



**WESTVILLE BOYS'
HIGH SCHOOL**

**APPLICATION INFORMATION
GRADE 8 2023**

OUR MOTTO

INCEPTO NE DESISTAM

A literal translation from Vergil's Aeneid is 'May I not shrink from my purpose'.

It is an encouragement to 'Stay the course', with determination.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to be a centre of educational excellence.

OBJECTIVES

MAY I NOT SHRINK FROM MY PURPOSE—STAY THE COURSE

To provide a stable learning environment.

To emphasise the value of an integrated academic and co-curricular programme in developing the individual.

To develop the whole person, intellectually, emotionally, spiritually, physically and socially.

To maintain a constructive partnership between staff, parents and past and present students.

To promote unity within a context of diversity.

To empower our students to make a positive contribution to the betterment of our School and Society.



GRIFFIN VALUES AT WBHS

CHARACTER | DISCIPLINE | RESPECT | RESILIENCE | HUMILITY | INTEGRITY

PURPOSE DRIVEN LIFE AT WBHS

ACADEMICS | SPORT | ARTS | SERVICE | LEADERSHIP



**WESTVILLE BOYS'
HIGH SCHOOL**

WHERE POTENTIAL
MEETS PURPOSE

ADMISSIONS POLICY

PURPOSE

This policy outlines the rules for admission To Westville Boys' High School. This policy has been drawn up by the Governing Body as required by the South African Schools Act.

WHO SHOULD READ THIS?

Parents of boys wishing to attend Westville Boys' High School.

LEGAL BASIS FOR THIS DOCUMENT

The appropriate section of the South African Schools Act No 84 of 1996 is as follows:

(5) Subject to this Act and any applicable provincial law, the admissions policy of a public school is determined by the governing body of such school.

All relevant regulations and circulars issued by the KZN Department of Education up to and including KZN Circular no. 38/2016 have been taken into account.

CAPACITY

The capacity per grade has been determined by the Governing Body to be 240 pupils.

ADMISSION CRITERIA AND ALLOCATION OF PLACES

The Admissions Committee will take into account the place of residence of parents or legal guardians.

Those who reside with their parents or legal guardian and whose closest state high school is Westville Boys' High will be considered first. Boys who already have older brothers at the School, will be considered.

Thereafter the limited number of remaining places will be given to boys who show the highest academic potential, a high degree of sporting potential, an excellent disciplinary record and a proven ability to contribute to the academic and extra-curriculum programme of WBHS.

A limited number of places will be reserved for achievers, according to the stipulated criteria, in academics, sports or the performing arts; or as part of the School's transformation programme.

Each year the Governing Body will determine the number of places which can be offered to the recipients of bursaries/scholarships.

DATES OF APPLICATION

Applications open on the first day of the new academic year. Although the Education Department's closing date is the end of September each year, past experience indicates that full capacity will be reached for Grade 8 before that time.

HANDING IN OF APPLICATION

Applications are accepted only when they are completed in full, are signed and are handed in by a parent/guardian during office hours at the admissions office.

Incomplete applications will not be considered and will be returned to the applicant. In such cases the date of submission of the completed application will be the effective date of the application.

Fraudulent applications will not be considered. The School reserves the right to revoke the admission of a pupil who has gained admission in a fraudulent manner and to institute criminal proceedings.

ADMISSION OF RESIDENTS

Boys residing with their biological parents or legal guardians, and **whose closest public high school is Westville Boys' High, will qualify for admission on the grounds of place of residence. Appropriate proof of residence is required to satisfy the School of the legitimacy of the residence of the applicant. Affidavits confirming that applicants reside at a certain address will not be sufficient.**

Proof of parentage must be in the form of an unabridged birth certificate. A short-form birth certificate may be provided when making the application.

(An unabridged certificate is required prior to finalizing the application. Proof of application, by way of receipt from Home Affairs, for unabridged birth certificate, must be attached).

Guardians, who are not the biological parents of the applicant, will be required to provide convincing proof, to the satisfaction of the School, of the legitimacy of their guardianship.

Because the state requires that all places are filled by the end of September, the School cannot guarantee places for late applications from people whose nearest state school is Westville Boys' High School, or who might move into the area.



ADMISSIONS POLICY

ALLOCATION OF ADDITIONAL SPACE AVAILABLE

Should additional places be available, these may be offered to pupils who reside closer to other public high schools. However, in view of the limited number of places available, access to the School cannot be guaranteed. In considering these applications, admission will be on merit according to the criteria in this policy. **Please note that parts of Westville North, Berea West, Cowies Hill and Westville South are closer to other state schools than Westville Boys' High School.**

The on-going financial viability of the **WBHS Boarding Establishment** is a priority of the Governing Body. The Governing Body will determine the number of places which can be offered to new applicants to ensure the viability of the WBHS Boarding Establishment operated by the School.

Successful candidates will be advised, in writing, as soon as is possible

UNSUCCESSFUL APPLICATIONS

Although the closing date for applications stipulated by the KZN Department of Education is the end of September, past experience has shown that the School has reached capacity well before the end of the first school term of the preceding year. As the demand for places significantly exceeds the capacity of the School, it is not possible to accept all applicants who apply within the application period. The School will endeavour to notify all applicants of the outcome of their applications as soon as possible. In accordance with KZN 37/2010, a waiting list of not more than 5% of capacity is to be maintained.

NO FEEDER SCHOOLS

There are no feeder schools for Westville Boys' High School. Admission in a primary school cannot guarantee a place at Westville Boys' High.

LANGUAGE POLICY

The medium of instruction is English. English is offered as the first language.

Afrikaans or isiZulu is offered as a second language.

AGE REQUIREMENTS

In terms of legislation, pupils are entitled to leave school at the end of the year in which they turn 15 or after achieving a pass at the end of Grade 9 whichever is the sooner.

The following ages are used as guidelines in ensuring appropriate placement at this School:

Grade 8: Admission in the calendar year in which the pupil turns 14 years of age

Grade 9: Admission in the calendar year in which the pupil turns 15 years of age

Grade 10: Admission in the calendar year in which the pupil turns 16 years of age

Grade 11: Admission in the calendar year in which the pupil turns 17 years of age.

Admission into Grade 12 is not recommended and will be considered only under exceptional circumstances.

SUBJECT PACKAGE OPTIONS

All Grade 8 and 9 pupils undertake the stipulated General Education & Training curriculum. All packages include English Home Language and Mathematics. Subject packages are determined on the basis of viable class numbers. Preference regarding subject packages for Grade 10 or subsequent grades is given to pupils enrolled in Grade 9 at this School. Choice of subject package could preclude admission in the Further Education & Training phase.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

The Code of Conduct, the Dress Code and the Rules and Regulations of the School must be strictly adhered to. These regulations have been adopted by the Governing Body in consultation with the parent body and the Representative Council of Learners. All prospective learners and their parents or guardians are expected to consider these regulations seriously before applying for admission.

SCHOOL FEES AND TRUST CONTRIBUTION

School fees are compulsory and are determined on an annual basis at a specially convened meeting of the parent body. Contributions to the Educational Trust are on a voluntary basis and are tax deductible.



**WESTVILLE BOYS'
HIGH SCHOOL**

ADMISSIONS POLICY

CODE OF CONDUCT AND SCHOOL RULES

Westville Boys' High School places emphasis on discipline, behaviour and the development of responsibility. It is important that every prospective pupil willingly accepts the provisions in the Code of Conduct before proceeding with an application to this School. Please refer to page 11.

POLICY ON CO-CURRICULAR INVOLVEMENT

Holistic education is integral to the School's Mission, and the development of the whole person is emphasised. It is important that every pupil accepts the School's policy on co-curricular involvement. Sport has been incorporated into the timetable as part of the Sports Academy programme. Please refer to page 12.

SCHOOL FINANCES

The school fees are set by the parent body and are subject to annual renewal. A budget meeting is held towards the end of each year to set the school fees for the following year. Parents will be required to sign a fee commitment form indicating the basis on which the school fee is to be settled.

A discount is allowed for payment of the annual school fees before February 28.

An appeal is made to all parents for contributions to the Educational Trust. These contributions are tax deductible and are used by the Trustees in order to enhance the infrastructure of the School.

A non-refundable deposit is payable on acceptance.

ADMISSION POLICY AND PLACE OF RESIDENCE

A pupil who lives closer to another high school is not precluded from seeking admission to the School. However, access to a chosen school cannot be guaranteed.

All out-of-area applicants are advised to secure admission at the school which is closest to their residence as admission to WBHS cannot be guaranteed. Applications received after the closing date will be placed on a waiting list which will be considered in the event of any vacancies.

Successful applicants must inform the School of any change of address which might occur prior to the start of the academic year.

FALSE INFORMATION

Parents are advised to check the completed application form carefully as false information contained therein will result in rejection of the application. This includes any information pertinent to the application such as place of residence, date of birth, and academic and co-curricular involvement.

SCHOOL RULES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

SCHOOL RULES AND POLICIES

Although there are a number of regulations which help in the smooth running of the School, there is really only one guiding principle: At all times use your common sense and do not do anything that will bring you or your School into disrepute'.

ATTITUDE, MANNERS AND RESPECT FOR OTHERS

Develop a positive attitude towards your School, your studies and your involvement in co-curricular activities.

Develop self-discipline and responsibility for your own academic progress.

Identify with the traditions of the School.

Good manners and respect for others are expected of a Westville boy at all times, therefore, be respectful to adults at all times, and courteous to visitors to the School.

Bullying is forbidden.

Do not use offensive or foul language. This will include racist, sexist or other inappropriate language.

SCHOOL UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

The written permission of the Headmaster or his Deputy is required in the event of any deviation from these norms.

Show pride in your School by ensuring that your uniform is always neat.

Full uniform must be worn at all times between School and home, at all functions and on excursions. Blazer buttons to be in place and buttoned at all appropriate times, particularly in public and when representing the School at events.

The details of the correct uniform and special sports kits are to be found in the Prospectus and must be adhered to.

All items of clothing must be marked with the owner's name.

Full uniform or a School tracksuit must be worn after sports practices.

Medical identification tags and wristwatches may be worn but no jewellery or lapel badges unrelated to School may be worn.

Hair must be reasonably short, and must be kept neat and well-groomed. It must be clear of the ears and off the collar and forehead. Sideburns must be short and unobtrusive. No unnatural colouring of hair or 'steps' are permitted. Boys must be clean-shaven at all times.

No tattoos are permissible.



CHOOSING THE RIGHT HIGH SCHOOL FOR YOUR SON IS SUCH AN IMPORTANT DECISION.

There has been much conflicting information in the media about education and there are several issues confronting all high schools today. Some of these are covered by the following questions and brief responses.

Please feel free to contact a member of School management if you would like further information on these issues.

ARE THE ACADEMIC STANDARDS AT PUBLIC SCHOOLS SUCH AS WESTVILLE BEING UPHELD?

Despite the negative press that public schooling has received, the standards of teaching and learning at WBHS are as high as they ever have been. This is due to the efforts of a dedicated and stable teaching staff, the vision of a pro-active Governing Body, and a supportive parent body which funds the infrastructure that is necessary in delivering quality education and attracting pupils whose qualities add value to the School's programmes.

DOES WBHS OFFER EDUCATION WHICH IS ON A PAR TO THAT OFFERED AT PRIVATE SCHOOLS, AND DO AFFORDABLE SCHOOL FEES IMPLY AN INFERIOR STANDARD OF EDUCATION?

The Governing Body employs more than half the teaching staff in order to maintain a pupil-teacher ratio of 18:1, and to maintain class sizes below 30 pupils. The State contributes the salaries of 44 teachers, which assists in making school fees more affordable. It is Governing Body policy to employ sufficient additional teaching and support staff to ensure quality education.

HOW DOES THE SCHOOL ATTRACT AND RETAIN QUALITY TEACHING STAFF?

The teaching staff are regarded as the School's most valuable resource. The Governing Body has made it a priority to provide working conditions that are conducive to the retention of experienced staff. Staff members are regularly assessed on the performance of their professional responsibilities. The School also has a student teacher learnership programme in operation which is intended to attract promising new teachers into the profession.

WHAT PROVISION IS MADE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCHOOL'S CAMPUS?

For the past two decades, the Governing Body has attended to the physical development of the School and the provision of equipment. Past projects include the Media Centre, the two computer centres and the network, the two audio-visual centres, technologically upgraded classrooms, the Bowdens Pavilion, the Multi-Purpose Indoor Centre, The Performing Arts Theatre, the Hockey Astro turf, Administration area, the Aquatics Centre and the Student Centre and the High Performance Gym. The Educational Trust and the Old Boys' Association provide vital support to the Governing Body in this regard.

WHAT SORT OF CURRICULUM IS OFFERED AT WBHS?

All courses offered at the School qualify a pupil for university entrance in any country. Subjects cover the Arts, Sciences and Commerce. Entrepreneurship and the development of life skills are themes common to all subjects. The School constantly monitors trends in education and reassesses its strategic plans regarding curriculum content and teaching methodology. A questioning approach forms the basis of our teaching – we believe this provides pupils with the edge to succeed in a rapidly changing business and social environment.

WHAT IS THE SCHOOL'S APPROACH TOWARDS HOLISTIC EDUCATION, AND CAN THE SCHOOL CATER FOR THE EXTRA-CURRICULAR NEEDS OF MY SON?

The development of the whole person in nurturing excellence is the major part of the School's Mission. The School has adopted a 'Middle Line' philosophy which focuses on the individual learner (see the website for further details). This philosophy permeates all aspects of the School. For example, the Student Leadership structures and Leadership Development programme are based on personal values and positive service in addition to preparing boys for successful careers. A further major point of difference at WBHS is the talent nurtured in the Arts, producing exceptional actors, singers and instrumentalists who have made their marks on national stages. The School offers 18 major sports and every learner is required to participate at his level of expertise. The WBHS Sports Academy identifies and nurtures sporting interest and talent. This programme includes an integrated School timetable where by skills-based training and sports theory are provided to pupils as part of the formal timetable. Team coaching is handled in the afternoons by the teaching staff and professional coaches supported by technical advisers. Clinics are also held for development squads and elite squads. The School also offers 29 clubs and societies covering a full range of activities such as Outreach, Ceramics, Photography and Environmental issues.



WHAT IS THE SCHOOL'S ETHOS FROM CULTURAL, RELIGIOUS AND EDUCATIONAL PERSPECTIVES?

The School caters primarily for the community of Westville and the Highway area. The School draws a majority of pupils of a Christian background, and tolerance and acceptance of all religions and cultures is practiced. The School aims at educational excellence across the full range of academic and co-curricular activities. We share the ethos of the leading State boys' schools in the country and we are part of a national and international network of these schools.

WHAT IS THE SCHOOL'S STANCE ON THE GRADE 10-12 FET CURRICULUM?

All schools in the country, both public and private, follow the new National Curriculum, and Westville staff have been involved in influencing desired changes to the curriculum in terms of subject content and teaching methodology. The success of the new curriculum depends on the manner in which it is implemented in each school. An on-going annual plan is in place for the specific training of WBHS teachers on the curriculum. There is a misconception that only public schools are required to follow the new curriculum. This is not so. All schools in the country, both public and independent, are required to follow the same curriculum.

WHAT EXAMINATION IS WRITTEN AT THE END OF THE MATRIC YEAR, AND DOES THIS HAVE ANY EFFECT ON MY SON'S FUTURE PROSPECTS?

Please refer to the separate document on the UMALUSI Matric certificate. All final matriculation examinations in South Africa are accredited and regulated by UMALUSI (formerly SAFCERT). This includes the National Examinations and the Independent Examinations Board (IEB) examinations. UMALUSI is the only body in the country empowered to issue Matric certificates. The UMALUSI certificate is the only internationally recognised certificate issued in SA. Research has been done on the prospects of students writing the various examinations, and on the alternative examination systems on offer. Feedback from the universities is that they do not favour one examining authority over another and that the Grade 11 results and the reputation of the individual school is of paramount importance in gaining preliminary entry to a course. The national examinations written at WBHS have been internationally benchmarked against those of other recognised exams set by the Cambridge (O & A levels), Scottish and Australian bodies and are required to reflect higher order thinking skills and applied competence. Private schools such as Bishops, Herzlia and Crawford College have chosen to write the national papers.

WHAT INFLUENCE DOES THE NATIONAL OR PROVINCIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HAVE ON THE PROVISION OF EDUCATION AT WBHS?

It is a priority of the Department to focus its resources on the most needy schools in the province. As such, the School finds itself in the position of a self-managing institution covering all aspects of education such as funding, grounds and buildings, curriculum development, appointment of staff and teacher assessment. We see it as our responsibility to provide quality education. The parent body currently provides 75% of the total funds required to run the School.

WHAT IS THE SCHOOL'S APPROACH TO DISCIPLINE?

The maintenance of good discipline is a major priority. The School has a Code of Conduct which has the support of the entire School community. All violations of that Code are dealt with on a consistent basis. All prospective pupils and their parents are required to attend an interview with a member of School management where issues such as this are clarified.

WHAT IS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE SCHOOL AND HOME?

Structures are in place to facilitate good and full communication. The School has two mentor form heads per grade and two counsellors. The approach is one of promoting open relationships between parents and their children. In line with its 'Middle Line' philosophy and its community school character, WBHS encourages and receives parental involvement in all aspects of School life.

ARE PUPILS WHO RESIDE OUTSIDE WESTVILLE ABLE TO SEEK ADMISSION?

The answer is yes. Although priority is given to those pupils residing closer to our school than to another state high school, the School does have some spaces for out-of-area pupils. Spaces, however, cannot be guaranteed for out-of-area pupils.





APPLICATIONS FOR GRADE 8 2023



**WESTVILLE BOYS'
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