



RHODES
High School

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persevere

Code Of Conduct (Great Expectations) 2021

CHAIRPERSON:.....
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PRINCIPAL:.....
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SECRETARY:.....
BURTON NOBLE

DATE: 27 September 2021

Great Expectations
#ProudlyRhodes



As a proud learner of RHS I am an ambassador of the school, so I...

1. Wear my correct uniform with dignity.
2. Am punctual and in attendance every day. I value my education, therefore will be present in every class.
3. Am eager to learn, and complete all tasks on time.
4. Contribute positively to the learning process by engaging respectfully with my teacher and peers.
5. Am responsible and use my cellphone **ONLY** to enhance **MY** learning experience.
3. Respect myself, others and my environment; therefore, I do not steal, litter, vandalise, harass others or engage in any criminal behaviour.
7. Am guided by the code of conduct and accept the consequences of my actions.



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improving

#EXCELLENCE



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#EXCELLENCE

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PREAMBLE TO CODE OF CONDUCT

This is our code of conduct and we need to take ownership of it.
It is important that we create a safe and healthy learning environment for all learners in which academic achievement is our number one priority.
If a healthy attitude is developed then discipline can be expected and upheld. It begins with each learner, educator and parent/guardian.

OUR MISSION IS TO DO THIS BY.....

- facing the challenges which change presents
- updating and improving the learning environment on a continual basis.
- setting and maintaining high standards in all spheres of school life.
- equipping learners with the necessary entrepreneurial and life skills to fulfil their roles as responsible and productive members of a healthy society.
- inculcating an acceptable value system, which includes honesty, respect, tolerance, self-discipline, commitment and good manners.
- promoting a culture of reading and research.
- maintaining a happy, safe and dynamic teaching environment.
- promoting the right of teachers to teach and learners to learn.
- realising that we are a community, yet acknowledging and appreciating difference and diversity.
- creating opportunities within a holistic, affordable education for the development of the learner's full potential academically, culturally, spiritually and in sport.
- providing avenues for learners to express and shape their opinions responsibly about the governance of the school.
- maintaining a vibrant, dynamic and contented staff team.
- developing co-ownership and accountability among all stakeholders and encouraging maximum parental support and involvement.
- promoting respect and care for the school buildings and other facilities.
- fostering a sense of pride in the school.

Preamble - TWELVE NON-NEGOTIABLES

- 1 Attend school every day and be punctual.
- 2 Come to school prepared to learn and complete all tasks.
- 3 Do not disrupt the learning process.
- 4 Wear the correct uniform and present yourself neatly.
- 5 Do not litter or vandalise.
- 6 Do not steal.
- 7 Do not engage in physical or verbal abuse or interfere with or sexually harass others in any way
- 8 Do not engage in gang-related behaviour.
- 9 Do not have in your possession, use or sell cigarettes, alcoholic beverages or other harmful drugs including, amongst others, prescription drugs, dagga and hard drugs, while in school uniform or in any context in which you can be identified as a learner of the school.
- 10 Do not bring to school, use or have in your possession any form of weapon or instrument which can be regarded as dangerous.
- 11 Do not bring to school, or have in your possession any electronic devices (Walkmans, CD players, computer games, IPODS, MP3 players, etc) or portable communication devices. Cellphones may be brought to school provided that the school is indemnified by the parent in writing against loss, theft or damage and the cellphone policy is adhered to. The cellphone must be switched off and not visible during the school day or it will be confiscated.
- 12 Do not make yourself guilty of repeated offences, i.e. offences occurring on a repeated basis after previous disciplinary actions have been attempted this would be judged as defiance.

RIGHTS

It is my right....

- ◆ to be taught in an environment where teaching and learning can take place effectively.
- ◆ to have my dignity respected by the other members of the RHS community.
- ◆ to have my emotional and physical well-being protected.
- ◆ to have the security and safety of my possessions and property ensured.
- ◆ to make use of the school's facilities in an appropriate manner.
- ◆ to express my opinion in a mature, appropriate manner and at the right time.
- ◆ to have a social life outside of school.
- ◆ to have a planned, regular and punctual school programme.
- ◆ to, where possible, be involved in and informed about decisions taken in the school.

RESPONSIBILITIES

It is my responsibility....

- ◆ to ensure that my actions and attitude contribute to an environment where teaching and learning can take place effectively.
- ◆ to respect the dignity of all other members of the RHS community regardless of any differences.
- ◆ to maintain the emotional and physical well-being of others.
- ◆ to uphold security and safety for everyone.
- ◆ to respect and maintain the school's facilities and property.
- ◆ to listen to and respect the opinions of others.
- ◆ not to embarrass the school in any way when in or out of school uniform.
- ◆ to attend school and school activities regularly, punctually and to be properly prepared.
- ◆ to respect decisions made and to respond to them in a mature fashion.

SCHOOL RULES

Our present School Rules and Regulations form a very important part of this Code of Conduct and are an extension of it.

PLEASE NOTE:

We do not view our School rules as absolutes, but we clearly distinguish between what is negotiable and what is non-negotiable. They are reviewed annually and only those which are necessary for the maintenance of the high standards we demand are retained.

◆ **A OUT OF BOUNDS**

Learners may not be found in the following areas unless special permission has been obtained:

1. From the double gates outside the Assembly Quad, through the staff car park to the main entrance to the school during school hours.
2. The tuck shop is out of bounds during register and lesson times.
3. The classrooms before school, during breaks and after school
 - 3.1 In good weather all learners must be outside the building
 - 3.2 When it is raining, learners are allowed downstairs, except in the Hall.
4. The Sports fields and facilities are placed out of bounds (from time to time). Learners may use the sports fields in line with the stands until the office park fencing. But learners must be in earshot and make every attempt to be able to hear the bell. The hockey fields are out of bounds.
5. Basketball and Tennis courts may be used when permission has been granted. Learners may not sit inside or outside the basketball courts or against the fence.
6. The Rose Quad is out of bounds for Grades 8 to 10.
7. The teachers' car park and the front car park between the two gates, front lawns and gardens.
8. The Hall, Stage and Storeroom below and the loft are out of bounds.
9. The public telephone may not be used during lessons or while moving to class.
10. The balcony above the Assembly Quad is out of bounds.
11. The passage adjacent to the Heads of Department offices is out of bounds unless learners have to see one of them.
12. The area behind the concrete stand, including the stands, is out of bounds.
13. The Hall Foyer and Entrance Foyer are out of bounds to all learners except those on official business.
14. The front door is for the use of parents and guests of the School during the school day.

◆ **B MOVEMENT ABOUT THE SCHOOL**

1. On arrival and departure learners must use the tarred pathways to prevent the destruction of grassed areas.
2. Learners must move quickly and in an orderly manner when changing classes, before and after breaks, etc. Keep left in the corridors and on the stairs. There is a three-minute bell after each break, by which time learners must be in their classrooms.
3. Access to the office area is via the stairs outside the Deputy Principal's office only.
4. Loitering in the toilets and passages is not allowed.
5. No learner may go to his/her locker during or between periods.

◆ C LINING UP AND ASSEMBLY

1. Before Assembly, the respective grades assemble in areas allocated to them.
2. Silence is expected after the second bell.
3. Learners must be silent during assemblies.
4. No schoolbags may be brought into the hall.

◆ D. SUITCASES AND BOOKS

1. Only conventional school bags and plain haversacks may be used for books.
2. Togbags are to be used for sports kit only.
3. Schoolbags may not be decorated nor have graffiti written on them. The learner's name must be written clearly on the inside.
4. All textbooks must be covered with durable plastic.
5. No books may be decorated in what is considered by the staff or the Student Leaders to be unsuitable.
6. During breaks bags must be left in the classroom to which learners are going immediately after break. At no time may suitcases be left unattended anywhere inside the school building or outside on the school grounds.

◆ E UNIFORM AND GENERAL APPEARANCE

Important points to note:

1. The school uniform must be worn en route to School and en route home.
2. The complete school uniform must also be worn if instructed to do so when attending a function. Learners may not wear part of the uniform with civilian dress.
3. School sports clothes are considered to be uniform and may be worn when traveling to play in a School match according to the instructions of the educator-in-charge or manager.
4. Learners must take pride in their uniform and ensure that it is neat, clean and in good condition.
5. In the event of incorrect or lost items of uniform, a letter of explanation from a parent /guardian is to be given to one of the educators in charge of uniform: The teacher will read the letter, sign it and indicate the date by which the situation should be corrected. The period of exemption is reflected on the letter and each case will be evaluated on merit.

Boys' Uniform

Summer Uniform

- Open necked shirt (designed to hang out) with badge.
- Long grey trousers with grey socks or "Woolworths wheat" shorts with matching long socks.
- Green school blazer and badge.
- Black lace up Standard School Shoes.

Winter Uniform

- White long sleeved shirt & school tie.
- Long grey trousers & grey socks.
- Grey long sleeved "V" neck jersey OR grey sleeveless "V" neck pullover.
- Green school blazer and badge.
- Black lace up Standard School Shoes.

1. In the first and fourth terms boys may exercise the option of wearing summer or winter uniform, but the school's clear preference is for summer uniform during the summer terms.
 - 1.1 Winter uniform worn in summer: the tie must be worn, but the blazer may be removed on warmer days.
 - 1.2 Depending on the weather, extensions to the summer or winter seasons may be granted, but this will be announced.
2. Ties and blazers are optional during summer. (Except on assembly days)
3. The open necked shirt with the badge may be worn during summer. Only summer shirts designed to hang out may be worn as such. Plain white t-shirts may be worn under the shirt in winter. Plain white vests may be worn under the shirt in summer.
4. Boys' trousers may not be narrowed down to be tight fitting: the circumference at the bottom may not be less than 38 cm.
5. No jewellery may be worn (with the exception of the Medic Alert bracelet).
6. Learners must be clean-shaven. Learners who have not started shaving, will be allowed natural hair growth if it is neat and tidy (trim if necessary).
7. Plain brown, grey or black leather belt with buckles may be worn. The buckles must be of the same width as the belt.
8. Black leather lace-up standard school shoes (e.g. Grasshopper, Bata). Platform or moccasin-type or suede shoes are not permitted nor are very pointed shoes or those of fancy design allowed. No buckles on shoes are allowed.
9. Hair:
 - 9.1 Not over the collar at the back when standing normally.
 - 9.2 Short enough so as not to hang over the ears; fringes out of the eyes.
 - 9.3 Not bushy at the back or curling up at the bottom.
 - 9.4 Hair should be neatly layered to the shape of the head and no mohawk cuts, or other deviations are allowed.
Hair colour must be natural. Braids must also be of natural hair colour.
 - 9.5 The emphasis is on neatness, and even if the above points are followed, boys may be told to cut their hair if it is untidy. Dreadlocks must be brushed back neatly and of above collar length.
10. Stoppers ("rietjies") to prevent closing of pierced holes are not allowed. Pierced lobes may not be covered with plaster.

Girls' Uniform

Summer Uniform

- Grey skirt OR long grey trousers & grey socks with "Girls" open necked short sleeved shirt with badge.
- Green princess style dress & short white socks.
Optional: Green blazer with badge OR Grey long sleeved "V" neck jersey OR grey sleeveless "V" neck pullover.
- Black lace up. Standard School Shoes.

Winter Uniform

- Grey skirt OR long grey socks or black pantyhose with skirt.
- Long sleeved white shirt and tie.
- Grey long sleeved "V" neck jersey OR grey sleeveless "V" neck pullover.
- Green school blazer and badge.
- Black lace up Standard School Shoes.

1. In the first and fourth terms girls may exercise the option of wearing summer or winter uniform, but clear preference is for summer uniform during the summer months.
 - 1.1 Winter uniform worn in summer: the tie must be worn, but the blazer may be removed on warmer days.
 - 1.2 Depending on the weather, extensions to the summer or winter seasons may be granted, but this will be announced.
2. Nylon or woollen pantihose (black) may be worn with the school skirt in winter. Long grey socks may be worn with the skirt or pants during winter. Girls must wear white ankle socks with the dress in summer.
3. No cycling shorts may be worn as part of the School uniform.
4. Make-up only medicinal lotions and creams are acceptable.
5. Nails must be short, well-kept and neat. Only clear nail varnish is allowed.
6. Jewellery only one pair of plain gold or silver studs or normal sized sleepers may be worn in the lower lobe of pierced ears. No other jewellery such as chains, rings or bracelets are acceptable, unless approved, with the exception of Medic Alert.
7. Hair:
 - 7.1 Fringes must not affect vision.
 - 7.2 If it is over the collar, hair must be tied back.
 - 7.3 Hair colour must be natural. Braids must also be of natural hair colour.
 - 7.4 Plain black hair accessories may be worn. No high fashion hair accessories are allowed. White head bands are not allowed.
8. Plain black, leather, lace-up standard school shoes with a low flat heel (NB not wedged or platform), OR closed "Baby-doll" (T-bar) shoes.
9. Skirts may not be shorter than 8cm above the knee. Skirts may also be worn at knee length.
10. All t-shirts or vests worn under the school uniform must be plain white. They may not be visible at the collar or sleeves.

For both Boys and Girls

- Hair: as the type of hair varies from person to person, the judgement of the Educators- in- charge of uniform, or the Principal, is final.
- Ties: to the top button, never loosened without permission.
- Shirts: top button fastened and worn with a tie; tucked into pants or skirt.
- Scarves: Only black scarves may be worn, ; Scarves must not exceed waist length.
- The school track suit must be worn for sporting codes only. Tracksuit tops may not be worn with the School uniform. Tracksuits do not form part of the winter uniform. Track suits may be carried to school during winter months. Learners will be given permission by the office to change into the track suit if the uniform is wet.
- Only grey socks may be worn during winter.
- Only approved lapel badges may be worn.
- All items of clothing are to be clearly marked with the owner's name.
- Matrics may wear their approved "Matric Jackets" in place of the blazer as arranged with the Principal

- School blazers are compulsory during winter and must be worn to assembly during summer and to and from school, unless learners are informed to the contrary.
- Green, black or navy blue rainjackets may be worn in winter (only the Dri Mac is allowed). No other jackets may be worn. The wearing of other jackets will lead to their confiscation until the end of term.
- Only key chains in the school colours and official Rhodes High key chain may be worn.
- Black school beanies are permitted for the winter months, but must be removed at the register bell.



F. CONDUCT AND BEHAVIOUR OF LEARNERS

- 1a Learners may not have in their possession, use or sell cigarettes (or allie products), other harmful drugs, amongst others, prescription drugs, dagga and hard drugs, alcoholic beverages or objectionable (pornographic) reading matter or objects, in any context in which the learner can be identified as a learner of the School.
- 1b Any form of initiation ceremony, bullying, pranks and practical jokes are banned altogether at Rhodes High and are considered to be reprehensible insofar as they adversely affect any person on the school premises or in any situation where such persons are under the jurisdiction of the school e.g. excursions, sporting activities, in school uniform, etc.
- 2a Similarly any form of reprehensible behaviour, such as theft and shoplifting, either in the School or out of it, which might bring discredit to the person or the School, will not be tolerated.
- 2b Reprehensible behaviour may be punishable appropriately by including suspension or expulsion. Each case will be judged on its own merits.
3. **VANDALISM:**
- 3.1 The defacing of desks, School property, notice boards, or walls is considered an extremely serious offence.
- 3.2 Any books, including library books, damaged through negligence or loss will have to be replaced by the learners.
- 3.3 Similarly, no property belonging to other learners or staff may be tampered with or borrowed without the owner's permission.
- 3.4 Littering is an offence and all papers and rubbish must be placed in the bins provided.
4. No physical contact of a courting, sexual nature is allowed in School uniform, on or off the School premises or at School functions.
5. No-one may sexually harass or interfere with another person, nor make such abusive or provocative comments which may harm the emotional or moral well-being of a fellow learner (or any other member of staff).
6. No fighting anywhere on school property or even outside the School (if the learner may be connected in any way with the School) is allowed.
7. No-one may use or be in possession of any weapon (imitation toy or otherwise) or any materials such as crackers or fireworks which can cause physical injury.
In short: It constitutes an offence to bring anything which may be judged as dangerous onto the school property.
8. Satanism, Witchcraft and such-like practices are banned at the school and therefore will not be tolerated.
9. Dangerous games are not allowed. Contact sports are only permissible under an educator's supervision.

10. Do not leave money or valuables in the change rooms and classrooms. Keep these on your person at all times or hand to the educator-in-charge for safekeeping. Large sums of money may be given to the Secretary and kept in the safe. While every effort will be made to trace lost property, it must be realised that this is very difficult and the School cannot be held responsible for such losses. Parents must ensure that learners' property while at School is covered by their own comprehensive insurance.
11. The riding of bicycles and skateboards in the School grounds is not allowed. Motorcyclists must travel not faster than 10 kph from the gates to the appointed parking area. Bicycles must be kept in the quadrangle outside the Staffroom during School hours. It is recommended that learners lock them securely.
12. No learner is allowed to bring a motorbike or a motor car into the grounds without the prior permission of the Principal.
- 12.1 In a School-related context no learner may give lifts to fellow learners or drive a motor vehicle on the School premises.
13. No learner may hitchhike in school uniform.
14. Learners shall attend school every day for the whole of the prescribed school hours. A learner may not be absent from class or leave the School premises during School hours without the permission of the Principal or the Deputy Principal. In the case of absence, the learner must bring a signed letter or doctor's certificate from his/her parent/guardian or doctor on the day he/she returns, stating clearly the days on which absent and the reason for the absence, failing which the learner could be put in detention.
15. Similarly, failure to report to the office for being late will result in one's making up time in detention.
16. Chewing gum in school uniform or while on the school premises is strictly forbidden.
17. Eating in class or in the passages, Hall and Library is forbidden.
18. Truancy, not attending meetings, practices, matches and any extra classes or detention is viewed very seriously.
19. The bringing to school of radios, tape-recorders (unless for official purposes), walkmans, computer games, IPODS, MP3 players or anything which can cause a disturbance to the routine of the School is forbidden.
20. Confiscated goods are redeemable at the end of each term, except if they deemed illegal or dangerous. Confiscated goods not collected by the end of the year of confiscation will be donated to needy organizations.
21. In the event of our receiving a bomb scare, which is a serious criminal offence and will be treated as such. The school's official policy is to make up the time lost after school.

G GENERAL

1. ALL visitors to the School must announce themselves to the Secretary at the Principal's office. Only under exceptional circumstances will learners be allowed to receive visitors during school hours.
 2. No learner may sell goods for personal gain at School or do any fundraising without Governing Body approval.
 3. The Administrative staff, the Estate Manager and assistant workers have the right to report a learner who vandalises, litters, etc and may confiscate items which are used destructively, e.g. soccer balls, koki pens, etc.
 5. Bus stops: Shop: reserved for grades 10, 11 & 12 only.
Park: for grades 8 and 9.
- After sport learners may use either bus stop.
Bus monitors will be appointed on the main routes.

ESCALATION PROCEDURE

WHITE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom offences • Late-coming • Uniform default • Out of bounds areas • Talking in Assembly • Absentee notes <p>Avoiding punishment by not arriving when told to report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educator's personal punishment • Student Leaders Work squad
PINK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated classroom offences • Repeatedly avoiding punishment by not arriving when told to report • Use of foul language • Defiance (e.g. avoiding punishment, rudeness, lying, repeated uniform defaulting, absentee notes, etc.) • Excessive Lateness • Inappropriate physical contact between learners • Avoiding late-comer's punishment • Bunking teachers DT or worksquad • Poor behaviour in civvies • Spitting <p>Any offence of similar severity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Hour staff detention or equivalent 1 Hour consequence
GREEN	<p>Repeated pink offences (3rd Pink level offence occurs in a term = green)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated writing on desks • Spontaneous fighting • Habitual Latecoming • Gambling • Graffiti and minor vandalism • Forging signatures/writing own letter/ impersonation • Leaving school without permission/ signing out = bunking • Bunking pink level 1 hr DT/bunking a Period/bunking a sport practice • Habitual lying • Verbal harassment • Bullying Low Level • Spitting • Physical contact of a sexual nature • Any offence of similar severity • All pink level offences once a learner is on green level • All pink and green level offences once a learner is on a yellow or red level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade Head interview with parents • Friday 3 Hour DT or one Equivalent 3 Hour consequence • Bunking - make up time during Friday or Saturday of the same week

<p>YELLOW</p>	<p>Repeated Green Level offences (2nd Green in a term = yellow)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caught in the presence of a smoker • Fighting (premeditated) • Vandalism internal and external • Unacceptable relations between learners • Verbal or physical intimidation and threatening of witnesses or anyone else (e.g. Student Leaders) • Abuse (e.g. swearing, disrespect, etc) of adults • Possession of cigarettes, tobacco, pornographic material (soft or hard copy) at school or in uniform or at a school function • Possession of matches, lighters or any such paraphernalia • Free rides on public transport • Repeated bunking • Bunking green level DT/bunking a school day • Ongoing verbal harassment • Possession of pornographic material (soft or hard porn) • Bullying • Any offence of similar severity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community service via one 4 hr Saturday DT's at School/or external • Grade Head interview with parents • Internal hearing with Grade Head/ Deputy Principal/ Principal
<p>YELLOW 2</p>	<p><u>Level 2 Yellow level offences</u> nd</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated Yellow Level 1 Offences • Smoking • Using stationery or other permissible objects as a weapon • Playing with pepper sprays or mace • Frequent bunking • Forging of documents • Theft • Cheating in a test, etc • Use and/or possession of firecrackers • Verbal harassment • Being in the presence of learners using illegal substance(s) • Bullying • Serious Vandalism • Sexual intimidation • Sexual, verbal or physical harassment • Bullying - Premeditated • Bringing the school into disrepute • Premeditated assault • Stealing, shoplifting, possession of stolen property • Possession of the property of the school (e.g. practical equipment) or of other people without permission • Bomb threats • Any other action that in the opinion of the School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community service via one 4 hr Saturday DT's at School/or external • Grade Head interview with parents • Internal hearing with Grade Head/ Deputy Principal/ Principal • Community service via two 4 hr Saturday DT's at School/or external • Repeated offenders Community service via three 4 hr Saturday DT's at School/or external with an escalated to the red level (formal warning letter) • Grade Head interview with parents • Internal hearing with Grade Head/ Deputy Principal/ Principal

<p>RED</p>	<p>Red Level offences (SGB Hearings) Subject to the provision of the Act 84 of 1996(from regulations 2010), a learner at a school who-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used or had in his possession or sells or distributes a dangerous object, alcohol liquor or illegal drugs (The Principal may in terms of the South African School Act, conduct random searches, seizures and drug testing in this regard); • Commits an act of bullying, assault, theft, arson or malicious damage to property; • Commits an act of gross insubordination or engages in immoral conduct; • Is in the possession of or uses any unauthorized copy of a test or examination paper, or cheats, distributes, trades, bribes, or attempts to bribe any person in respect of any test or examination, with the intention of enabling himself or herself, or any other person, to gain an unfair advantage; • Uses hate speech, makes himself or herself guilty of racism, sexism, sexual harassment, possession or distributes pornographic material or engages in any act of public indecency; • Endangers the safety or threatens fellow learners or educators, disrupts the school programme or violates the rights of others; • Falsely identifies himself or herself, or knowingly and willfully supplies false information or falsifies documents to gain an unfair advantage at school; • Has repeatedly been found guilty of transgressing the learner's code of conduct; • Conducts himself or herself, in the opinion of the governing body, in a disgraceful, improper or unbecoming manner; or • Optional governing body hearing for repeated offenders escalating to the red level. • Subject to the provision of the School's Act, a learner at school may be suspended by the governing body or expelled by the Head of Department if, after a fair hearing , he or she is found guilty of serious misconduct as contemplated in the sub-regulations above. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governing Body • Disciplinary hearing • Sanction of Suspension • For suspension every effort will be made to place learners on a remedial programme • Community service (may be outside school) <p>All the offences under the Red Level of the Code of Conduct constitute serious misconduct and after a SGB hearing could lead to a recommendation for expulsion.</p>
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NOTE:

- Once a learner has reached green level then all offences at pink levels will be treated as green level offences until the end of term.
- Learners on the yellow or red level will be punished on the green level for all pink and green level offences.
- White, pink and, green levels are cleared at the end of each term.
- If a learner infringes the law then the school reserves the right to report the matter to the police.
- The school will conduct urine tests when substance abuse is suspected. The school will mete out serious punishment for substance abuse, but at the same time make every effort to help with the rehabilitation of such learners.
- An educator may search a learner given sufficient reason to do so.

- Adjudication, when necessary, as to the colour level of an offence will be decided by the Principal, after discussion with the relevant staff, learners and/or learners/governors.
- A learner may arrive at red level via serious offence(s). The decision at the hearing may include Community Service, Saturday detention, suspension and recommendation to WCED for expulsion.
- Review procedure for Red and Yellow levels:
Previous Red or Yellow offences may be used as evidence against the learner if he/she commits the same offence or one of similar severity after the elapsed time of one year or six months respectively.

Yellow level 1 - - entitled to a review if six months has elapsed since the date of the offence level 1

Yellow level 2 - entitled to a review if 12 months has elapsed since the date of the offence level 2

Red - when one year has elapsed since the date of the hearing.

A learner may apply for a review after the required time has elapsed. The Governing Body Disciplinary Sub-Committee shall act as the Review Committee.

ESCALATION

Third pink offence at green level

Third green offence at yellow level 1

Second yellow level 1 offence at yellow level 2

Repeated offenders on the yellow level will be escalated to the red level with a warning letter

All serious offences on the red level will be appear at a School Governing Body hearing.

AIDS POLICY FOR SCHOOLS

Learners and Close Family members could be infected or become infected. This will directly impact on the school:

- Learners
- Close family members

LEARNERS

Entrance to School:

Prospective learners will not be refused admission to the school because of their HIV status, but will be subject to the same selection procedures as non-infected learners.

Reporting of HIV status:

Parents or learners may wish to advise the Principal of the learner's HIV status so that suitable support can be given to the learner.

Confidentiality:

The learner's HIV status is confidential and no staff member, learner, parent or member of the governing body may have access to this without the permission of the learner's legal guardian and of the infected learner. Any staff member found breaching a learner's confidence will evoke disciplinary procedures.

Status at School:

Learners who become infected will not be asked to leave the school because of their HIV status, but may be asked to leave should they break other rules and regulations that apply to all learners.

Infected learners will be afforded the same privileges and be required to adhere to the same rules and regulations as the other learners.

- HIV-positive learners will be required to attend classes and other school activities as laid down by the rules and regulations of the School and non-attendance due to illness will follow the same procedures.
- The School will try by all means possible to ensure that no prejudice and/or victimisation takes place around the issue of HIV/AIDS. If, after all efforts have been made to avert this and prejudice and/or victimisation continue, the Principal will take disciplinary action against those concerned.
- With regard to contact sport, any person with an open wound prior to, or sustained during, a game will be asked to leave the sports field and will be given First Aid.

Testing:**Learners wishing to undergo an AIDS test will be assisted by:**

- Ensuring the confidential nature of the request and subsequent results.
- Referral of the learner to an appropriate centre that will provide pre- and post-test counselling and will ensure the confidential nature of the results.
- Learners and their caregivers will be encouraged to ensure that any learner who is suffering from AIDS seek proper treatment for any infections which are concomitant to infection with the AIDS virus.
- This will be to contain infection that could affect other learners, for example Tuberculosis, skin infections or respiratory infections. Learners suffering from infectious diseases will be required to provide the school with assurance that he/she is receiving medical treatment.

The school recognises the fact that the HIV status of learners, and/or their parents and/or other family members will have emotional and financial ramifications that will affect the pupils and staff. While the school recognises the confidential nature of the disease, the effects this disease will have on learners and their families cannot be ignored and the policy is developed with this in mind.

Should a family discover that a member other than the learner is HIV-positive, it is under no obligation to inform the school. If a family chooses to inform the school, this is confidential and no other person may be informed without the permission of whoever provided the initial information and of the interested person. The school will try to support and counsel any pupil whose family suffers from AIDS or HIV through its own counseling and services or by helping to facilitate outside counseling and support services. This information will be kept confidential between the staff member and the learner concerned.

Sexuality and Life skills

It is recognised that HIV and its subsequent development into AIDS is a disease that is transmitted in the following forms:

- By having sex with an infected person, which is by far the most common means of transmission.
- From an infected mother to her unborn child.
- By transfusion of infected blood.
- By infected blood or other body fluids through needles, other injury or through open wounds.

Because it is recognised that AIDS is a sexually transmitted disease, any education will be carried out in conjunction with sexuality and lifeskills education programmes. The school will regularly present AIDS education programmes to the learners and staff.

Universal precautions:

These will be implemented by staff and learners at all times. To implement this:

- Adequate First Aid facilities will be ensured by the school to deal with accidental injury and minor open wounds.
- Learners will be taught and encouraged in the principles of self help in circumstances of accidental injury or minor wounds.
- Correct personal hygiene will be encouraged at all times.
- Cleaning staff will be adequately informed about the measures around the disposal of waste.

This policy will be updated as knowledge and documentation about AIDS develops.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY AND PROCEDURE

The school accepts the view that chemical dependency is a primary, chronic and progressive illness, however, substance abuse is an unacceptable practice. While the school will attempt to support those who need help, it does however, find substance abuse unacceptable. Therefore:

The School does not permit learners

- ◆ The use of prohibited substances;
- ◆ The inappropriate use of prescribed and/or non-prescribed medicine
- ◆ Learners for whom medication has been prescribed must:
 - Inform the office on the first day that he/she is bringing such medication to school
 - Bring only the daily supply required
 - Carry a letter from the parent explaining the reason for medication
- ◆ The inappropriate use of solvents, inhalants and/or other chemical agents
- ◆ The consumption of alcoholic beverages; The smoking of tobacco and other drugs
- ◆ The use of other drugs; The use of steroids or performance enhancing substances
- ◆ The possession of drug related paraphernalia such as cigarette papers, pipes etc.
- ◆ To be under the influence of alcohol and/or other drugs.

The use of any of the above is strictly forbidden

- ◆ On school premises
- ◆ At all functions, excursions or any other activity organised by the school, and
- ◆ When members of the school community are representing the school
- ◆ Whenever members of the school community can be identified as such
- ◆ When the effects of use or abuse are noticeable at school or school functions to when representing the school or when the learner is identifiable as a member of the school community.

Note: The school reserves the right to take action according to policy and procedure if a learner's substance abuse outside school influences their academic achievements, behaviour, attendance, etc.

Dealing in drugs

Dealing in drugs is a criminal offence and is strictly forbidden.

Note: If any learner is suspected of using or possessing, or is caught with or dealing in, illegal drugs, the school will investigate further and reserves the right to refer the matter to the authorities (SAPS), after which the normal legal process will take its course.

Action taken by the school

Each case will be assessed on merit and considered individually within the framework of the policy and procedures.

Every case will be dealt with confidentially but parents/guardians will be informed and involved.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY AND PROCEDURE

- ◊ Every case will be dealt with confidentially but parents/guardians will be informed and involved.
- ◊ Isolated individual symptoms and unsubstantiated rumours will not be considered as reliable indicators of substance abuse, but a pattern of indicators (a decrease in school achievements, lack of willingness to participate in school activities, changes in attitude and behavior etc.) will be investigated and handled in accordance with the guidelines. (Copies available from the Secretary).
- ◊ Rumours with supporting evidence will also be investigated.
Note: This is not a process of victimisation but, an honest attempt to identify at an early stage, a learner in crisis.

Drug Screening Procedure

- ◊ Pre-testing
 - The learner must be informed about the procedure that will be followed.
 - A second staff member must also be present during the chemical testing.
 - Male staff will test male learners and female staff will test female learners.
- ◊ Sample collection
 - The learner will be accompanied to the toilet by a staff member.
 - The learner will be asked to urinate in a container pre-marked with their name, date and time of sample collection.
 - The learner must hand over the sample to the staff member.
- ◊ Chemical testing
 - The learner must be present while the chemical test is being conducted.
 - Test results will be revealed to the learner and witnesses.
- ◊ Post-testing
 - Parents/guardians will be telephonically informed of the procedure and results.
 - A letter will be sent home verifying the procedure and results.
 - The parent must acknowledge receipt of the letter in writing.
- ◊ Positive test results
 - If results were positive, a meeting will be set up with the learner, parents/guardians and school counsellor.
 - A contract will be drawn up between all affected parties. This contract will include measures such as:
 - The treatment options as determined by all relevant parties
 - That screening (urine or any other method determined by the school) may be carried out on an ad hoc basis. (the control of such screening is the responsibility of the school: the cost is the responsibility of the parent/guardian)
 - That the student is expected to improve behaviour, achievements, etc.
 - That the parent/guardian authorizes the treatment and also permits any institutional therapist or caregiver, if relevant, to furnish the school with progress reports
 - That the content of the contract can be adapted after negotiation with the affected parties
 - That if the parent/guardian and/or learner take it upon themselves to stop treatment, the school will consider the contract suspended, and the learner may be required to leave the school
 - That the school reserves the right to recommend that, if it is in the interest of the learner and/or the school, such learner is referred elsewhere to complete his or her education.
 - Parents/guardians will need to accept responsibility for any expenses incurred during a drug/alcohol-related incident (assessment, screening, treatment, therapy, outside programmes, medical attention, etc) unless alternative arrangements have been made with the school.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY AND PROCEDURE

Searches

Where a staff member in authority reasonably suspects that a learner has a prohibited substance in his or her possession, an appointed nominee (which may include the police or a specialized security organisation) may search that learner's possessions, locker and/or accommodation. Should such a search be necessary, it will occur in the presence of the learner concerned and a second adult witness.

Prevention

The school undertakes to:

- Present prevention and information sessions to learners and parents/guardians as deemed necessary
- Make information and training available to teachers
- Involve outside organisation and individuals as part of a team approach
- Support the founding of positive peer groups
- Evaluate this policy and adapt it, if and when necessary, in accordance with changing circumstances and conditions
- Support a healthy, drug-free life through work and deed\
- Develop and implement a Learner Support Programme.

THE CELLPHONE POLICY

♦ The school accepts the view that the cellphone is a valuable commodity. However, abuse of this technology leads to disruption of the learning process. Learners must therefore abide by the Cellphone policy of the school.

- Cellphones may not be brought to school unless the school is indemnified by the parent in writing against loss, damage or theft.
- Cellphones and accessories must be switched off before the register bell till the end of the schoolday. They may not be visible during this period.
- Educators will not be responsible for investigating damage or loss of cellphones.
- The cellphone may not be used to play music during school hours.
- The cell phone must be switched off and left in the learner's bag during tests and examinations.

♦ The cellphone and accessories will be confiscated if:

- Learners make or receive calls during the school day.
- The cellphone and/or accessories are visible during the school day or if there is evidence that the cell phone is switched on even though it may not be visible.
- There is no indemnity form.
- Music is played on the cell phone.

♦ NB. The owner of a phone will also be responsible for contravening this policy even though the cellphone may have been confiscated from a fellow learner.

If a cellphone is confiscated:

- Parents will be informed by the school.
- Parents will be required to collect the phone from the office. A fine of R50 must be paid.
- This will be donated to the school library.

The manufacturing and/or distribution of pornographic material is a criminal offence punishable by law. Any learner found in possession of and / or guilty of distributing such material will be reported to the police for investigation

CULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS EXPRESSION

1. A parent must make written application to the School Governing Body for permission for his/her child to be exempted from any aspect of the code of conduct. Such a written request must clearly set out:
 - The manner in which the learner wishes to deviate from the code.
 - The religious or cultural basis for this request.
 - Whether or not the learner is part of an identifiable religion or culture.
 - How central the belief is to the learner.
2. When the parent has supplied the written details, the learner and parent will be called in to a meeting with the disciplinary sub-committee of the School Governing Body where they will be interviewed to support their request.
3. The sub-committee will discuss with the parents ways in which the request could be accommodated to ensure as little interference with the code of conduct as possible.
4. The sub-committee can make necessary investigations into the nature of the request and this could involve speaking with experts in that cultural or religious field.
5. Until such time as an application has been made and granted, a learner should continue to comply with the code of conduct.
6. Once a decision has been made, the parent must be notified in writing.
7. The parent must acknowledge receipt of the letter in writing.
8. If a decision is to refuse the exemption, reasons must be provided.
9. The school promotes spiritual awareness as part of its programmes and traditions.

ABSENTEE AND LATECOMER POLICY

Preamble

Loss of learning time impacts negatively on learner achievement. It also affects learner confidence and contributes to establishing a poor work ethic amongst individual learners and creates an ethos that makes learning in the classroom difficult.

Punctuality and regular attendance is valued at Rhodes High School.

Please note the following:

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is compulsory.

- Parents must not allow their children to stay home for trivial reasons.
- In the case of illness or any other crisis which warrants absence, a learner must produce a letter from the parent on the day that he/ she returns to school.
- A request for a reason for absence (Absentee Default Note) from the class teacher will be sent via the learner.
- Failure to return this note will result in a pink slip detention.
- The school is required to report unexplained and frequent absenteeism to the Social Worker/Truancy Officer at Safe Schools.

LATECOMING

- All learners who arrive late, receive a late slip at reception.
- Learners without valid reason are required to report at 07:30 the following school day with the signed late slip.
 - (a) Failure to comply will result in learners being given writing out, and to hand in the signed late slip by 07:30 the next morning, with the punishment;
 - (b) Failure to comply with (a) will result in learners receiving a slip for worksquad.
- Learners who default with regard to (a) and (b) will receive a pink slip as per the Code of Conduct.
- Learners who are deliberately and wilfully late will receive a pink slip.
- Learners who arrive after 08:30 will receive a pink slip detention.
- Grade Heads will take further steps if a learner is persistently late.

PERMISSION TO LEAVE SCHOOL EARLY

Permission will only be granted if there is an emergency in which case the school will contact the parent. The learner may not contact the parent via his/her mobile phone. Parents must ensure that medical and other appointments are preferably made for after school time. If an appointment has to take place during school time, the parent must send a note with the learner to the office at the start of the school day.

The school will take crises that affect the general public into account after consultation with the relevant authorities.

PUNISHMENT

We are committed to ensuring that punishment is:

- Fair
- Reasonable
- Appropriate (to the offence, age and maturity level of the learner)
- Relatively immediate
- Acceptable and humane
- Consistent
- Followed up/checked
- Clearly explained to the learner(s)
- Set with a view to effecting a positive change in attitude and behaviour.

Whenever necessary, parents/guardians will be kept informed. We rely on the sound judgement of parents/guardians in supporting us when we have to impose punishments. It should be borne in mind that the child's account of the circumstances can be one-sided, and we recommend that parents/guardians contact the Grade Head to clarify any aspects.

BUT LET US ALSO FOCUS ON WHAT IS GOOD AND POSITIVE ...

Educators respond well to

Good, non-disruptive behaviour, good interactions, good neat work, a learner who does his/her best, is honest, tries hard, has a positive attitude, perseveres, does something extra, etc. All these things bring out the best in your educators, and build strong, healthy relationships all round.

They, in turn, can show their appreciation by

- praising you
- awarding you a merit for very good work performance in relation to your ability. After achieving a certain number of merits, you become eligible for a certificate, then a special merit pen, and finally a book prize at prize-giving.
- sending a praise letter to your parent/guardian
- sending you with your book, for example, or commenting favourably to your Grade Head/Deputy Principal/Principal
- nominating you for a consistent, conscientious prize at the end of the year
- writing good testimonials.

If you concentrate on what is good and positive, you

- will enjoy school and find it a rewarding experience
- are likely to make a success of school and achieve your goals
- will achieve well academically in relation to your ability, and
- indeed make your years at this school a memorable and happy time of your life.

ADMISSION TO RHODES HIGH SCHOOL

ADMISSION POLICY

Adapted by the Governing Body in terms of Section 5(5) of the South African Schools Act No. 84 of 1996.

1. INTERPRETATION

In this policy document, unless the context indicates otherwise:-

- 1.1 **the Act** - means the South African Schools Act No. 84 in 1996 (as amended)
- 1.2 **Educator** - means any person, excluding a person who is appointed to exclusively the School who has not been appointed by the Governing Body of the School;
- 1.3 **Feeder Zone** - means the traditional area of Mowbray and Observatory;
- 1.4 **Learner** - means any person receiving education or obliged to receive education in terms of the Act;
- 1.5 **Parent means:**
 - 1.5.1 the parent or guardian of the learner
 - 1.5.2 the person legally entitled to custody of a learner, or
 - 1.5.3 a person who undertakes to fulfill the obligation of a person referred to in paragraph 1.5.1 and 1.5.2 towards the learner's education at the school;
- 1.6 **the School** - means Rhodes High School

2. DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR THE ADMISSION OF A LEARNER

- 2.1 The parent/s must fully complete and sign an application form for the admission of a Learner in the form prescribed by the School from time to time. The application form together with the additional documents described in sub-paragraph 2.2 below shall be delivered to the school prior to 16h00 on 30 April for the Grade 8 and 31 August for Grades 9 to 12, provided that in the event that the said day falls on a Saturday or Sunday, the application form and additional documents described in sub-paragraph 2.2 shall be delivered prior to 16h00 on the first business day thereafter. Preference shall be given to applicants whose applications are/or incomplete applications may be disregarded.
- 2.2 When a Parent applies for the admission of a Learner, the following certified documents must be presented:
 - ◆Learner's latest school reports (Grade 6/Grade7)
 - ◆Birth Certificate or Identity Document
 - ◆Parent Identity Document
 - ◆Two recent, identical, colour ID photos of the applicant
 - ◆Proof of residence (e.g Municipality / Lease Agreement, etc.)

3. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF LEARNERS

Based on inter alia on the number of Educators and the School's facilities, the school shall not admit more than 210 Grade 8 Learners at any time.

4. ADMISSION CRITERIA

- 4.1 Preference will be given to Learners who:
 - 4.1.1 Demonstrate a keen degree of participation in the academic, sporting and cultural activities offered by the school/s previously attended by them;
 - 4.1.2 Will benefit from the subjects, activities and facilities offered by the School;
 - 4.1.3 Show academic potential;
 - 4.1.4 Show potential in Mathematics and Physical Science;
 - 4.1.5 Have a good disciplinary record;
 - 4.1.6 Reside in the Feeder Zone;
 - 4.1.7 Have brothers and/or sisters attending the school.
- 4.2 In the event that after the application of the criteria to in sub-paragraph 4.1, applicants are equal, preference will be given to Learners disadvantaged as a result of unfair discrimination in the past.
- 4.3 Learners will not be considered unless vacancies exist and an interview is attended by both the parent and the child.

5. APPEAL

The Learner or Parent of the learner may appeal against the decision to refuse admission to a learner to the Member of the Executive Council in terms of Section 5(9) of the Act.

Learners will not be admitted automatically when an application is submitted. The principal will interview applicants together with their parents before they are admitted to the school.

Letters of acceptance / non-acceptance are posted to applicants. Parents may be requested to collect these documents at the office.

CHESS AWARDS

LEVEL	CRITERIA	RECOGNITION
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Represents WP/USSASA Chess Team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pocket Badge (Awards Assembly) Acknowledged at Prize-giving Ceremony
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plays in A League against the top side in the League Must play at Board One 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chess Scroll (Awards Assembly)
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Player's standard of play and performance of a high caliber Regular playing in 75% of the year's matches at any other board 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pen (Awards Assembly)
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Team (Nominations by teacher-in-charge) Regular match player and attendance at practices during the year Loyal to team and enthusiastic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certificate (Awards Assembly)

SCHOOL AWARDS

LEVEL	CRITERIA	RECOGNITION
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistent behaviour of a standard Consistent neat attire and appearance Consistent punctuality and/or attendance A specific action which warrants an award 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certificate Certificate Certificate Certificate

SPORTS AWARDS

LEVEL	CRITERIA	RECOGNITION
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Represents USSASA/WP/SA Junior and Senior level School sport only Represents Inter-house and Inter-schools competition (USSASA) Gains 1st, 2nd or 3rd position (Inter-house and USSASA- Athletics) Invited to attend (or reaches second level) Regional or Provincial trials/pens/nets/ USSASA Championships Junior and Senior level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pocket badge (Awards Assembly) Acknowledged at Prizegiving Ceremony
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Team Award (nominations by Coach) regular match player and consistent attendance at practices punctual; dress code; conduct; enthusiasm; good sportsmanship Junior and Senior A levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certificate (End of Season Awards Assembly)

The Merit Committee and relevant teachers may use their own discretion when recommending learners for Merit Awards.

ACADEMIC AWARDS

Three awards assemblies will be held during the year leading up to prizegiving.

MERIT CERTIFICATES

The following structure applies to AWARDS ASSEMBLIES (Subject / Learning Area Merit Criteria apply here):

LEVEL	CRITERIA	RECOGNITION
3	Outstanding performance (assessment) in three/four subjects/learning areas	• GOLD
2	Outstanding performance (assessment) in two subjects/learning areas	• SILVER
1	Outstanding performance (assessment) in one subject/learning area	• BRONZE

PRIZEGIVING

LEVEL	CRITERIA	RECOGNITION
4	Outstanding performance in total year assessment (at least three subjects/learning areas). Should have achieved one platinum at awards assemblies	• POCKET BADGE
3	Outstanding performance in total year assessment (at least one subjects/learning area). Should have achieved one gold at award assemblies.	• SCROLL
2	Outstanding performance (assessment) in one subject/learning area	• BOOK PRIZE
1	Consistent conscientious work	• CERTIFICATE

SPECIAL AWARDS

To be presented at the AWARDS ASSEMBLIES on the basis of the following categories and criteria:

- The most outstanding academic per grade (8, 9, 10, 12) RECEIVES PLATINUM.
- Consistent conscientious workers (recognizing effort) RECEIVES DIAMOND.
- Remarkable achievers learners producing excellent (items of) work in a specific subject/learning area. This category also includes achievers in a quiz/Olympiad/speech contest RECEIVES EMERALD.
These awards to be presented with a brief citation.

PLATINUM

DIAMOND

EMERALD

The following should be taken into consideration (subject/learning area) merit system applies here: Continuous assessment Examination Classroom engagement	Classroom engagement is the main consideration here.	A remarkable achievement/performance
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CRITERIA

CRITERIA

CRITERIA

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Displays critical thinking, initiative and is able to work independently. Consistently produces works of a high standard. No record of absenteeism. Active and meaningful engagement in classroom activities. Portrays a culture of learning and investigative ability. Work beyond teacher designed material. A well disciplined approach to learning in general. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Active and meaningful engagement in classroom activities. Portrays a culture of learning. A well disciplined approach to learning at school. No record of absenteeism. Consistently works to the best of his/her ability. Good time management. Takes pride in work. Displays a record of punctuality. 	An exceptional piece of work based on criteria set by educator.
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SCHOOL SONG

In the shadow of the mountain
lies the hope which is our School
where friendship, love and understanding
at Rhodes High this is the rule.

Thanks to those who govern all our learning
teaching us the secrets of life
preparing us to face the future
days of peace and days of strife.

O Lord bless those who are striving
to build this school in every sphere.
Let them be strong, gracious, forgiving
and forever Persevere.

ACADEMICS AT RHODES HIGH SCHOOL

Rhodes High offers a wide selection of subjects.

SUBJECTS OFFERED

FOUR CORE SUBJECTS

English (Home Language)
Afrikaans / Xhosa
Mathematics
Life Orientation

SUBJECT GROUPS

COMMERCE SUBJECTS

Accounting
Business Studies
Economics

HUMANITIES AND ARTS

Geography
History
Drama
Music

SCIENCE SUBJECTS

Information Technology
Life Sciences
Physical Sciences

OTHER

Consumer Studies

These subjects are divided into vocational groups. A learner will choose two subjects from a group and one other subject.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SCHOOL

On 31 March 1978, Rhodes High School was birthed out of an amalgamation of Observatory Boys High (founded in 1895), and Observatory Girls High (founded in 1903). The school, situated in Little Mowbray, stands in its beautiful setting on the slopes of Devils Peak, and along the banks of the Liesbeek River. It is flanked by the N2 highway, and in close proximity to rail and road commuter networks, which links the school with the greater Cape Town area.

When, in 1991, learner totals at Rhodes High School dwindled alarmingly, the school took to heart its motto to 'Persevere', and courageously triumphed through trying times. The doors of learning were then opened to learners from far reaching areas across the Cape Peninsula. Taking cognisance of the role of a School in a democratic South Africa, the school has become a microcosm of this, enrolling learners from previously disadvantaged areas and communities. Today, our school has a roll of more than 1000 learners.

To this end, the school building has in recent years, with WCED funding, been extended to accommodate the growing learner totals. In addition, the school has been included as a Maths and Science Focus School. This means that extra emphasis has been placed on the challenges faced in teaching and learning in the areas of Mathematics, Physical Science and Life Sciences.

Our Principal and deputies are members of the School Leadership Forum, a project run by the University of the Western Cape. Here, they are given support in the challenges facing heads of schools in the day-to-day running of an institution of learning.

The current economic climate combined with the large enrolment of learners from across the Cape Flats, places the school under great – and increasing – financial pressure. However, the school maintains its aim to strive for excellence, and offers excellent opportunities in education to the community which it serves. The school does, however, need increasing financial support to meet this vision.

Rhodes High School serves the local community by offering the study of Information Technology at our facility to learners from other local schools such as Pinelands High, Camps Bay High and St. Georges Grammar School. In recent years, this has meant that greater investment has had to be made in the constant updating of our technological resources, which is also used to teach Mathematics, Geography and English, among other subjects.

Our school has always enjoyed a rich cultural diversity. In keeping with this, the school has, for many years, been an educational host to learners on exchange from overseas countries such as Germany and France. Today, the school also is an educational fort for no less than 20 learners from the Democratic Republic of Congo. These learners often arrive to the shores of our school with very little knowledge of the English language, and are given the opportunity to participate in a specialised programme of English learning.

The school plays an integral role in a society that is far from the dream of a peaceful, prosperous and multicultural, democratic society. At Rhodes High School, staff and learners are rich in exposure to integration when compared to other schools in the local schooling network and South Africa. This equips our learners to play an active and constructive role in our democracy.

The spans of opportunities are vast at Rhodes High School. Learners are given the opportunity to be involved in sporting codes including Cricket, Soccer and Rugby, among others, as well as Music and Drama, debating, cultural exchanges and a host of other activities. Learners need only take the action to explore these opportunities. Under the guidance of our Principal, our school is encouraged to be a family that embodies the continued transformation of our developing South Africa, to contribute positively to society, and be ambassadors of positivity beyond the gates of our school, remembering to 'forever persevere'.

Recent Past Principals Mr. Spicer (1978 – 1988) Mr. N. van Niekerk (1989 – 1998) Current Principal Mr. K. W. Long (1999 – current)