



**ATHLETICS  
CYCLING  
EDUCATION TRUST**



**A UNIQUE YOUTH  
DEVELOPMENT  
PROGRAMME THAT CREATES  
OPPORTUNITIES TO MAKE A  
REAL DIFFERENCE IN SOUTH  
AFRICA THROUGH EDUCATION,  
ATHLETICS AND CYCLING.**

The ACE Trust (formerly the Athletics Foundation Trust) identifies gifted high school athletes and cyclists across South Africa who are from disadvantaged backgrounds and enables them to receive an holistic education whilst realising their sporting dreams.

Our programme combines a unique blend of quality education coupled with high performance sport training making this one of the most unique and effective youth development programmes in South Africa.



# ATHLETICS

## TuksSport High School and Tuks Athletics Academy

(Pretoria, Gauteng)

The ACE Trust funded the development of TuksSport High School which is situated on the University of Pretoria's Sports Campus adjacent to the High Performance Centre.

TuksSport High School facilitates co-ed high school and boarding and is registered with the Gauteng Department of Education. Instruction is in English. The ACE Trust works with the school to address language and numeracy challenges through structured bridging programmes. The school assures a high-quality education with a flexible timetable that allow for optimal training without compromising academic development.

The Sports Campus is a high-altitude specialist facility that spans 76 hectares. It is equipped with state-of-the-art sporting facilities, technology and expertise. Academy athletes train daily alongside Olympic and internationally recognised athletes in an aspirational environment designed to stimulate academic, emotional and physical growth.

Young athletes are welcomed into the Tuks Athletics Academy and become part of the historic Tuks Athletics Club which is over 100 years old. Tuks Athletics Academy coaches specialise in a range of athletic track events such as sprints, hurdles, middle distance and race walking.

The ACE Trust has partnered with Nike which sponsors footwear and apparel to Academy athletes.

## Hoërskool Stellenbosch and Endurocad

(Stellenbosch, Western Cape)

Hoërskool Stellenbosch facilitates co-ed high school and boarding. The School is registered with the Western Cape Department of Education and tuition is in Afrikaans. Bridging programmes, funded and created by the ACE Trust, are facilitated in the Learning Hub which is equipped with cutting-edge technology and learning aids. Specialist tutors deliver targeted bridging programmes tailored to the athletes' learning needs.

The ACE Trust has partnered with the SA Endurance Academy (Endurocad) under the leadership of Olympic medallist Elana Meyer. Endurocad is responsible for the athletics programme in Stellenbosch. Endurocad has dedicated athletics coaches and boasts an outstanding record of developing young athletes, particularly in middle distance.

The Stellenbosch Athletics Academy focuses on track and field events including sprinting, middle distance, race walking, jumps, pole vault and throw (javelin, shot put and discus).

"Coming from a challenging background, growing up in an orphanage, I never could have imagined achieving this level of success in life. My passion for running and the privilege of studying at Tukssport High School allowed me to accomplish one of my greatest achievements thus far. I owe it all to the Trust, that made it possible for students like me to receive funding and attend this exceptional school."

"The Trust gave me the opportunity to study at one of the best schools in the country – TuksSport High School. It made my time at the school easy and enjoyable as we had access to the best sports facilities, best coaches, psychologists, massage therapists, doctors, amazing teachers and many more. All of this afforded me the opportunity to perform at my highest level in my sport while being able to balance my schoolwork. There is no room for failure when you are acquainted with the Trust because they give you all the best tools possible, not only to succeed in sport but also in education."







# CYCLING

## Tuks Cycling Academy and TuksSport High School

(Pretoria, Gauteng)

In 2023 the Trust established a Cycling Academy at Tuks in Pretoria. Cycling is a growing sport and the aim is to harness the power of cycling to drive positive change in individuals and communities.

Academy cyclists attend TuksSport High School and participate in daily training sessions at the Tuks High-Performance Centre. They also enjoy outrides with the Tuks Cycling Club.

The Tuks Cycling Academy is registered with the Gauteng North School Cycling and Cycling South Africa. The team participates in the Gauteng School Cycling series as well as the Trailseeker series. From 2024, the team will compete nationally.

The Tuks Cycling Academy is linked directly to the Q36.5 Pro Cycling Team based in Switzerland. Key team sponsors include the clothing brand Q36.5 and Scott bikes.

*"If it wasn't for TuksSport High School, I would never have understood the importance of balancing sport and academics. The discipline helped me be one of the top achievers in college. TSHS has not just been a school but a home to me. I am grateful for the opportunity they gave me and the support. I wouldn't have made it if it wasn't for the chance they gave me."*

## BURSARY INFORMATION

Each year the ACE Trust and its implementing partners conduct recruitment programmes across South Africa to find the 'hidden gems' – aspiring young athletes and cyclists with exceptional sporting potential, who due to circumstances, would not have otherwise had the opportunity to develop their talent.

The Trust applies strict selection criteria before awarding a bursary including a family means test. Aside from sporting potential, the athletes must demonstrate a certain academic standard and show strong morals, values and leadership skills.

Our bursaries cover school fees and specialist coaching, sport psychology and nutrition, sport science and medical expertise as well as accommodation, food, uniforms, books and stationery.

### Selection Criteria

The ACE Trust places equal emphasis on academic and athletic performance. A range of criteria are employed in evaluating applications for bursary support. These include:

- Potential in athletic track events / cycling
- Socio-economic circumstances
- Age (relative to school grade)
- Academic achievement and potential
- Attitudes, values and mental discipline
- Means test.



# PARTNERS AND SPONSORS

The ACE Trust has partnered with top schools and sport academies in Gauteng and the Western Cape to deliver its programmes.



## CONTACT

For more details on our programmes or to apply, please contact:

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“Sport has the power to change the world... it has the power to inspire, it has the power to unite people in a way that little else does. It speaks to youth in a language they understand. Sport can create hope where once there was only despair. It is more powerful than government in breaking down racial barriers.”

- Nelson Mandela



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[www.ace-trust.org](http://www.ace-trust.org)