

VICTORIA PARK HIGH SCHOOL



M J VERMAAK B Comm (Ed)
Principal

VICTORIA PARK DRIVE
PORT ELIZABETH

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DISCIPLINE & PROCEDURE

I am writing to confirm that, in this time of uncertainty, it is imperative to stay motivated, disciplined and focused. The consolidation of work, the completion of syllabi and the preparation for tests, assignments and examinations is to be uppermost in everyone's mind.

As is known, there was a protest by Black Learners of the school on Tuesday 11 August 2020 where there are allegations of racial bias and insensitivity. A memorandum was emailed to the school which detailed certain concerns and demands which have been made in this regard. The school has agreed to do an investigation and has undertaken to implement a plan of action to properly address the concerns and constitute a Transformation Task Team.

Unfortunately, despite the school being open to a call for change, not all proper procedures were followed. Learners are reminded to adhere to the school policy on social media, as can be seen on page 13 of the Code of Contact in the school diary. We are highlighting this to protect all Victorians.

While the school is investigating the concerns which were brought to its attention, learners must adhere to the discipline rules in the Code of Conduct, which are still intact. Please be reminded that mobile phones may only be used during breaks, outside Mr Vermaak's office. If teachers require the use of mobile phones in class, they will give instructions to do so.

Conservative "civvies" are still to be worn, but rules of neatness remain in place. Learners are to be neatly attired. Boys must be shaved and their hair may, until further notice, be worn longer. Hair **may not** be cut into any fashionable styles.

The school day is to run normally as learners have the right to unimpeded study. The academic progress of every learner is paramount. It is important that all learners feel safe and free from intimidation.

It must be emphasised that all normal discipline regulations and the Code of Conduct must be adhered to.

Any grievances can be lodged through the specific register teacher or Grade Head. The matter will be escalated to the management of the school, where necessary.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M J Vermaak', written in a cursive style.

M J Vermaak
Principal
31 August 2020