



Pharo School Nairobi

*Our First Education Investment
in Kenya, Setting the Standard
for Affordable Quality*



Pharo School Nairobi is Pharo Foundation's flagship education project in Kenya, and our first step into East Africa's most dynamic urban centre. Acquired in 2023, the school reflects our commitment to expanding access to high-quality, affordable education in underserved communities. Its location in Nairobi's Eastlands area was deliberately chosen to meet the pressing demand for structured, holistic schooling among a rapidly growing population of young families.

Since then, the school has undergone a transformation in both learning outcomes and infrastructure, consolidating its reputation as one of the best-value schools in the city. By blending academic rigour, digital integration, and inclusivity, Pharo School Nairobi demonstrates how private education can be made affordable, impactful, and scalable, and serves as a foundation for future expansion in Kenya.

The Problem

Access to affordable, quality education remains one of Nairobi's deepest challenges. In Eastlands, public schools are severely overcrowded, with high student-teacher ratios, inadequate facilities, and chronic under-resourcing. At the same time, private schools, though generally better equipped, remain financially out of reach for most households. Families are therefore left with very few practical options for structured learning environments that combine strong academics with the holistic development their children need to thrive.





Our Response

When Pharo Foundation acquired the school in 2023, our goal was to transform it into a model of affordable, high-quality private education for underserved families in Nairobi's Eastlands. Since then, the school has combined strong academics with an expanded extracurricular programme, including robotics, coding, sports, and arts, ensuring that learners develop both intellectual and life skills.

To improve academic outcomes, we have invested in continuous professional development for teachers through capacity-building initiatives and a teacher exchange programme. We have also integrated digital learning and STEM-focused facilities, with new science laboratories and ICT hubs that equip students with future-ready skills. At the same time, welfare initiatives such as the Healthy Snack Programme and expanded stationery support ease financial pressures on low-income families while improving focus and well-being in class.

Taken together, these interventions are repositioning Pharo School Nairobi as a sustainable, scalable model of inclusive, high-quality education in urban Africa.



Joining the world in an *Hour of Code*

In 2025, Pharo School Nairobi joined the global *Hour of Code* initiative in collaboration with Generación Code and Code.org, giving its Grade 7 learners their first taste of computer science. For a full hour, students immersed themselves in coding, discovering how lines of code can unlock creativity, problem-solving, and innovation. For many, it was an eye-opening introduction to a world they had never explored before.

The initiative is part of a broader effort to make coding accessible to every learner across Pharo Schools. The commitment went even further: all teachers received training in coding, equipping them to pass this knowledge on to their learners. The event marked an exciting step in the school's ambition to become a STEM-focused institution, one that prepares its students not only to use technology but to shape the future with it.

Facts & Figures

- ▶ **Enrolment growth:** 1,730 students in 2024 → 1,856 in 2025.
- ▶ **Exam performance:** 78% pass rate in 2023 → 82.4% in 2024.
- ▶ **Curriculum:** Kenyan **Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC)**, enriched with STEM and digital integration.



- ▶ **Facilities:** New science laboratories, ICT hub, and digital literacy training.
- ▶ **Co-curricular expansion:** From 6 to 10 programmes, adding coding, robotics, culinary arts, soccer, and basketball.
- ▶ **Staffing:** Over 60 teachers, supported by a Teacher Internship Programme and continuous development.