

Good Shepherd Trust

Providing an Excellent Well-Rounded Education



Welcome to the Good Shepherd Family

Photo: Steven Lang

Annual Report **2019**

Trust Report to AGM

It is clear that the Good Shepherd School has achieved much in 2019. The Trust recognises and acknowledges with thanks the leadership of the Principal, Mr Manie Cronje, and the entire School staff - teaching, administrative and support - for their work, which has made Good Shepherd the most sought after no-fee Primary School in the City of Grahamstown/Makhanda.

Thanks are also due to: Revd Claire and the Cathedral staff, GADRA Education, Lebone Centre, St Andrew's College and Prep, the DSG, Rhodes, Trust Manager Ms Cathy Meiklejohn, Trustees, the School Governing Body and many volunteers who have given of their time and talents without any remuneration to the School. These volunteers are acknowledged on page 14.

Thanks to generous donations from core donors, the DT Hudson Trust and Federated Employers Mutual Association, as well as substantial donations from Tafika Trust and Elephant Cup, as well as numerous individual donations (acknowledged on page 14), the Good Shepherd Trust raised R900 000 in 2019. R640 500 of this was used for teacher salaries. Trust-funded initiatives, such as weekly counselling sessions, the Library (from which learners take books out weekly), and Cami Maths lessons in the Computer Lab, have all been sustained during the year. The Trust has budgeted for similar support in 2020. An area of concern is that the Department of Education has not paid all its rental monies for 2019.

A few specific other areas of support by the Trust include:

- **Academic Tracking**

The Trust Manager, Ms Meiklejohn, has tracked academic performance looking at literacy levels of GrR-3 learners; using internal assessments and performance on externally-set exams; and High School performance of former Good Shepherd learners (details on page 3). This has been gratifying to see.

- **NumberSense Maths**

In consultation with the Maths teachers (and in discussion with Mr Brendan Brady of St Andrew's Prep & Dr Lise Westaway from Rhodes Education Faculty), it has been agreed that the School move over to the Number Sense approach and resources for teaching Maths from 2020. This is what Prep and the Model C schools in Grahamstown use and it comes with very positive reviews.

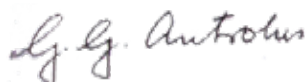
- **Social Emotional Learning**

With Investec funding of R25 000, a Social-Skills Course was run with 12 Grade 5 learners facilitated by Ms Gongqobe and Rev Dr Claire Nye-Hunter (GSS part-time Chaplain and Counsellor). It was very successful and set these learners on a better course of self-awareness and better equipped to deal with their complex social relationships. Also funded from this source, eight children have benefited from a 10-session Art Course at Carinus Art School. An application for funding in 2020 has again been submitted to Investec.

- **Scholarships**

Lunje Hoboshe (GSS Head Girl 2019) and Leolin Joe, who will be going to Victoria Girls High School in 2020, have been awarded the Harry Birrell and Tafika Scholarships, valued at R25 000, for 2020.

Finally, and not least, parents and guardians need to be acknowledged for their part in their children's learning. They play a vital supporting role in education.



Prof Geoff ANTROBUS
Chair: Good Shepherd Trust



Good Shepherd School

Good Shepherd is a 'no-fee', Quintile 3 school with 310 learners. The language of instruction is English although this not the home-language of majority of learners. The majority of learners live in Grahamstown's former township areas and travel to school in taxis. It is a Public School on Private Property and is able to offer a wide range of support and enrichment programmes due to an active Board of Trustees.

Good Shepherd School is ensconced within strong networks of support and benefits from a wide range of generous funders. See: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qQxk-u6fmbI>
(Brief video-clip on Good Shepherd School)

2019 Highlights

Good Shepherd School continued in 2019 to be surrounded by networks of care and support (page 12). Through the initiative of the Principal, Mr Manie Cronje, it saw a strengthening of the relationship with neighbouring schools, Victoria Girls High School and Victoria Primary, and a drive to develop Huntley Street as an educational precinct which engenders pride and positivity.



Your newspaper, **FREE OF CHARGE**

Record results for Class of 2018 - **Page 3** New Year's Cup action - **SPORT**



Good start to 2019



A strong literacy thrust continues in the Foundation Phase and there are positive trends in academic performance (page 3). 2019 saw the gearing up for starting the NumberSense Maths programme (page 4) in 2020 in Gr1 to Gr4. Teachers were trained and there was a full day of NumberSense classroom demonstrations in the latter part of 2019. There is a growing awareness of the importance of Social Emotional Learning, especially in the context of Good Shepherd School, where many learners face huge domestic and family challenges (page 6). Leadership development continues to feature prominently in the School programme. In line with the commitment of the Principal to develop the sporting and cultural extra-mural programme there were a growing number of extra-murals offered to the learners in 2019 (pages 9-11).

Academic Highlights

Three forms of academic tracking have been undertaken since 2016:

1. Internal School Assessment Performance in English & Maths for Gr1-7 (and, where available, performance on Departmentally-set Exams);
2. Early Literacy assessment performance for GrR-3 (based on internationally-benchmarked Early Literacy tests) in February, June and November;
3. High School performance of former GSS learners in 3 no-fee High Schools (Mary Waters, Ntsika & Nombulelo) and 2 fee-paying High Schools (VG & Graeme College).

On all three measures, Good Shepherd learners were found to be performing well in November 2019. The full Report is available on request, but a few highlights are shared here.

- The Grade Rs of 2019 are moving into Grade 1 in 2020 with a significantly stronger base from which to progress into reading fluency.
- The Gr1s started at a stronger base due to additional Trust-funded Literacy support being provided at end of 2018. Close to a quarter of this class (23%) improved to read at Grade 1 level, or higher, by November 2019. 35% of the learners in this class (14 out of 40) managed to successfully improve their reading fluency by at least one grade level or more.
- Gr3 was the standout classroom of the 10 classrooms supported by GADRA. The teacher's adopted group work very successfully and attained improvements across the spectrum from weak to strong learners. Longitudinal tracking for this class revealed an average Oral Reading Fluency of 79 Words Per Minute (WPM) at the end of 2019, positioning them in the Grade 4 reading band, which is an average above the expected Grade-level band. See GADRA Education synopsis here.



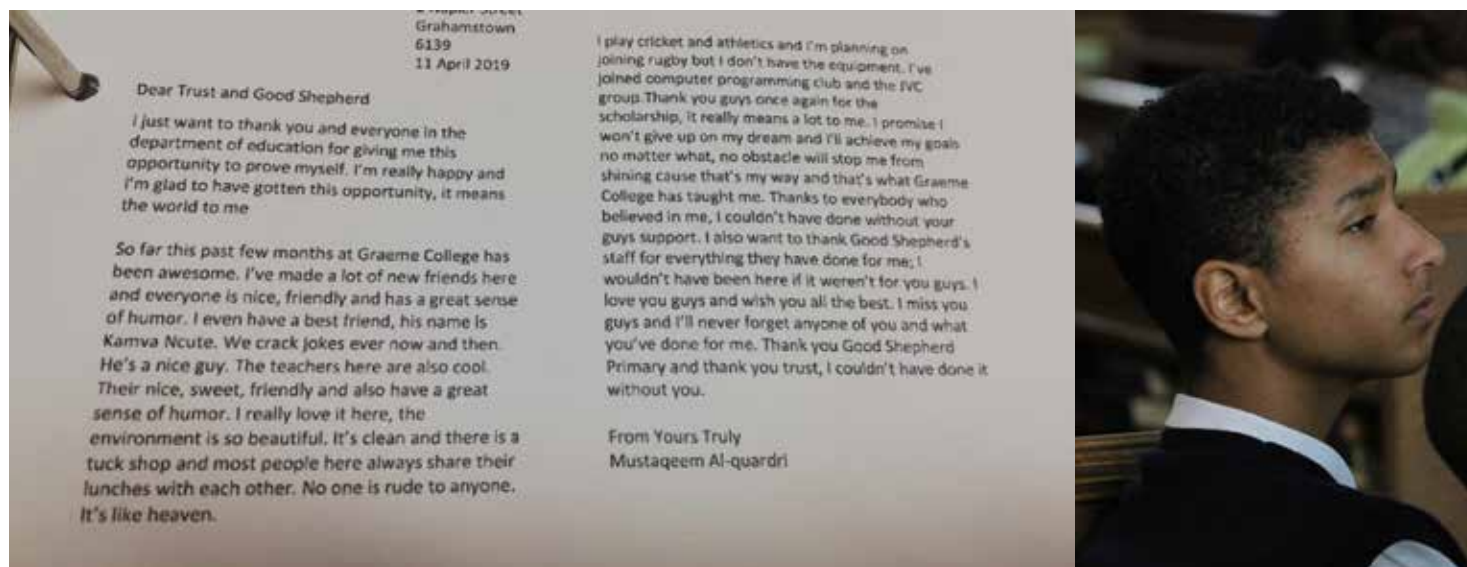
Noteworthy improvements for Gr3 Class:

- *In Nov 2019, 29% (11 out of 38 learners) can read at or above, Grade 3 level in comparison to only 8% (3 out of 38 learners) in November 2018.*
- *More than half the class showed improvements of 29 WPM or more (which is above the expected development p.a.).*
- *92% (35 out of 38 learners) improved by at least one grade level. A special mention should be made of 15 learners who jumped by 2 levels, 9 learners who jumped by 3 levels and 6 learners who jumped by 4 levels. These improvements registered (2 levels or more) indicate more than double the expected development over 10 months.*
- *Eight learners are already reading at Grade 5 or 6+ levels.*

GADRA Education Report, 2019



- Former Good Shepherd learners now at Mary Waters in Grade 8, 9 & 10 had subject averages higher than their peers in all subjects in Nov 2019. The overall average of former GSS Gr8s was 22% higher than the overall average for the full Gr8 class!
- Former GSS learners at Victoria Girls High are all performing adequately to well and at Graeme College –Gr8 – Mustaqeem Al-quardri (former GSS Head Boy) now on Harry Birrell Scholarship is performing excellently.



NumberSense Maths

It was agreed during 2019 that Good Shepherd School would move over to the NumberSense approach and resources for teaching Maths from 2020. NumberSense is used by Prep and the Model C schools in Grahamstown and it comes with very positive reviews, especially for teaching numeracy agility. As a 'no-fee' school, GSS was offered significant discounts for the teacher training and resources (learner workbooks and teacher resources).

The founder of NumberSense, Aarnout Brombacher, recommended that it be introduced from Gr1-Gr4 in Year 1 and in Year 2 be expanded to Gr 5 Core and Companion Modules for Gr1-3 (at an approximate cost of R40 000). In Year 3 (2022), Gr 6 Core would be added and Gr 4 expanded to Companion materials.

Mr Brombacher did demonstration lessons at GSS at the beginning of November 2019 and teachers attended the Grahamstown training workshop. In response to the 2019 Birthday Appeal, the R26 000 for 2020's Number Sense resources was raised. The teaching using NumberSense is going well in 2020 and comparisons will be made against the baseline performance at the end of 2020.



Prize-Giving, Scholarships and Awards

The 2019 Good Shepherd School Prize-Giving was a wonderful occasion attended with great excitement by parents and community-members. Not only academic talents were showcased but also sporting, leadership, loyalty and community involvement. 2019 awards were as follows:

- Sharifa Jattiem-Hails trophy for Perseverance and Determination - Lelam Dyrha;
- Sandisiwe Dial, trophy for the top Grade 7 Mathematics learner - Lunje Hoboshe;
- Thembela Taboshe trophy for Excellence in Maths and Science - Lunje Hoboshe;
- Nambitha Ntshoko trophy for Excellence in English - Lunje Hoboshe;
- Y. du Plessis Award for good progress in Literacy - Kean Knock;
- Consistent academic progress - Yandani Baba;
- PS Berg Elementary Trophy for Overall Academic Excellence - Lunje Hoboshe;
- Inkanyezi Award for the Best Contribution to School and/or Community (donated by Trustee, Mr Ken Maxwell) - Alutha Botha;
- Library Monitor of the Year - Lelam Dyrha;
- Principal's Award - Leolin Joe.

Lunje Hoboshe (GSS Head Girl 2019, pictured right) and Leolin Joe (pictured far right), who will be going to Victoria Girls High School in 2020, have been awarded the Harry Birrell and Tafika Scholarships respectively. These are to the value of R25 000 for 2020 and there is much excitement within the Good Shepherd family about the awarding of the scholarships and the prospects of these two young people.



On 5 March 2019, Siyolise Adams represented Good Shepherd Primary at a district spelling competition in the City Hall. She was chosen as one of a team of 3 who participated in the Local Spelling B at the Public Library. With her years of reading and a love for writing, Siyolise came out on top – winning herself a new school bag and a Tablet. We are very proud of her accomplishments and cannot wait to see where her bright future takes her.



Social Emotional Learning

Grade 7 Leadership Camp

Valentines weekend saw the Good Shepherd Monitor Team in the frosty Mountains of Hogsback with Ms Botha and Mr Mata. It was a weekend of personal challenges, fear facing and incredible fun. Learners experienced hikes to hidden water-falls and obstacle courses that tested them to their max. Learners came home on Sunday exhausted but exhilarated by their new found strength and unity as a team. They are blossoming into leaders of integrity and have become like family. We are very grateful to the Trust for their financial assistance and contributions to this truly amazing experience.

Report by Jade Botha, Gr7 teacher



Social Skills Course

In 2019, Ms Gongqobe and Rev Claire taught the 'Foundations for Life' Social Skills Course to 12 selected Grade 6s again. This was funded by Investec and Learners were selected based on an online pre-evaluation conducted by the Gr6 class teacher. The Social Skills sessions took place for an hour on Wednesday afternoons for eight weeks. Rev Claire has recommended that this Course be run with all the Grade 6s in 2020.



Good Shepherd Staff

The Good Shepherd School has a committed and stable teaching staff. There were a core team of 9 teachers (Principal, HoD and 7 teachers) employed by the Department of Education. Ms Botha (English Gr4-7), Ms Christian (Gr 3 & HoD), Ms Green (Gr 1), Ms Hillier (Gr R), Mr Mata (NS & Tech Gr4-7), Ms Ngqandu (isiXhosa and Creative Arts), Ms Siwa (Life Skills/LO and IsiXhosa) and Ms Veliti (Social Sciences, EMS & isiXhosa) made vital contributions to the education of Good Shepherd learners in 2019. Ms Booysen filled in for Ms Green in the Gr 1 classroom while she was away on Maternity Leave.



To fill the gaps and boost excellence in Education, the Good Shepherd Trust continues to invest in additional teachers. 2019 saw the re-appointment of Maths teacher, Mr Aaron Accom, who has made himself indispensable as a skilful Maths teacher and has also taken on additional sports co-ordinating responsibilities. Ms Masande Gongqobe was also re-appointed by the Trust in 2019, to teach Afrikaans when the Principal is fulfilling management responsibilities. The Trust continued to support Ms Gongqobe's UNISA BEd studies. She excelled in the third year of her BEd (Intermediate Phase) through UNISA and has taken on numerous other responsibilities at the School.

The Trust also stepped in to appoint a Grade 2 teacher while awaiting a Departmental appointment. Ms Bronwen Gush, formerly a Teacher Assistant with Ms Appollis, brought energy and skill to this post.

The ongoing commitment of the administrative and support staff is also acknowledged: Mr Sofiso (Caretaker), Ms Madolwana (GrR Assistant), Ms Botha and Ms Marney (School Nutrition Programme Cooks and Meal Servers). The Trust also re-appointed the Library Manager, Ms June Venn, and appointed Computer Lab Facilitator, Ms Amanda Mafu during 2019. At the end of 2019, we said farewell to Administrator, Ms Samantha Galada. After 6 years of loyal service, the Good Shepherd community wished her well in the promotion post to the Fort Beaufort DoE District office (in her home-town).

Four teachers, Ms Christian, Ngqandu, Hillier and Green received their GADRA Teacher Professional Development Certificates at the beginning of 2019.



On 6 April 2020, Mrs Eleanore Christian, HoD and Gr3 teacher, passed away after a short battle with pancreatic cancer. The entire Good Shepherd community were saddened by the devastating news.

Tribute to Mrs Eleanor Christian



It is with a great deal of sadness that we learnt of the passing of our beloved teacher, Eleanor Christian. At the time of her hospitalization, she was Head of Department (HOD) at Good Shepherd Primary School, where she spent 25 years as a dedicated teacher. Her professionalism, passion, love and care for her Grade 3 learners will always be remembered with fondness. She was also a very committed and dedicated member of the School Governing Body for a number of years. Such a humble, hardworking and unselfish Educator, an anchor and stalwart serving as SMT, SGB, Educator and Leader for years at Good Shepherd. A person with a heart of Gold.

Ella was a dedicated and loving mother and family member. She gave practical expression of these qualities in her career and community life as well. Her quiet and unassuming demeanour masked her determination and resilience in tough situations. These traits stood her in good stead in various leadership roles. She was a team member, but relished individual assignments as well. Christian always executed her profession and the Batho Pele Principles with pride, passion and distinction, always going the extra mile for the school, putting the learners first and continued striving for excellence.

We are devastated by the loss of a remarkable member of our community and send our condolences to her children and family. A memorial service for her will be held after lockdown.

We as the SGB, Trust, Staff, Learners, Parents and the broader Good Shepherd Community will surely miss you Ella.

Written by Chesley Daniels
Good Shepherd School Governing Body
6 April 2020



School Activities

The Mini Bazaar 3 May 2019, raised R25 000 towards educational resources thanks to generous donations, the hard work of all the staff and overwhelming support from local community.



Donation of tree by Bossie Bosman of Settler City Toyota



The Mini Bazaar Wors stall



Hotdog Friday



Grandparents Day



Planets Project

Sports

The Good Shepherd sporting programme has expanded and includes Rugby, Soccer, Netball, Mini-Cricket, Athletics and Basketball. In 2019, Good Shepherd participated in the Frans Erasmus u/13 Rugby and Netball weekend.

Rugby Ready

Rugby Ready took place again in Term 2 of 2019. Coach Alton Jeggels came to school on Tuesday and Thursday mornings to coach rugby to pupils in the Foundation Phase. All pupils involved looked forward to his visits every week and were excited to leave their classes and spend some of their energy on the rugby field.

On Thursday 31 May all the pupils had the opportunity to show their teachers and parents what they had learnt. After a quick warm up exercise, the children were split into their individual grades and given time to play games of tag rugby against their peers. The action was fast-paced and sometimes chaotic, but it was encouraging to see all pupils give their

maximum effort. There were tries aplenty scored and all involved thoroughly enjoyed the morning of Rugby.



Your newspaper, **FREE OF CHARGE**



Get in the game



On Friday, 26 July 2019, Good Shepherd Primary U13 soccer team played a soccer match against St. Andrews College. What made this match even more special was that for the first time Good Shepherd Primary included a female in their soccer team. Lunje Hoboshe, Good Shepherd Head Girl, showed that she could play just as well as the boys.

Both teams played well and showed off their talents. The match was an entertaining and 'edge of your seat' game.

Good Shepherd won 4 – 2, with Siphiso Nondlwana scoring a hat-trick for the team, while Alutha Botha (Captain) assisted Ukhanyo Ngcala with their fourth goal. Well done to both teams for their efforts.

**Excerpt from report by
Bronwen Gush**



Cultural Activities

Shakespeare's School festival

Good Shepherd was the only primary school amongst many high schools to perform in the annual Shakespeare Schools Festival. The performance of Romeo and Juliet on 23 August in the Rhodes University Theatre was a huge success and the Principal received many compliments.



Marimbas



Remembrance Day



Flag-raising with Rotary representative after Rotary donated the Good Shepherd Flag to the School

Networks of Support and Care

Anglican Board of Education

Good Shepherd School is proud of its Anglican heritage and continues to benefit from its positive relationship with the Anglican Board of Education. The Principal, Chaplain and Trust Manager meet twice annually with representatives from other Anglican Schools in the Eastern Cape.

Cathedral and Diocesan Partnership

The Diocesan Office and the Cathedral continues to offer support and input at Good Shepherd School. Rev Dr Claire Nye-Hunter is the part-time Chaplain and offers counselling to learners every Wednesday morning. The School participates in regular services in the Cathedral.



Zest: "Life in all its fullness"

Seven Educational Principles for Anglican Schools

- 1 Educating for wisdom, knowledge and skills
- 2 Educating for hope and aspiration
- 3 Educating for community and living well together
- 4 Educating for dignity and respect
- 5 Educating for integrity and social justice
- 6 Educating for creativity and critical thinking:
- 7 Educating for character and faith

Our vision for education is deeply Christian, with Jesus' promise of 'life in all its fullness' at its heart. In line with our commitment to the Constitution of South Africa, this vision is for the common good of the whole community. Understanding that we are all in this together



St Andrew's College

The long-standing relationship between Good Shepherd and St Andrew's College continues to flourish. Weekly Clubs took place on Mondays and Academic Extension, for the top five in each grade, on Friday afternoons.

A recent highlight was the donation of 132 pairs of brand-new school shoes purchased by funds raised from 2019 '24-Hour Walk for Smiley'.

Numerous Community Engagement activities of Prep (Art Reach), DSG (Kaleidoscope Club) and St Andrew's (Monday Clubs, Academic Extension, Coaching for Conservation/ BushWrap Days) took place during 2019. The College Chapel Collection fund makes donations to Good Shepherd.

A group of Old Andreans made a generous donation to Good Shepherd School on the occasion of their 30th SAC Reunion (see photo below).

There have been ongoing contributions from St Andrew's parents and staff to the Breakfast Appeal which has enabled the School to continue feeding learners Breakfast in addition to the standard lunch feeding of the Department-funded School Nutrition Programme. St Andrew's continued to provide office space, connectivity and financial management support for the Good Shepherd Trust in 2019.



In 2019, the Good Shepherd Trust continued to invest in teaching and learning at Good Shepherd School. They assisted GSS to gear up for the new NumberSense Maths programme. The Gr 2 Literacy-Support initiative which bore fruit (see Academic Highlights on page 3). The Trust supported the Principal's vision of building a well-rounded school programme, including not only striving for academic excellence, but also offering a range of sports and

cultural activities, a strong focus on social emotional learning and leadership development. Maintenance of the beautiful school buildings received much-needed attention in 2019.

The Trust acknowledges donations from the following people, received during 2019:

Core Donors

DT Hudson Trust
Federated Employers Mutual Association
Tafika Trust
Elephant Cup
Investec

General Trust Donations

Russell Bennett
Penny Whitford
Geoff Antrobus
James Delaney
Ryan Searle
Mark Tindall
Dorothee Schobert-Sargent
Nicola Honigwachs
Joanne Thomas
Malcolm Holmes
Alexa Todd-Mason

Number Sense

Mark Tindall
Ashley Westaway
St Andrew's College
Katie Appollis
June Venn
Heather Napier
D Narsai
Rob Sutherland
Vero Leach
Mandy Germishuys
Cathy Meiklejohn
Dorothee Schobert-Sargent
John Kincaid

GSS Breakfast Campaign

Louise Erasmus
Des Alcock

Annual Outing

Harry Birrell Scholarship Trust

The Trust also gratefully acknowledges those who have given of their time and talents at Good Shepherd:

- GADRA Education, their Primary Education Programme Manager, Sylvester Jefferies and 2019 Interns, Rachel Chikuta and Lukhanyo Manyati.
- Lebone Centre - Cathy Gush, Manager, Chanelle Woolf, GSS Coordinator and Cherise Sickie, running the Home School Partnership Programme.
- South African Maths Chair, Professor Mellony Graven, and Coordinator of the Grade 2 Maths programme, Pam Vale.
- SAIAB Interns, coordinated by Zipho Canda, who helped in the Library every Thursday morning on a weekly rotation.
- St Andrew's Prep, ArtReach Project, Coordinator, Ms Cindy Renard and art teacher, Ms Lynne Cordell.
- Sifunda Kunye for maintaining the Computer Lab. Zander Hampson and Jolande Swartz (who also assisted with the Good Shepherd School Website and Newsletter).
- The Confucius Institute staff, teaching Mandarin and running the Chinese Club.
- The Grade 3s French lessons provided by the Rhodes University School of Languages.
- Elizabeth Breetzke, and Alison Terry who helped in the Library. Volunteers who covered Library books Roswitha Hobson, Meg and Betty Hartzenberg.
- Suzanne Sievwright, Psychologist, for taking referrals pro bono.
- The support of Sue Hennessey and her Future Bright Trust which contributes towards covering school costs for children who live with the CR Sisters.
- Dr Carolyn Burns, now retired from Jefferson Elementary School, USA, who was able to visit and run music programmes at GSS again in 2020.
- Kevin Henry, of the St Andrew's Printing Unit, who did the layout of the 2019 Annual Report pro bono.

Each of these people and/or organisations have added to the richness of the overall educational experience at Good Shepherd School and their contributions are deeply valued.



Good Shepherd Trust PO Box 182 Grahamstown 6140

For further details, or to contribute towards the work of the Good Shepherd Trust contact Trust Manager,
Cathy Meiklejohn | 082 7898316 | g.trust@sacschool.com

Trust Registration No: 349/2006

PBO: 930022437

NPO: 056-288

Bank Account:

Standard Bank Business Current Account

Account Number: 081976410

Grahamstown Branch

Branch Code: 050917