

Westville Boys' High School Statement of Intent

Transformation and Diversity at Westville Boys' High School

Transformation refers to a process of questioning and redefining one's frames of references, experiences and assumptions to generate new meanings and new visions for the future. We are engaging diversity for the further advancement of the institution and its people.

The preamble to the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa places four obligations on every citizen, duties that also apply to the School. We are required to:

- Heal the divisions of the past and establish a society based on democratic values and social justice;
- Lay the foundations for a democratic and open society;
- Improve the quality of life of all citizens and free the potential of each person; and
- Build a united and democratic South Africa

We as a School acknowledge the positive contributions of the past, but also that we have been insensitive, intolerant and, at times, dismissive in perpetuating an ethos, traditions and a culture that must evolve to reflect the South Africa that we live in today. We apologise for where we have thoughtlessly imposed the dominant culture onto minority individuals and groups. Westville Boys' High is determined to continue moving away from this past and strive to be a school where everyone feels welcomed and affirmed.

Westville Boys' High is a school which is both diverse and in the process of becoming more inclusive. It is a place where everyone is encouraged to explore and develop their personal, cultural, and religious identity, and accept who he or she is as a South African and as a global citizen.

Everyone associated with our School should feel appreciated, valued and included for who they are. Our School must be a place where everyone feels they belong.

The development of Cultural Intelligence among the whole school community includes the ability to engage with diverse people. This is an important learning outcome of the Westville experience. We strive to develop:

- individuals who appreciate and celebrate diversity*,
- individuals who value, respect and accept difference, and
- individuals who are comfortable with dialogue and discussion around transformation and diversity.

To achieve these ends, we strive to provide a safe space within which differences can be explored, dissonance and disagreement experienced, and our common humanity recognised and embraced.

*Diversity includes a wide range of abilities, experience, knowledge, and strengths due to differences in age, background, ethnicity, culture, physical abilities, political and religious beliefs, sex and gender.

Signatories:
Graham Steele
(Headmaster)



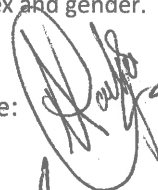
Errol Stewart:
Foundation Chairman



Dieter Kriese:
Old Boys Chairman



Vaughan Coetzee:
(SGB Chairman)



Kesharv Arjun:
LRC Chairman



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