

VICTORIA PARK HIGH SCHOOL



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Principal

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GET Grade Meeting Newsletter

Victoria Park High School would like to take the opportunity to welcome all old and new Victorians to a new school year. We are excited to be back at school and we are looking forward to a successful year.

Regrettably, learners and parents will not be able to gather in person to meet the teams for the GET phase and to receive personal feedback with regard to academic and extra-curricular matters.

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

1. GET Teams

Grade Heads

Mr E. Boshoff and Mrs S. van Niekerk

GRADE 8 TEACHERS

8V - Mrs K. von Wildemann
8I - Miss J. Wessels
8C - Mrs C. Conradie
8T - Miss L. Moolman
8O - Mr J. de Beer
8R - Mrs C. Hayward
8A - Mr C. van Rooyen

Grade Heads

Mr W. O'Connell and Miss P. Meyer

GRADE 9 TEACHERS

9 V - Mr S. Gwija
9 I - Mrs L. Moodaley
9 C - Miss L. Marks
9 T - Mrs W. Gilbert
9 O - Mr G. Ah Shene
9 R - Miss K. Zwiegelaar
9A - Mrs S. Venter

2. Academic

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 junior 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 his/her work and assignments.

The current pass requirements for 2021 are as follows:

- GET Band, Continuous Assessment, Pass Requirements, Portfolios

| | | |
|----------------------|---|---|
| Level 4 (50% - 59 %) | - | Home Language (English HL) |
| Level 3 (40% - 49%) | - | Second Additional Language (Afrikaans / isiXhosa) |
| Level 3 (40 % - 49%) | - | Mathematics |
| Level 3 (40 % - 49%) | - | In 3 other Learning Areas |
| Level 2 (30 % - 39%) | - | In 2 other Learning Areas |

VP offers free tutorial lessons after school for learners who require extra help. The lessons will start on Monday, 8 March and these classes will run from 14H30 – 15H00. You will receive a tutorial programme indicating the dates for the different subjects shortly.

3. Homework

The importance of doing homework

Homework is a fundamental part of the School's teaching and learning ethos. It is an extension and consolidation of what is taught in the classroom to reinforce and revise work either covered or completed in class. We appeal to parents to encourage learners to adopt a regular homework and study routine. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated towards cultivating a sound work ethic in learners.

4. Late coming and absenteeism

This year, teaching and contact time is going to be vitally important. Therefore, special attention must be paid to late coming and absenteeism. The procedure to be followed is as follows:

An absentee note is required on the day of return. Please include date and reason for absenteeism, as well as contact details of parent(s).

If a learner is late more than five times, he or she will be placed automatically in detention. Parental contact will be made if a learner is late more than three times. 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 doctors notes must be delivered to the register teacher on arrival back at school. Refer to the learner's school diary for a detailed explanation (pgs. 5-6)

5. "At home" days

As we continue with the group one and group two platooning of classes 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 'off' days. Teaching time is limited due to current restrictions but unlike 2020 the syllabus has not been condensed. The onus is therefore on the learners to keep up to date during this challenging time. Our school has a 12 day cycle and learners may need parental assistance with planning for assignments and tests to ensure that they do not lose marks for late or poorly presented work.

6. Appearance

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

Please familiarise yourself with the various regulations pertaining to appearance which can be found in the learners school diary on (pgs. 7-10) to assist us in maintaining pride in the VP uniform.

7. Pastoral Care

The well-being and mental health of our pupils is extremely important! We are fortunate to have two qualified counsellors, Mr J Hutchinson, and Mrs L. Truter to take care of all our pupils' pastoral needs at school. Pupils facing any problems, be they academic or of a personal nature will be referred to a counsellor. Parents are requested to please make an appointment if they wish to see either the Grade Heads or the school counsellors.

8. Social distancing and masks

All learners are to arrive at school in possession of an appropriate mask which must be always worn. Failure to comply will result in disciplinary action. The school has taken great steps to maintain a culture of social distancing within the campus. Learners must maintain a minimum distance of one and a half to two metres to limit any contact and exposure to COVID-19.

9. TEST SERIES

The GET band will write a test series towards the end of the term. You will receive a detailed timetable soon.

10. Communication Channels

If a learner or parent experiences 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 Vice-Principals or the Principal.

Please note that all information will be communicated via D6, newsletters, sms and on the School's web page.

Thank you for your patience, understanding and flexibility at this time. We can assure you that Victoria Park has your child's best interest at heart and we will do everything in our power to develop your child's full potential.