



# St Dominic's College

## Welkom

Day Pupils: 3 months-Grade 12

Boarding: Grade 6-12

Co-Educational

# ABOUT US

## 5 PILLARS BUILT ON SPIRITUAL FOUNDATION



St Dominic's College is one of the finest co-educational independent schools in the Free State and boasts four schools on our 18 hectare campus. This presents a unique opportunity that allows our children to transition through the school from Little Saints Nursery School at the age of 3 months old, to the High School, which ends in Grade 12, their matric year. We are a member of the Independent Schools Association of Southern Africa (ISASA) and one thing that all independent schools know, is that, "in the race for excellence, there is no finish line." We ensure an educational experience that is current and relevant in the lives of our children and endeavour to provide a safe, environment that allows children to develop to their full potential. We aim to present an educational experience based on a 'time-honoured values system.' We prepare young children for life in the modern world, leaving them well-placed to become effective, contributing members of society. We embrace five pillars of excellence which are central to providing an educational experience that is all encompassing and focused on experiencing every sphere of school life. These five pillars are: Academic Excellence, Individual Nurturing, Cultural Enrichment, Sporting Prowess and Social Responsibility.



### VISION:

*Rooted in God's love, St Dominic's College empowers us to be our best for the good of all. We envisage an educational experience that is focused on developing 21st century skills, is current and relevant, is focused on a plan for each pupil and is deeply traditional and refreshingly contemporary.*

### MISSION:

As a leading Catholic School, in the spirit of Ubuntu, we are committed to providing education with a leading edge. Through committing resources, working in partnerships, encouraging a sound work ethic and pursuing excellence.

### ETHOS:

St Dominic's College is a traditional church school, having been established in 1952 in the proud traditions of the Dominican Sisters and Christian Brothers. Whilst proudly Catholic and firm in promoting strong Christian values, we welcome pupils from all denominations. Teaching tolerance is an important part of ensuring that every child is treated with dignity and respect. We place great emphasis on encouraging moral and spiritual growth in keeping with Christian principles and to this end, Religious Education forms an integral part of school life and serves to help pupils grow in faith.

### VALUES:

Our children derive significant benefit from our values based approach to teaching and learning and ultimately all our teaching are based upon the corner stones of respect, compassion, commitment, discipline and integrity.



## **LITTLE SAINTS NURSERY SCHOOL: (3 months-3 years)**

Little Saints is an exceptional Nursery School, specialising in early childhood development. Our Infant Care Centre was launched in 2012 and can accommodate seven babies from 3 to 12 months old and provides a stimulating learning environment that promotes growth and development across all spheres of early childhood development. At 12 months of age your baby will achieve "toddler" status and will join the 1-3 year age group of the Little Saints Nursery School, which accommodates 33 toddlers. It is during these important developmental years that we expose our children to basic Pre-Primary school learning activities that will assist them in developing independence in preparation for graduation to the Pre-Primary School at age 3, turning 4, in their respective year.



## **PRE-PRIMARY SCHOOL: (4-6 years)**

The Pre-Primary School operates on a large, modern premises. Facilities include covered sandpits and verandas with green, shaded playgrounds. Our modern playrooms are well equipped with educational toys and teaching aids. The outdoor area has been designed as an exciting learning environment where each child can safely extend their physical, social and emotional development. Our Pre-Primary School aims to ensure that children achieve independence and that they learn how to integrate and adopt accepted etiquette in their day to day contact with each other.



## **PRIMARY SCHOOL: (Grades 1-7)**

St Dominic's Primary School aims to enhance the learning experience of the children in our care by building on the solid foundation provided by both Little Saints and our Pre-Primary School. Children are encouraged to engage in all spheres of school life as each sphere presents a significantly different learning environment and learning experience. These spheres of school life include a current and relevant academic curriculum that exposes children to technology as well as a dynamic sports and cultural programme. All of these critically important spheres of school life are presented through a Christian values-based approach adopted by our dedicated and committed staff.





## HIGH SCHOOL: (Grades 8-12)

We provide a broad IEB (Independent Examinations Board) curriculum to enable our children to pursue knowledge, develop understanding, independence of mind and respect for truth. The development of 21st Century skills remains a priority as we aim to ensure that our school leavers continue to thrive in tertiary institutions where critical thought and the ability to solve problems creatively are highly sought after attributes. Small classes ensure that each pupil derives benefit from a most favourable pupil/teacher ratio.

## ST AGNES BOARDING HOUSE (Grades 6-12)

Our Boarding House offers your child a safe and disciplined, but loving environment where your child is able to thrive and learn independence and responsibility. Children are monitored carefully, with regard to their progress across all spheres of their school life. We have a full boarding facility with separate boys and girls wings, in the familial atmosphere of our St Agnes Boarding House, accommodating students from Grades 6 to Grade 12. It is housed on the Primary School campus, within easy walking distance of the High School and hence all activities and facilities are easily accessible. Boarders are given ample opportunity for diligent study as well as free time to participate in sport and cultural activities and to socialise with friends and participate fully in the life of our school. Floors are tiled throughout with underfloor heating. Surveillance cameras and security locks operate all on access doors at night.



## SUBJECT CLINICS

English and Mathematics Clinics are available once a week, after school to all pupils, at no extra cost, for those children that need extra assistance. At the parents or pupil's request, teachers will assist with extra clinics in any other subject children may need assistance with. These must be arranged with the teachers of the specific subjects.

## AFTERCARE INFORMATION

### PRE-PRIMARY SCHOOL AFTERCARE:

Aftercare is available at the Pre-Primary School daily, for a nominal fee, from Mondays to Thursdays between 13h30 and 17h00, and on Fridays between 13h30 and 16h30, under the care of a qualified teacher. This facility is not available during school holidays. The daily programme has been structured along prescribed Pre-Primary school lines to enrich each child's experience and guide them towards school readiness. The groups follow a thematic approach with art, stories, music, drama and movement being incorporated into each theme. Our teachers are all creative, enthusiastic and caring people who have the children's best interests at heart. We also have wonderful assistants to help in the classrooms.

### PRIMARY SCHOOL AFTERCARE:

For a nominal fee, aftercare is provided for Grades 1-7 from Mondays to Thursdays between 14h00 and 17h00, and on Fridays between 13h45 and 16h30, under the care of a qualified teacher. Homework is supervised in this secure and loving environment.



## CAMPS AND EXCURSIONS

Various 3-5 day camps are held at Serobe, on the banks of the Vaal River, Parys, Dimalachite River Lodge, and Leadership camps at Maraneman, on the Vaal River. These excursions are for Grades 6 to 11 and include river rafting, swimming, colour run, evening camp fires with excellent meals, obstacle courses, zip-lining, canoeing and many more fun group adventures.

## ST DOMINIC'S COLLEGE FOOTPRINT HIKING CLUB

Grade 4 to 7 pupils who wish to join fun and adventurous hikes, are accompanied by teachers to various weekend-long hiking trails, such as 'Wag-n-Bietjie' hiking trail near Wolmaranstad, St Fort 'Cannibal' hiking trail near Clarens, and Plaasstoor, near Kroonstad.

## EXTRA-MURAL ACTIVITIES

Sports include: Mini-Hockey, Hockey (Field and Indoor). We have a Hockey Astro-turf. We also offer Athletics, Mini-Cricket, Cricket, Soccer, Netball, Tennis and Swimming. *(We have our own olympic-sized pool on campus).*

Cultural activities include: Computers, Chess, Choir, Art and Design, Music, Drama, Debating and Photography.



## OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES

Our pupils enjoy a variety of sports, by joining clubs outside of our school. Their achievements are accoladed in our weekly newsletter, the St Dominic's Chronicles, as well as on our Facebook and Instagram pages. Sports outside of our school include: Motorcross, Horse-riding, Ballet, Karate, Gymnastics, Shooting, Squash, Beauty Competitions, and many more.



# 5 PILLARS OF EXCELLENCE

## ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

St Dominic's College champions the importance of academic excellence with a view to ensuring that our children proceed to the university and faculty of choice. To this end, we aim to promote a co-ordinated and integrated approach across all four schools. Furthermore, we understand the importance of providing a quality educational experience for the academically inclined and those less academically inclined. We aim to incorporate technology in the educational process with a view to ensuring that our pupils develop the ability to engage successfully with technology, thereby developing an important 21st century skill. The curriculum is fast moving towards being more than just content based and more and more corporates are dictating the need for development of these 21st century skills. To achieve this, we commit ourselves to retaining and recruiting highly qualified teachers to achieve the desired academic output whilst ensuring that they understand the importance of committing to continuously improving their knowledge and skills.



## INDIVIDUAL NURTURING

It is important to acknowledge each child as a unique individual, to help them grow and develop in an authentic manner within a safe environment. With this in mind, we encourage children to embrace their faith, explore their spirituality and deepen their relationship with God. We commit ourselves to providing individual care for each child, developing a sound understanding of their potential and working hard in collaboration with our parents, to help each child to develop to his or her full potential. Our pastoral care system continues to change with a view to determining best practice which will allow our children to flourish.

## CULTURAL ENRICHMENT

Through our extensive cultural programme, we aim to expose our children to a multitude of possibilities and the extent to which involvement in such activities serves to contribute significantly to the development of a well-balanced individual. We aim to promote music, drama and art as an integral part of the school's cultural programme whilst also providing an opportunity for talented children to take these subjects as a part of their academic portfolio for academic purposes. Debating, chess, choir, marimba band, rock band, art club, drama club and photography club are also offered as part of the cultural programme.

## SPORTING PROWESS

Sport is an important part of any school curriculum and it presents as the great "outdoor classroom" where numerous life lessons are learned and character is developed. Fostering a strong, vibrant and innovative sports programme is critical to the success of St Dominic's College and as such, providing access to a quality coaching staff, well maintained facilities and sports science services, ensures that the infrastructure is in place to support the development of both the social and elite athlete. Cricket, swimming, hockey and squash are our pre-eminent sports and we continue to achieve success in these sporting codes, despite our size. Other sporting codes are on offer and include soccer, tennis and netball. We have a fine reputation on the sports field with many of our pupils winning local, provincial and national sporting awards. More importantly, we believe that "a healthy body houses a healthy mind," and we encourage all of our pupils to take full advantage of our excellent sports programme.

## SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

The aim of St Dominic's College is to engender in our pupils the realisation that "you can do well out of doing good" as opposed to "doing good in order to do well." It is therefore, through active participation in Interact and the Edmund Rice Society that our pupils engage in noteworthy outreach endeavours beyond the gates of the school. It is in the service of others that we are reminded of how privileged we are to be in this great school, and of our responsibility to do everything that we can to reach out to those less fortunate than ourselves.



# TOP CLASS SCHOOL FACILITIES

- Hockey Astroturf
- Four dual-functional cricket and soccer fields.
- 25 metre swimming pool.
- Two computer laboratories with 50 computers.
- Counselling by onsite Social Worker



- School of Arts:
  - Music
  - Visual Arts & Design
  - Dramatic Arts
- Individual attention tutor classes of 12 pupils per teacher.
- Free WiFi access to all pupils
- Classrooms equipped with audiovisual for enhanced teaching experience
- St. Agnes Boarding House has uninterrupted water & electricity supply with underfloor Heating.



*PLEASE CONTACT US FOR  
ADMISSION FORMS AND  
SCHOOL CAMPUS TOURS!*

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## **St Dominic's College**

### **Welkom**

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For further information, you can click on:

- \***Website:** [www.stdominicscollege.com](http://www.stdominicscollege.com) or
- \***Weekly Newsletter** --->  
<https://www.stdominicscollege.com/newsletters>

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