

Basotho Educational Trust



Newsletter 2025

Khotso!

We would like to thank you for your continuing support. The trust has been operating for over 40 years and supported around 1200 students.

The skills need in Lesotho continues. Global issues and political unrest are depressing the economy. This has been exacerbated by the effects of US tariffs applied earlier in the year. We therefore wish to support a further vocational school for students with additional needs. We also need to build up the Tools Fund so that it can assist the majority of our sponsored students with tools which they can use while training, and afterwards in their first experience of employment. To find out more on what is being achieved overall, read the profiles in this newsletter or watch the videos on the website: www.basothoeducationaltrust.org

The rising cost of living is making it tough back home. But could you still help us do that little bit more? Perhaps update a standing order to take account of inflation (currently around 4%) or switch from one off donations to a standing order, giving us greater certainty of income? Gift aiding your donations enables us to claim the tax previously paid on that sum and increases the value of your gift by 25%. You can sign up for these by completing the form on the back page or downloading the relevant form from our website.

As Advent approaches and you prepare for Christmas could you forego one or more Christmas gifts either for yourself or for others, donating the value of the gift to BET as a one-off contribution? You could also replace cards and postage with a digital card and donate the saving.

We're proud of our supporters and hope you're proud to support us. Please tell your family, friends and church about us and encourage them to help more Basotho help themselves.

With many thanks and blessings for 2025-26.

Philippa Bird

Philippa Bird TSSF
Chair of UK Trustees

Meet the Principals



Mr Cocodee Abane

Mr Cocodee Abane is the Principal of the Lesotho Opportunities Industrialisation Centre (LOIC) in Maseru. The college was started in 1978, initially to help the poorest in society and therefore didn't charge school fees.

They currently run 5 different 2-year courses in:

- bricklaying and plastering
- carpentry and joinery
- plumbing and sheet metal
- boiler making
- electrical installation and solar technology.

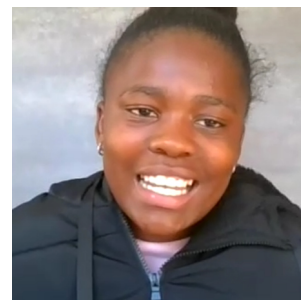
LOIC provides opportunities and hope to disadvantaged students, accepting them from 16 years old, including those who may have dropped out of secondary education (often because of financial constraints). Of the 275 students at LOIC, 15 are sponsored by BET. Most go on to work for construction companies, or start up their own businesses, but unfortunately the economy has shrunk since Covid and unemployment has reached as high as 40%.

Meet the Students

Lineo is studying Home Economics at St Mary's College, which covers 11 core skills, including: cooking, sewing, computers studies, agriculture, English and Maths. She most enjoys the cooking and sewing aspects of the course.

Without sponsorship from BET, Lineo admits she would just be a girl in the village doing nothing, but she now has hope. She would like to further her studies once she has finished this course.

In her spare time, she likes to practice what she has learned in the kitchen, with the Sisters, and her favourite thing to cook is pizza! She also enjoys hiking and going on outings.



Lineo Selibo



Lahana Mohoba

Lahana Mohoba is studying a national vocational certificate in Consumer Science at St Mary's Integrated Applied College in Leribe. This covers a number of subjects including tailoring and catering. Once he has qualified he hopes to become a chef, perhaps in a hotel.

The best part of the course is that he can cater for events; the worst part is the teasing he gets because he is a man doing the course.

In his spare time, he likes to travel.

Lesotho Committee



The BET Lesotho Committee now comprises 6 members (left to right):

- Mr Notsi
- Sr. Julia Kolobe CHN (CHN Rep)
- Ms Jeminah Chakela (Secretary)
- Mr Phoofolo (Acting Chair)
- Mr Motlalepula
- Dr Father Joseph Morenammele

New Committee Members



Motlalepula

Motlalepula is an ex-recipient of a BET Scholarship. He studied bricklaying and carpentry at CCCC (previously known as TSL) many years back.

He is now a family man and businessman working in the Berea district.



Mr Notsi

Mr Notsi is another new member of the BET Lesotho Committee.

He has a background in finance and accounts and is from Hlotse town in Leribe.

Help a Basotho student complete their course

The average cost of an individual student's fees is £350 a year.

With a regular donation, you can help ensure stability in these young peoples' lives and make it easier for them to plan for the future. You can also contribute to our Tools Fund which provides practical items for students at the beginning of their course.

You can give in various ways:

Credit Card

You can make a donation using the credit card facility on our website: basothoeducationaltrust.org.

Bank Transfer

Alternatively, you can pay by bank transfer, which will save us credit card fees:

Account Name: **Basotho Educational Trust**

Account Number: **28746783**

Sort Code: **60-10-07**

Cheque

Make cheques payable to **Basotho Educational Trust** and post to *42 Ridley Avenue, London, W13 9XW*.

Standing Order

You can make a regular donation by setting up a Standing Order, using the Bank details shown above.

Alternatively, you can download a *Banker's Order Form* and *Donation Form* from our website and then post it to *42 Ridley Avenue, London, W13 9XW*.

Gift Aid

Don't forget to Gift Aid your donation. You can download a *Gift Aid Form* from our website.

I am a UK tax payer and want BET to claim the tax on my gift. My tax bill this year will be more than this gift. ☐

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GDPR

I do not wish to receive communications from BET. ☐

UK Trustees

Ms Philippa Bird TSSF

Dr Rebecca Chandler-Wilde

Ms Sue Claydon

Ms Kekeletso Mokete

Sr Monica CHN

Mr Graeme Shaw

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