



New primary school in

Bonnievale

Earlier this year, a new primary school opened its doors to excited learners of Happy Valley in Bonnievale. The school is expected to be a catalyst for social and community development for many years to come.





New school offers a new beginning

“n Skool moet ’n veilige plek vir onderrig en leer wees, waar leerders hul potensiaal kan ontwikkel. Ons het nou ’n mooi skool waar hierdie visie ’n realiteit kan word.” (A school should be a safe space for teaching and learning where learners develop their potential. We now have a beautiful school where this vision can become a reality).

This is how Johannes Marthinus, principal of Bonnievale Primary School, described the new school building. The school opened its doors in January 2018. A total of 866 learners and 34 teaching support staff members are currently benefiting from this R62 million investment. The Department of Transport and Public Works started construction in June 2016 after the old school building was demolished.

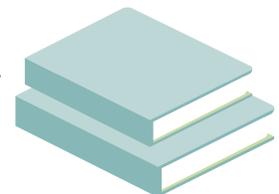
Marthinus, who has been at the school for 38 years, recalls how this investment has improved learning conditions. “The old school was built 40 years ago, and over the years, the structures became unpleasantly cold in winter, and too hot in summer. Teaching spaces were also small.

“Now, we are delighted to have better facilities. The classroom environment is better equipped and spacious. My deputies now have their own offices, we have staff rooms for meetings. We could not be more grateful,” he added.



Teaching facilities at Bonnievale Primary School

- 32 standard classrooms (40 learners per classroom).
- Four Grade R classrooms (30 learners per classroom).
- Three multi-purpose classrooms for library and computer services, arts and culture, and handwork.
- A hall with toilet facilities.
- Administration building, and facilities for a supervisor.



Empowerment

- Through this project, several people from Happy Valley and surrounding communities have benefited from short-term employment and skills training.
- R5 million has been spent on targeted sub-contractor businesses.
- R3 million has gone to businesses supplying materials.
- R3 million has been spent on local labour.