

Vodacom donates digital classroom to Limpopo school

Vodacom, in partnership with Samsung, has donated a digital classroom to the Seloutjo Secondary School in Ga-matlala, Limpopo.



Limpopo Education MEC, Ishmael Kgetjepe, unveiled the new equipment which has been given to the school - 26 tablets, a laptop, an interactive whiteboard, a data projector, a printer, educational aids and free Internet connectivity.

“This gift will change the future of education specifically for our learners in the long-term, especially if our school governing bodies, teachers and the school management put measurements in place to secure these new tech tools. It is through technology that everyone can receive the same quality of education,” Kgetjepe said.

“Not only does technology enable quality learning on tablets and interactive boards, it’s also becoming the cornerstone for enabling mass social progress in education which is the future,” Vodacom business chief officer, Vuyani Jarana, added.

Access to ICT tools

“Many learners in South Africa do not have access to the basic learning requirements like textbooks, which makes excelling at school more difficult especially in the underprivileged environments. The Vodacom e-learning initiative gives access to ICT tools and, more importantly, the connectivity where and when they most need it.”



In the first phase roll-out which ended in March 2015, Vodacom connected 371 previously disadvantaged schools across the country, equipping them with ICT tools. For the second phase, which started in August 2015, Vodacom intends to connect 700 schools nationally. In Limpopo, Vodacom aims to equip and connect 50 schools, including Seloutjo Secondary School.

The e-learning solution will serve as a learning platform with free Internet access to education content for learners in Grades 8 to 12 across the country. Over and above this, learners who are Vodacom subscribers will also be able to access classroom content, which is curriculum aligned on their mobile device across all major subjects, for free. This is because Vodacom has zero rated browsing on the site for its customers.

Help for teachers

e-Learning makes learning interactive and simpler for learners and educators. It equips educators with mobile technology to help improve the classroom experience using rich digitised media content.

“Learners can now complete lessons from their school syllabus, which will help them improve their marks. They can also track their progress and see how they are performing compared to other students in a fun, easy and interactive way,” added Jarana.

Internet connectivity is an added advantage providing learners with the opportunity to study at home. Educators are able to create lessons, schedule remote lessons and log, monitor and report on learner progress.

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