



*Let our children become
all that they can be*

The Dalton Education Trust was initiated in 2008 following generous donations from guests of the Dalton Private Reserve. The specific focus of the Trust is currently on Early Childhood Development. This has been chosen as a key priority because of international recognition of its importance:

*“What children experience during the early years sets a critical foundation for their entire lifecourse. This is because Early Childhood Development — including the physical, social/emotional and language/cognitive domains — strongly influences basic learning, school success, economic participation, social citizenry, and health.” **

The Dalton Education Trust is proud to report on the following projects that have been initiated with its seed funding.

Dalton Bridge Education Resource Centre

The Dalton Education Trust has renovated an old crèche at Dalton Bridge to create a furnished and equipped Education Resource Centre. It is used for the weekly psychomotor lessons for all pre-school age children from the three communities neighbouring the Dalton Private Reserve (discussed on the next page). It will also be used as a training venue for the network of early childhood educators that has been established (discussed below).

Network of Early Childhood Educators

A team of ten community members (one co-ordinator and nine family facilitators) has been selected to implement this project. They are being trained by LETCEE (Little Elephant Training Centre for Early Education) in NQF Level One pre-school teaching.

These family facilitators are in turn visiting each pre-school age child in the local community at least twice a week to promote the development of their school readiness skills. The picture to the right shows some of the family facilitators gathering with their charges for a training session at the Dalton Bridge Education Resource Centre.



*Quote from “Early Child Development: A Powerful Equalizer” - Final Report for the World Health Organization’s Commission on Social Determinants of Health, 2007.

Psychomotor Education

A weekly psychomotor education class is now being provided to all pre-school age children in the broader Dalton Community. Psychomotor education encourages the use of all the senses and promotes movement, emphasising the link between physical behaviour and emotional behaviour. It aims to develop confident, independent, emotionally secure children who can reach their full potential in later life. The psychomotor education is currently being conducted by the Psychomotor Education Institute of South Africa (PEISA).

The photos below show the children engaging in their psychomotor sessions:



Next Steps for the Dalton Education Trust

Now that three significant projects have been established, the main focus of the Dalton Education Trust is further fundraising to ensure that these education initiatives continue over the long term. So far the Dalton Education Trust has raised approximately R800,000 and aims to raise a further R1,030,000. These funds will be used as follows:

1. Continued implementation of the two education programmes.
2. Further upgrades of the Dalton Bridge Education Centre including a palisade fence, a solar geyser and solar energy.
3. The building of a second crèche facility in a remote location that currently has no schooling facilities.
4. The promotion of environmental education at the two primary schools and one high school that are in the vicinity of Dalton.

If you would like to help us with our activities in the community, you can do so by either making a once-off contribution, or an ongoing commitment to the Dalton Education Trust. By donating money you will enable us to maintain the projects mentioned above and start up more such projects, and by doing so benefit the members of the community, present and future.

Donations can be made directly into our bank account.

Account Name: Dalton Education Trust

Account Number: 1349167924

Bank: Nedbank

Branch Name: Estcourt, KZN, South Africa

Branch Code: 134925

Swift Code: NEDSZAJJ

THANK YOU VERY MUCH