

I hold a Bachelor of Social Science degree, with a double major in Psychology from UKZN, and a PGCE from Rhodes University. I am a CAPS curriculum-trained Foundation Phase Teacher with five years teaching experience in private and public schools in South Africa and Taiwan.

My passion for inclusive education is deeply rooted in the famous quote by Ignacio Estrada: **“If the child cannot learn the way we teach maybe we should teach the way they learn.”** Looking back at my time here, no words ring truer than at Cedarwood. I believe that all things are difficult before they are easy. Therefore, one should be patient with pupils and the learning process because it takes time to learn to do things. Simply put, each child is different and as such, learns differently. Working with neurodiverse children has been a daily inspiration and fuels my motivation to continue upskilling myself to be a better Learning Support Therapist. Whilst working in the Prep, I obtained my Honours degree in Educational Psychology from the University of Johannesburg.

My time at Cedarwood School has truly been rewarding, and full of tremendous growth. It is because of the valuable experiences and knowledge gained in these walls that I feel confident to embark on my next adventure. I am grateful to my colleagues, friends, and the SBST, especially for their support, encouragement, patience, and care.

My fondest memories at Cedarwood lie in the daily interaction I had with the pupils. Their resilience and perseverant spirits constantly strengthened and encouraged me. The sheer joy on their faces, once they have overcome a difficulty or reached a goal was fulfilling.

In parting, I leave you with this quote by Dr. Seuss: **“Don’t cry because it’s over, smile because it happened.”**

Nombali Siwa

Prep Learning Support
January 2022 - August 2023

