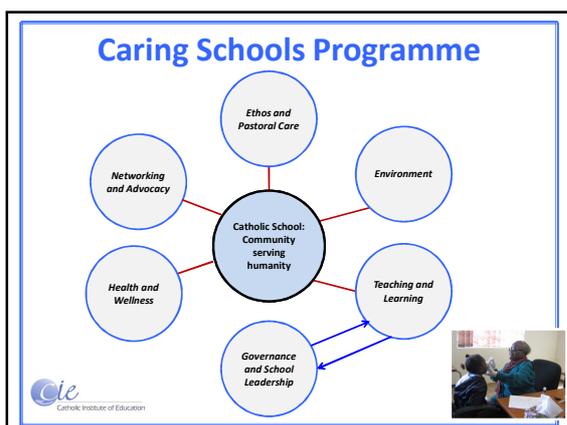


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Link between poor health and education

- ✓ How many children underachieve at school because of poor health?
- ✓ How many children underachieve at school because of undiagnosed and untreated health problems like hearing loss and sight problems?
- ✓ How many children miss out on schooling because of ill health and difficulty in accessing efficient health facilities?
- ✓ How many children struggle to concentrate in class because of hunger and other psycho-social factors?



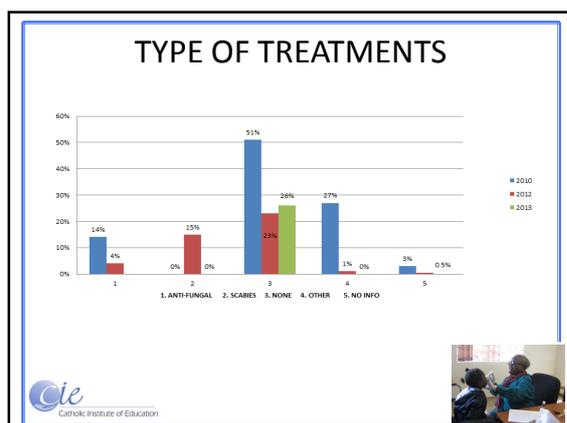
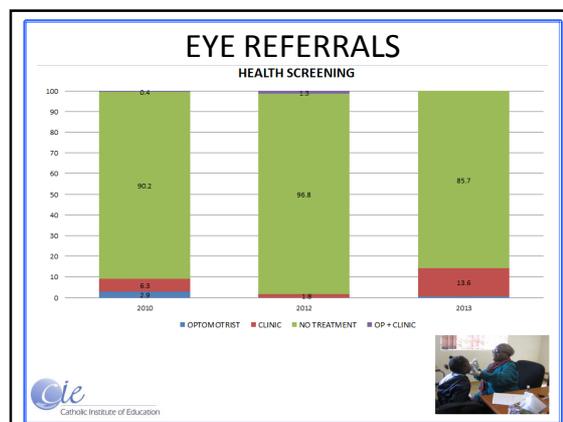
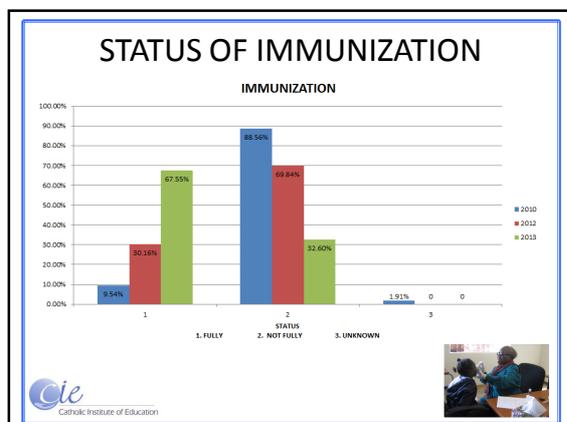
Criteria for selecting HS Schools

- Socio-economic status of their communities
- Sanitation type
- Psycho-social aspects
- Results from the health needs assessment that was conducted by CIE in 2009 (using questionnaires).

Results

- 50% • of these school communities were 5km away from the local clinic
- 33% • of them accessed a mobile clinic on a sporadic basis.
- Just over 20% • of the children were dewormed on an infrequent basis
- 39% • of children had infrequent access to ear and eye tests.

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Additional Positive Effects

- ✓ Learners with learning barriers.
- ✓ Firstly, identification of issues that required properly planned literacy programmes and secondly, identification of issues that needed the attention of the Human Rights Commission.

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Learnings and Confirmations

- It is important and good practice for providers to align programmes like this one to the DBE's Integrated School Health Plan.
- It is important to identify and to involve local champions for children throughout the health screening process.
- Parents are the key stakeholders. It is important to get their consent, buy-in and involvement.
- It is important to plan follow-up sessions and to track progress. This is key to the success of the programme.
- Accessing health care and functioning clinics is sometimes difficult given the socio-economic status of some of the areas.
- There is definitely a link between poor health and education.

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Conclusion

- Effective primary health screening includes screening, on-site health education, referring and follow-ups. Tracking progress and following up on referred cases is key to the success of this programme.
- Primary health screening is only effective if it adopts a holistic approach that takes socio-economic conditions into consideration. It must also include health education and health awareness campaigns for parents and teachers.

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THANK YOU