to maintain teachers' motivation and confidence in their integration of ICTs.

This is a specialised course that requires the selected participants to be ICT-literate and to have access to the Internet. The course consists of eight days of face to face training spread over a year with several online activities that are completed in between sessions.

The course activities for the training are centred on the 3 pillars of peer coaching which are:

- Lesson design
- Coaching skills
- ICT integration

A school can nominate up to 3 coaches per cycle. After a few years the school could have a large number of peer coaches. Microsoft provides certificates of participation to participants who successfully complete the course.



Comments from Teachers

"Evaluating our school's professional development was a huge eye opener and doing it with the Principal was great as he also became aware of the school's professional development status. It also made us aware of what we can do to improve and where we can improve our school's professional development."

- Teacher from East London

"Integrating ICT adds value in my teaching experience I found it enriching, dynamic and providing clear guidelines on how to approach and change those ordinary lessons into experiential learning activities that not only build teachers but also strengthen the bond between teachers and learners."

- Teacher from Gauteng

"I really get so much out of each of these sessions, because after each session I am so full of ideas and I really feel so invigorated. I am getting re-motivated and we WILL make a success of this. I can also see the clear picture now and understand why we had to start off with all the other sections that had to be covered."

- Teacher from East London

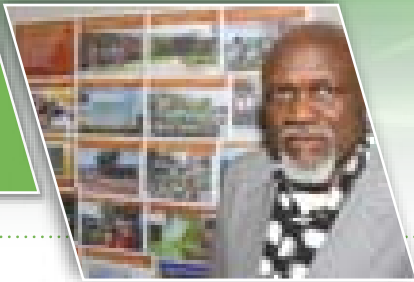


"I have found that there are heaps of rather exciting hyperlinks and other areas that are very interesting that I would like to explore. I have found the sessions to be motivating and just wish that I had more time to spend going through various resources. This has been really worthwhile."

- Teacher from Kwa-Zulu Natal

"Listening to success stories of Peer Coaches from other schools, gave me hope and motivation to see this through."

- Teacher from the Free State



Innovative Teachers Forum

The Microsoft Innovative Teachers Forums aim to:

- Bring together a community of teachers to learn and exchange expertise
- Promote teacher confidence in integrating technology throughout the learning process
- Foster dialogue on best practices, innovation and pedagogy
- Engage teachers intellectually and offer opportunities for them to be active stakeholders in their profession
- Promote the sharing of exceptional innovative practices of technology integration in the educational process

Innovation Workshops

To help teachers come up with innovative teaching ideas and to hone their projects a series of Innovation Workshops are organised prior to the competition. The Innovation courseware is also available online at www.school.za/itf to enable teachers to work through the materials on their own or in small groups.

Microsoft Innovative Teachers Awards

The Microsoft Innovative Teachers Awards is an annual competition administered by SchoolNet that recognises teachers who are teaching in a way that is new or groundbreaking at their schools, while integrating ICT to support that teaching.

To enter, teachers are required to submit projects that use technology in interesting and exciting ways using an entry template provided at www.school.za/itf. Then from the entries received finalists are selected to attend the finals event.



At the Innovative Teachers Awards, prizes are awarded to the projects that best demonstrate:

- Innovation in Collaboration
- Innovation in Content
- Innovation in Community
- And Innovation in Challenging Contexts

Finalists also get to vote for the project which they feel is the most deserving of the Innovation Peer Award.

Amongst other prizes, the winning teachers have the opportunity to present their projects at the Worldwide Innovative Teachers Forum. This annual event takes place in a different country every year and is a fantastic opportunity to network with other innovative teachers from around the world.

For more information about the Innovative Teachers Awards, and details of the current competition's entry requirements and closing date, please visit www.school.za/itf

Comments from Innovative Teachers finalists:

- From the depths of my heart I would like to sincerely thank you for the wonderful initiative and amazing enthusiasm by which you gave recognition to teachers who really have done more than their fair share in education."
- "Thank you very much for an excellent competition. I really feel that I can do more and improve the way I teach from speaking to the other teachers."
- "I like the spirit of learning and it inspires me to think out of the square. I would like to enter again because I meet with the most wonderful of people that showcase teaching so positively."
- "I thoroughly enjoyed being there, chatting to people, learning from them, and sharing what I could with them. It was an enriching experience."



Intel® Teach

Intel Teach is part of a world wide effort to help educators integrate computers and the Internet (ICT) into teaching that enhances learning. Intel Teach is localized for South Africa and is designed to prepare participating educators to plan projects that promote the effective use of computers and the Internet in the classroom. Teachers have been using the Intel Teach programme in South African since March 2003 and the content of the course has been updated annually

When teachers design projects that integrate ICT they are planning classroom experiences that are aligned to the South African assessment standards and achieve the outcomes of the national curriculum.

Some provinces fund Intel training for their curriculum advisors as well as for ICT coordinators and teachers. Seven out of nine provinces include Intel Teach as an integral, albeit advanced component of their provincial ICT strategy for schools. Intel Teach courses are recognized by SACE (South African Council for Educators).

What does Intel® Teach offer?

- Training for Teachers
- Face-to-face or distance training
- Skills for designing effective projects
- ICT integration
- Alignment to the SA curriculum

Intel Teach is not a computer literacy course for teachers.

What is provided by Intel?

- One Intel Teach manual per educator
- One Intel Teach resource CD per educator
- A specialist senior facilitator

What is required from a school or a provincial department of education?

- Computer literate educators
- One computer per educator during training
- Preferably an internet connection

Intel® Teach Essentials

Can be offered face to face or online

Guiding teachers on how to plan effective classroom projects that target higher order thinking skills.

The Intel® Teach Essentials targets participant teachers with well-established ICT skills. The programme focuses on several aspects:

- Project-based learning in the classroom
- Challenging higher order thinking
- Integrating ICT to enhance learning
- Assessment aligned to the national curriculum statements
- Learner support strategies
- When it is appropriate to integrate ICT resources

The goal is for educators to produce a project that they can use in their classrooms; one that allows them to raise the level of excellence and innovation in their classroom and meet important learning outcomes.

Thorough attention is paid to the roles of curriculum outcomes and assessment strategies at an early stage of planning. The Intel Teach course emphasizes a strong focus question which ensures that learners are challenged to think at higher levels as they process the information that they have gathered during research.

The option of the online course – Teach Essentials Online - starts with a two day face to face orientation and then a two month study with an online tutor. Read the course materials at www.school.za/teach

Intel® Teach Skills for Success

This course is for primary school learners. It develops ICT literacy skills in the context of community-related ICT use. Read the course materials at www.school.za/sfs

Intel® Teach Technology Literacy Curriculum

This 3-part course for high school learners integrates ICT literacy with writing skills and thinking skills. This course is ideal for high school learners using ICT across the curriculum.





Intel® Teach Thinking with Technology

Designing classroom projects that focus on thinking and incorporate online thinking tools

Thinking tools are ideal learner support tools in classroom projects. They encourage visual ways of thinking and encouraging learners to engage with each other constructively. The course focuses on integrating online thinking tools into classroom projects. Intel's online thinking tools are available for free to all schools in the world. They comprise:

Visual Ranking – used for ranking items in a list in order of importance; working in pairs or small groups, learners are engaged by deeper thinking and justifying their ranking.

Seeing Reason – used for investigating cause and effect relationships in a visual mapping format. This results in in-depth analysis of underlying issues.

Showing Evidence – used for gathering and evaluating evidence in response to a claim or argument. The resulting evidence is visually arranged to support or refute the claim. Learners also evaluate the strength OF (to be inserted) information sources and the extent to which they support or refute the claim - excellent for building information skills.

Read more about the thinking tools at <http://www.intel.com/education/tools/>

And read more about this course at <http://www.school.za/twt>

Visual Ranking

Project Name: Visual Ranking
Question: Which program is the greatest impact on people's lives? How do students rank the greatest impact on their lives?

Visual Ranking Interface:

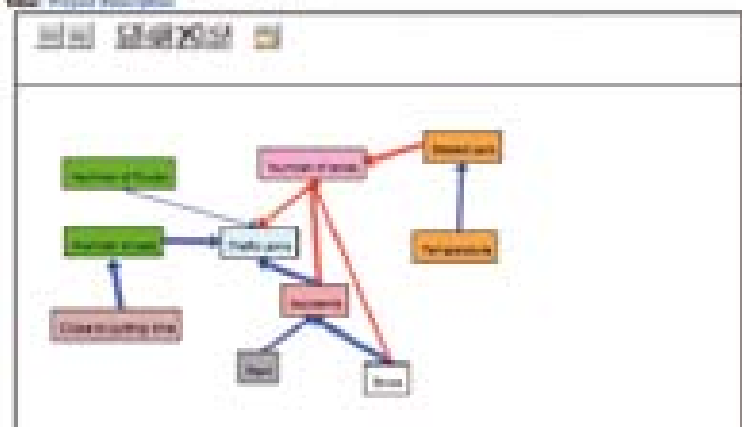
Students are shown a list of programs on the left and right, with lines connecting them to indicate their ranking. The programs listed include:

- Automobile
- Printing press
- Light bulb
- Refrigerator
- Telephone
- Television
- Black (invention)
- Personal computer
- Space
- Light bulb
- Telephone
- Automobile
- Refrigerator
- Printing press
- Space
- Personal computer
- Television
- Black (invention)
- Refrigerator



Seeing Reason

Project Name: Seeing Reason
Question: What causes traffic jams on our roads?



Showing Evidence

Project Name: Showing Evidence
Question: In the story, "Jack and the Beanstalk," is Jack a hero?

Showing Evidence Interface:

The interface shows a central area with text and a right-hand sidebar with a list of evidence items. The evidence items include:

- Jack's greed
- Jack's selfishness
- Jack's stupidity
- Jack's bravery
- Jack's kindness
- Jack's honesty
- Jack's courage



Advanced Certificate in Education

The University of KwaZulu-Natal in cooperation with SchoolNet SA established this Advanced Certificate in Education (ACE ICT Integration) in 2005. The course materials are based on the very successful Educators' Network, jointly developed by SchoolNet SA, SAIDE and Department of Education (SCOPE Project), with an assessment strategy developed by SchoolNet SA.

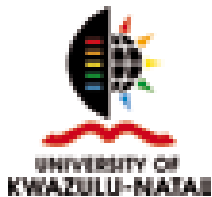
The ACE aims to improve teachers' subject knowledge and teaching expertise in their areas of specialization. It challenges teachers to constantly reflect on what they do in their classrooms and how ICT can integrate with their evolving teaching styles.

This ACE is studied completely via distance:

- No face to face contact
- Materials are CD-based
- Tutor support provided via email
- Choice of elective modules
- Work with peer email groups
- Share experiences with educators
- All registration is online
- No visits to physical campus

Assessment:

- No examinations
- Submission of assignments
- Online interaction with peers
- Reflection in an e-diary



Total of 128 credits studied over 2 years

Core modules (Compulsory)

- Learning, teaching and thinking with ICT
- ICT in schools
- ICT and the roles of the educator
- Assessing ICT Integration

Elective modules (Credits in brackets)

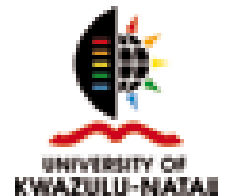
- Designing and creating web sites (8)
- Choosing and evaluating educational software (8)
- ICT Maths resources for educators (8)
- Developing classroom resources for Maths (8)
- ICT Science resources for educators (8)
- Developing classroom resources for Science (8)
- ICT planning for schools (16)
- ICT leadership in schools (16)
- Learning with projects (16)
- Working with information (16)
- Facilitating ICT integration for teachers (16)*

*Facilitating ICT integration for teachers is an accredited version of the Intel® Teach Essentials facilitators' course.



Entry Requirements

- Must have an initial teacher qualification at REQV 13 (M+3) to enter the programme.
- The ACE will move you to REQV 14 (M+4) upon the successful completion
- Teachers who have higher qualifications than this but want to retrain or study in this challenging specialist area are very welcome to apply.





Learning Circles

A Learning Circle is an inter-classroom collaboration model. Typically 6-8 classes, connected through the Internet, form part of Learning Circle. Each class carries out its own separate investigation. At a pre-determined stage, each class sends out a question or survey to the other classes in the Learning Circle. The other classes all respond as soon as possible. The data collected will help each class with its own investigation. Finally each class is able to share its findings from its investigation with the rest of the Learning Circle and more widely.

Themes

Measure-by-Measure

This theme is meant to encourage investigations that require calculations and measurements or working with data that can be analysed with charts and other analytical tools. This should appeal specifically to the maths and science classes but is not restricted to such classes.

People and Places

This theme is about people and their opinions, attitudes, beliefs and values. It is also about places in which people live.

The World We Live In

This theme includes the physical world in which we live and would be most suited to Science, Biology, Geography and any topics dealing with the environment.



Timelines

There will be regular Learning Circles programmed in two cycles per year. The approximate cycle dates are:

Cycle 1	Cycle 2	Activity
Up to 22 January	Up to 13 August	Joining and organizing into groups
22 - 29 January	14 - 20 August	Preparations
29 January - 5 February	21 - 27 August	Hello
5 - 17 February	28 August - 10 September	Investigations
17 February - 12 March	11 September - 1 October	Data collection
12 - 22 March	2 - 11 October	Sharing findings (publication)
22 - 29 March	12 - 18 October	Good Bye

How do I participate?

Send a message to the Learning Circle Coordinator:
info@schoolnet.org.za

In the e-mail message, give the following details:

- Your full name
- Your school name
- Your country name
- Your class grade/year
- The subject that you teach
- The theme in which you would like to participate.

To sign up online, please go to: <http://www.school.za/learningcircles/>



What does a Learning Circle offer?

- Opportunity for your learners to collaborate across boundaries
- The learning circle model is proven successful internationally
- The educational benefit through regional and cross-cultural collaboration
- Online collaboration broadens the scope of curriculum



Sizanani

Who is this course for?

This programme has been developed by SchoolNet SA for use in the non-formal education sector. This course is aimed at high school learners, out of school youth and community members who will be using computers for the first time.

Where will training take place?

Training can take place at schools, community centres or suitably equipped central venues. Participants will be given access to Acrobat Reader and Artrage, a free vector graphics programme. Participants should try to have access to a digital camera and a scanner.

What will participants receive?

Participants will each receive 12 workshops in which they will work in groups and provide community services through their ICT skills. A certificate of participation will be awarded upon completion of the course.



Materials:

Pilot materials can be viewed at: www.school.za/sizanani

Training is divided into two parts:

1. **ICT in the community** – in which participants will produce various documents that support and serve an organisation to which they belong.
2. **ICT in the workplace** – in which participants will produce various documents to support a small business or entrepreneur in their family or community

Training can take place over several weeks using approximately 4 hours per day.

The training involves using the computer to produce artefacts for organisations or teams to which the group members belong. Through producing useful documents, that are meaningful and relevant in the community, trainees will be encouraged to see the benefits of using ICTs.

For example, one activity involves designing a logo. This involves learning about how to draw pictures, take photographs and find images on the internet. Once the logo has been created, participants are then encouraged to use this logo to produce business cards and a letterhead for an organisation in the community.





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