

VICTORIA PARK HIGH SCHOOL



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Principal

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FET Grade Meeting Newsletter

Victoria Park High School would like to take the opportunity to welcome back our senior learners in grade 10, 11 and 12.

Unfortunately, due to ongoing COVID-19 restrictions, the school has been forced to forego the usual Grade Meetings. It is saddening that learners and parents will not be able to gather in person to meet the teams for the FET phase.

Instead, we have created this information package to guide you and your child through the upcoming academic year:

1. FET Teams

GRADE 12	GRADE 11	GRADE 10
Grade Heads: Mrs L. Bloem Mr R. van der Merwe	Grade Heads: Mrs M. van der Walt Mr J. Ross	Grade Heads: Mrs E. du Preez Mr R. Leander
Register Teachers: 12V: Mrs J. Nel 12I: Mr A. van Zyl 12C: Mrs K. Jacobson 12T: Mrs T. Wood 12O: Mr R. Fynn 12R: Mrs S. Hayward 12A: Mrs A. Monteith	Register Teachers: 11V: Ms T. Wyatt 11I: Ms L. Smith 11C: Mrs N. Mafeke (Reg.) 11C: Ms R. Swart (LO) 11T: Mrs E. Pelsler* (On maternity leave) 11T: Ms A. Brits 11O: Mr R. Wynford 11R: Ms M. Hagemann 11A: Mr L. Alexander	Register Teachers: 10V: Ms A. Freer 10I: Mrs J. McGrath (Reg.) 10I: Mr T. Whale (LO) 10C: Mr C. Griessel 10T: Ms A. Coetzer* (On maternity leave) 10T: Ms K. Owalsky 10O: Mr N. Anderson 10R: Mr M. Louis 10A: Ms S. Beets

2. Pass Requirements

It is important to note that in 2020 there was a change in the weighting of marks as instructed by the Department of Education. Continuous Assessment, or CASS, outweighed exam marks to accommodate for COVID-19 and the disruptions it brought to the school year. At this time, pass requirements for the senior grades have reverted to the usual format (*as seen below*). This could however change at a moment's notice. Therefore, in 2021 it is imperative that all CASS requirements are met by each learner to ensure that if the Department of Education changes any requirements, each learner is already on a good footing with their work and assignments.

The current pass requirements for 2021 are as follows:

Grade Progression – Minimum requirements

CASS = 25%

EXAM = 75%

Requirements:

Home Language (English)	40%
Any other TWO subjects	40%
Any THREE subjects	30%
A level 1 (1–29%) in any ONE subject, except Home Language	

3. Late coming and absenteeism

In 2021, as in 2020, teaching and contact time is paramount. Therefore, special attention must be paid to late coming and absenteeism. If a learner is late more than five times, he or she will be automatically placed in detention. Parental contact will be made if a learner is continuously late.

Absenteeism of more than five consecutive days without contact from parents or a doctor's note will result in parental contact via the register teacher. Any learner who is absent must provide a note from a parent or guardian. Absentee notes and doctor's notes must be delivered to the register teacher on arrival back at school.

4. "At home" days

As we continue with the Group One and Group Two format in 2021, it is important for learners to understand that the days that they are at home are still considered academic school days. Learners are urged to keep up with schoolwork assigned to them on their 'home' days. Teaching time is limited due to current restrictions yet the syllabus is not condensed as in 2020. Therefore, the onus is on the learners to keep up to date during this challenging time.

5. Tutorial Lessons

Victoria Park offers extra lessons in most of the subjects. These lessons follow a tutorial format. Lessons will commence on Monday, 8 March and run from 14:30 to 15:00. These lessons are not compulsory but are strongly recommended, especially for learners who are struggling. More information, including the roster, will follow soon.

6. Appearance

The school continues to uphold a high standard with regards to appearance and learners are urged to comply with the Code of Conduct with regards to uniform, hair, shaving and general appearance.

7. Social distancing and masks

All learners are to arrive at school in possession of an appropriate mask which must be worn at all times. Failure to comply with requests to don a mask will result in disciplinary action. The school has taken great steps to maintain a culture of social distancing within the campus in order to keep the members of our VP-family safe. Learners are to attempt to always maintain a minimum distance of one and a half to two metres to limit any contact and exposure to COVID-19. Please take note that a proper mask must be worn (ie. a buff is not considered a proper mask.)

8. Social Media Policy

All learners have been provided with a Social Media Policy document explaining the social media policy of Victoria Park High School. Please note that learners who are in contact with teachers are requested to keep the business hours as laid out in the Social Media Policy document. In addition, please be advised that the Social Media Policy document is in line with the current governmental legislation found in the 'Popi Act'. This Act provides guidelines for inappropriate social media contact. Please be advised that any inappropriate behaviour such as 'bullying' will be taken seriously by Victoria Park High School and could result in disciplinary action.

9. Identification Documents

Learners in the senior grades who have not already obtained an ID card are urged to do so at the earliest convenience as the correct documentation is a requirement for admission into the matric trial and final exams.

10. Communication Channels

Should the event arise that a learner or parent is experiencing a problem, please keep the correct communication channels in mind. The first port of call is the register teacher or subject teacher. Should further investigation be required, the subject or grade head should be contacted. If no resolution is found through this platform, the investigation can then be escalated to either of the Deputy-Principals or the Principal.

Thus far, the senior learners at Victoria Park High have been impressive in their appearance, work-ethic, and attendance. We trust that this will continue and 2021 will be a year of academic excellence, togetherness and living courageously.

For more information (and a closer look at the Grade teachers) please visit the school's webpage.

Vivite Fortes!