



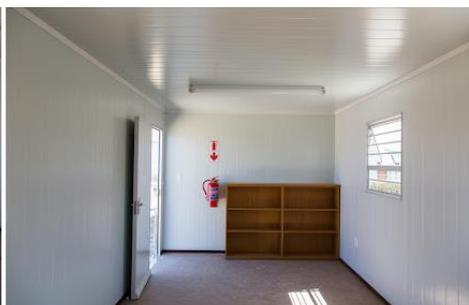
## Ubukhobakhe Educare Centre Khayelitsha, Cape Town Cape Town Cycle Tour March 2017 Fundraiser for a new Kitchen



On 7 November 2016, much-needed classrooms were launched at Ubukhobakhe Educare Centre, funded by the more than 40 cyclists who took part in the Cape Town Cycle Tour race in March this year (see <http://bit.ly/2g7nSSG>).



The new classrooms are housed in an insulated prefabricated unit (12m x 3m) divided into two separate rooms, which will be used for Grade R learners as they prepare to transition into primary school.





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This pre-school is exceptionally well run and every classroom has a timetable on the wall and a folder of every child's achievements over the year. Daily attendance registers are kept of all 200 children.

*Ubukhobakhe* means 'In God's Presence' in Xhosa. The centre is registered as a non-profit organisation, and was established in 2008. It is the only early childhood development centre in the area. When Thembisa Longo started the pre-school on the site it currently occupies, it was a rubbish dumping area, something frequently seen on unoccupied land in informal settlements and townships. Illegal dumping sites often diminish the quality of life and livability of the surrounding area, causing injury to the children who live and play in the area. Thembisa immediately saw an opportunity to use her drive and passion for children to serve the needs of the children that she so frequently saw not attending school. Today her centre oversees 200 children ranging between the ages of six months and six years. She receives a small government grant, through the South African Department of Social Development, for 116 of these children.

What the pre-school now desperately needs is a new kitchen. The current structure is too small to prepare food for 200 children and also poses a huge fire risk, as it is positioned up against the room housing the young toddlers. This risk could jeopardise their government grant.



The decision was therefore made to provide a six-metre container kitchen from the funds raised at the March 2017 Cycle Tour. The container will be placed away from all the classrooms, at the front of the site.