

Contents

1. Our Mission, Vision and Approach	2
2. Statement of Faith	3
3. Core Values	4
4. Staff.....	5
5. Curriculum	5
6. Admissions Policy.....	7
7. Extra Mural Policy	8
8. Uniforms	9
9. Code of Conduct	10
10. Discipline	12
11. Teacher Parent Relationship	14
12. School Hours and Contact Details	15

1. OUR MISSION, VISION & APPROACH

Mission To be a school that strives for excellence in education while raising young people of character who will positively impact their generation.

Vision is to educate young people academically, modelling Christ-like leadership, while teaching them to follow Christ for themselves by:

- Giving them a Biblical worldview
- Developing Godly character
- Evangelising and reaching out to the wider community

Our Approach is to disciple students in order that they may:

- Mature to love God with all their heart, mind and soul (Matt. 22:37)
- Grow in wisdom and stature (Lk 2:52)
- Live in the world as salt and light (Matt.5:13-14)
- Give sacrificially of themselves and their resources to reflect the love of Christ (Rom.12:1)

The Rock Academy has constituted a School Board to run the affairs of the School.

Policy formation, financial controls and the like are the responsibility of the Board.

In essence they are the custodians of the Schools Vision and Mandate to raise children in the ways of the Lord.

2. OUR STATEMENT OF FAITH

We Believe:

- The Bible to be inspired, the only infallible and authoritative Word of God
- That there is only ONE God eternally existent in three persons; Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- In the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in his virgin birth, his sinless life, his vicarious and atoning death through his blood, his bodily resurrection, his ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in his personal return in power and glory
- That salvation is by grace alone through faith, apart from works by the merit of the shed blood of Christ and that believers are eternally secure in Christ
- In the resurrection of the believer and the unbeliever; the believer to eternal life with Christ and the unbeliever to eternal separation from Christ
- In the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ
- In the ministry of the Holy Spirit by indwelling the believer, enabling them to live a Godly life.

3. OUR CORE VALUES

In order to successfully fulfil the mission of The Rock Academy, we will give priority to the following core values:

- **Academic Excellence (Prov.3:5,6):**

A quality education that is Bible based, Christian-centred, and one that challenges students to reach their full potential, developing Godly wisdom in order to use their God-given abilities to impact their home, church and community for Christ.

- **Stewardship (1 Cor.14:40; Col.3:17):**

Every aspect of the program must be considered a stewardship responsibility from God so that a biblical legacy will be successfully passed from one generation to another.

- **Christ-Likeness (1 Jn 2:6; Lk 2:52):**

The lives of our staff, the personality of our campus, and the criteria, which measures our entire program, must be a reflection of His values and His teachings.

- **Family (Eph.6:1-4)**

The Christian family is God's training ground for preparing the future generations to know and serve Jesus Christ.

- **Students (Lk 6:40; II Tim 2:1-17; III Jn4)**

Preparing graduates to be effective Christians who recognise that God is the Author of truth, order, creativity and morality and who can articulate a Christian worldview, based upon Biblical principles, and apply it to all of life. We will endeavour to encourage the following values in our learners:

Respect - for God and others, themselves and the natural environment.

Responsibility - demonstrate reliability and accountability for their choices.

Trustworthiness - grow in honesty, loyalty and integrity.

Fairness - learn to share, communicate and be aware of the needs of others

Caring - show kindness and compassion especially towards those in need.

4. STAFF

At *The Rock Academy* you will find one stream of each Grades from 1-7, taught by people who are passionate about teaching. The classes are small since we enrol a maximum of 12 students per class.

Our teachers believe teaching to be their calling and strive to honour God in all that they do. They seek to reach the heart of every child and impact each in a significant way. They take seriously James 3:1:

“Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly.”

5. CURRICULUM

The school follows the curriculum of the Western Cape Education Department. However, the use of a non-Christian curriculum for achieving Christian goals is always problematic. For this reason our staff are involved in on-going work to develop a Christian curriculum which is compatible with Departmental requirements.

Subject Choices:

The Curriculum for Grades 4 - Grade 7 provides for a broad exposure to all learning areas, including:

- Languages - English, Afrikaans and Xhosa
- Mathematics
- Natural Science
- History and Geography
- Business and Accounting (EMS)
- Technology and ICT (*Information Communication Technology*)
- Life Skills and Biblical Studies
- Music, Art, Drama, Choir, P.T. and Chess

They are assessed on their:

- Written work
- Participation in class
- Projects, tasks and assignments
- Orals, reading
- Informal class tests
- Formal examinations twice a year

Reports are issued each term. This includes reports dealing with any disciplinary issues. In addition, parent/teacher interviews are scheduled every term where personal and academic development may be discussed.

Community Outreaches:

As part of our Curriculum we include *Community Outreaches* for each Grade where we feel that we, as a School, can benefit others and foster a sense of compassion and community in the children. These outreaches change annually and can be found on our website / blogsite.

6. ADMISSION POLICY

English is the language of instruction at The Rock Academy.

The Rock Academy admits students of all faiths. However, by enrolling your child at the School, you are agreeing that your child will respect Christian teaching and practices without disruption in a spirit of unity, harmony and love.

Parents will be asked to complete an Initial Application for Enrolment and provide a copy of the students latest report. If and when a space becomes available the student will be called in for an interview and assessment. Parents will be informed of the outcome. Application forms will be forwarded to the parents and the child's place is secured on receipt of your completed application form and payment of the full deposit.

Prompt payment of school fees is essential and helps us to keep the fees as low as possible. The first payment is in February and is due by the 7th of the month.

There is an annual levy payment for Grades 1-3 and Grades 4-7 which is due by the end of the 4th term or accompanied with the Enrolment Form. For information regarding our Fees, please contact the School Office or our Website.

Payments can be made via the internet, Direct Bank Deposit, Cash or Cash Cheque.

Banking Details:

The Rock Academy
FNB Fish Hoek

Cheque Account no: 62342351848

Branch Code 202309

Please mark clearly what your deposit is for.

7. EXTRA MURAL POLICY AND ACTIVITIES

- **Sport:**

This is an integral part of the child's development; a vehicle for social acceptance in any community. It is therefore, considered an essential life skill.

It is also a means of developing leadership potential, witnessing to the local community, marketing the school and integrating the school with the surrounding state schools. The sport offered at present are done in conjunction with external sporting clubs and associations. Please contact the School for details regarding our sporting partners in the community.

- **Cultural:**

Both Drama and Art are included in our curriculum and pupils are encouraged to involve themselves in these and other cultural activities. We make every effort to give the pupils an opportunity to display their God-given talents.

- **Music:**

Introduction to music, recorder and voice training are offered within the school day for all grades.

8. UNIFORMS

<u>Summer Uniform for Boys</u>	<u>Summer Uniform for Girls</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School shorts • School shirt - white • Tracksuit or Polar Fleece top • Blue v-neck jersey • White socks • Predominantly white takkies or Navy blue Crocs or white slip slops • School Cap 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School skoltz • School shirt - white • Tracksuit or Polar Fleece top • Blue v-neck jersey • White socks • Predominantly white takkies or Navy blue Crocs or white slip slops • School Cap
<u>Winter Dress Code for Boys</u>	<u>Winter Dress Code for Girls</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School tracksuit • School shirt, white long sleeved vest may be worn under golf shirt for warmth • Polar Fleece top • Navy blue windbreaker • White socks • Predominantly white takkies • Blue V-neck jersey 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School tracksuit • School shirt, white long sleeved vest may be worn under golf shirt for warmth • Polar Fleece top • Navy blue windbreaker • White socks • Predominantly white takkies • Blue V-neck jersey
<u>Miscellaneous - Boys</u>	<u>Miscellaneous - Girls</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hair should be neatly trimmed, clean, off the ears, off the collar and not hanging over eyes. • Boys are not permitted to wear earrings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hair should be neatly trimmed, clean, off the ears and not hanging over eyes. Long hair, touching shoulders, to be neatly tied up with blue, white or black elastic and clips. • Girls are permitted to wear small round gold or silver studs or sleepers in their ears.
<p><u>School Bags:</u> Navy blue with re-enforced pockets for maximum protection of school books. We do sell Rock Academy school bags.</p>	

9. CODE OF CONDUCT

BUILDING:

- Students may not talk while leading out of the school area into the church building.
- Students may not run or play in the school building.
- Students must keep to the left and walk in single file.
- Students are allowed to remain in their classrooms on rainy days.

LINES

- Pupils must be standing neatly in their class lines by the second bell and then remain quiet.

PLAYGROUND

- Skate-boarding, roller blading and soccer are only allowed during first break and only in the allocated area.
- No bullying.
- No disrupting of other pupils games.

GATES

- No students may leave the school grounds unless under adult supervision or with special permission from the Principal.

DRESS

- Students must conform to the official dress code for both the Summer and Winter Uniforms as stipulated in the Uniform Policy Document.
- Students must be neatly dressed and always wear shoes to Assembly. Torn or damaged uniforms must be repaired or replaced.
- Students must wear full uniform for outings and for formal school functions - students will be notified in this respect.
- All clothing must be clearly marked.
- No student may leave the school premises without shoes on.
- No student is allowed to wear their uniform in public without shoes.

GENERAL

- No swearing.
- No bullying.
- No disrupting of other students right to education.
- No insolence towards teachers.
- No back-chatting.
- No writing on any walls or littering.
- No defacing or destroying of school equipment.
- No chewing gum is allowed on the school premises.
- Do not deny or cover up responsibility for mistakes or deliberate wrongdoing.
- Library books must be returned on time and be properly cared for while in a child's possession.
- No student shall in any manner bring the name of the school into disrepute.
- Identifiable uniform may not be sold to anyone as casual wear.
- If a child is being fetched from school early or by anyone other than the parent, the teacher must be notified by the parent.
- Students must be at school at least 5 minutes before the start of the school day.
- No student may take any possession belonging to another person or institution without the necessary permission.
- No student may search through another person's possessions without their consent.
- Arriving punctually for the commencement of school and any extra mural or extra curricular activities, is essential.

ETIQUETTE

- Students will stand when addressed by an adult, except in the classroom under specific circumstances.
- Students must stand aside for adults to pass and must greet them politely.
- Tolerance and respect of others is expected.
- Be kind, considerate, helpful and friendly to others.

10. DISCIPLINE

**~ Discipline is what is done FOR the learner,
and not what is done TO the learner. ~**

- *The Rock Academy* operates on the Biblical premise that proper discipline is an expression of love (Prov.3:12, 13:24, 22:15, 23:13, 29:15).
- Discipline is both positive and negative in nature. It not only consists of correction of the fault (negative), but also active guidance as to what is right (positive). Therefore, though the dignity of the child is always recognised, discipline is firm, consistent, fair yet tempered with love, good judgement and understanding.
- A disciplined environment is conducive to learning but depends on the consistency of parents and teachers supporting the policy of the school.
- *The Rock Academy* co-operates with parents in discipline but does not replace parents who have difficulty fulfilling their disciplinary roles.

The school will not make a distinction between a child's behaviour in and out of school and should the reputation of the school be tainted due to a child's behaviour, disciplinary action will be taken.

Positive Goals in Biblical Discipline

	Godly attitudes	As opposed to...
1	Obedience (<i>Eph.6:1</i>)	Disobedience
2	Respect for authority (<i>Eph.6:2</i>)	Rebellious attitudes, backchat, scornful looks, rudeness
3	Self-control (<i>Prov.14:29, 16:32, 25:25</i>)	Unrestrained anger, temper tantrums, prolonged self pity
4	Patience (<i>1 Thess 5:14</i>)	Impatience
5	Diligence (enthusiasm, motivation and ability) (<i>Prov. 15:19, Rom.12:11</i>)	Laziness and a nonchalant disinterest
6	Kindness (<i>Eph.4:32</i>)	Rudeness and selfishness
7	Thankfulness (<i>Phil.2:14, 4:4</i>)	Miserable or complaining attitude
8	Love for others (<i>Rom.2:10, James 4:11, Titus 3:2</i>)	Criticism
9	Ability to get on with others (<i>Matt.5:9, Rom.12:18, Eph 4:31, Prov. 17:14</i>)	Quarrelling and strife
10	Honesty (<i>Rom.12:17, Eph.4:25,28, Prov.11:1</i>)	Lying, cheating or stealing
11	Wisdom and Knowledge (<i>Prov.2:4-9, 8:33</i>)	An indifferent attitude toward education
12	Purity (<i>2 Tim.2:22</i>)	Allowing perverted thinking or wrong information about sex
13	Dependability and Loyalty (responsibility & faithfulness) (<i>Prov.11:13, 25:19</i>)	Irresponsibility
14	Friendliness (<i>Prov.18:24, 2 Tim:1:7</i>)	Shyness *
15	Courage and Confidence (<i>Josh.1:9, 2 Tim.1:7</i>)	Fear and Timidity *

11. TEACHER & PARENTS ~ WORKING TOGETHER

As parents are primarily responsible for the training of their children, the school's role is to assist them in the task, never to take over the job. Parental involvement in the following areas is vital and the school cannot be successful without it:

Assist the Teacher by:

- Setting Godly examples at home.
- Discerning the company and media influences the child has access to.
- Co-operating with staff on disciplinary matters.
- Refraining from unprofitable talk: If your children complain about school matters, please contact your child's teacher before making judgements.
- Ensuring that your children are able to comply with school rules (e.g. by providing the correct school uniform, (see pg 10), seeing that they are at school on time, assisting with homework to monitor their academic progress.
- Ensuring that homework such as Orals and Projects that have due dates are handed in on time. Students will be severely penalised for late submissions.
- Unless your child is really sick do not keep them out of school.
- Notifying the teacher if your child is ill or is expected to arrive late. Please contact the school via telephone and follow this up with a note in the homework diary and Doctors note after 2 days. As far as possible, avoid making medical appointments during the school day.
- If your child is absent during an Exam a Doctors Certificate is required and a new date will be set to write. Failing to produce a Certificate results in a zero.
- If you need to deliver anything to your child please do it before **10h30** at which time we will deliver the item to their class. It is disruptive to the teacher to have unnecessary interruptions.

Homework Diaries:

- Are essential in all phases as they are a vehicle between the teacher and the parent.
- Contain the re-enforcing work that needs to be done to consolidate recent work completing tasks that have been started at school.
- Should be signed everyday by parents of Primary School learners.

How Else Can You Help?

- Prayer support for our staff, management and our activities.
- Supporting our school functions, fund-raisers, sports days, prayer & information meetings, parent/teacher interviews, etc.
- Getting involved in work parties, lifts for outings, extra-mural activities or on committee's.
- Financial commitment where you are able to give to meet the material needs of the school.
- Promoting the school through word of mouth and exemplary neighbourliness.

12. SCHOOL HOURS AND CONTACT DETAILS

Grade 1 - 6: 08h00 - 13h30 (Monday - Thursday)
08h00 - 13h00 (Friday)

Grade 7 - 8: 08h00 - 14h00 (Monday - Thursday)
08h00 - 13h00 (Friday)

Each Phase has a 10 minutes "*Fruit & Veg*" break mid morning and a 30 minute break for lunch.

The Rock Academy is located within the King of Kings Baptist Centre:
Cnr of Buller Louw Drive and Sunnydale Road in Sun Valley.

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