



ST JOHN'S COLLEGE



PROSPECTUS



| From the Executive Headmaster

St John's College was founded in 1898, only 12 years after the discovery of gold on the Witwatersrand. Today, it is counted as one of South Africa's most prominent schools, with a reputation for excellence that extends well beyond the borders of South Africa.

St John's was founded by the Anglican Church, and Anglican traditions and values underpin everything we do. Our School Prayer calls upon God to make St John's a home of religious discipline, which sends forth young men and women "rightly trained in body, mind and character."

St John's is unique in the South African school context in that it is a boys' school, book-ended by girls: we are joined by girls in the earliest phase of education at the Bridge Nursery School and again at the final stage in Sixth Form. The St John's Sixth Form is the oldest post-matric Cambridge centre in the country.

The school offers an enviable range of activities and an unwavering commitment to excellence in the classroom, culturally and on the sports field. At St John's, it is admirable to achieve academically, and the students who are brilliant musicians and debaters are fêted and celebrated as much as the outstanding sportsmen. We aim to produce young adults who are inquiring, enthusiastic, tolerant and resilient individuals who know the difference between right and wrong and who have the courage to stand up for that in which they believe.

St John's is proud of its heritage, culture and achievements, but we cannot become an "island of privilege". It is important that we play a key role in our immediate community and that we offer support to those who are less fortunate than us. The St John's College and Prep Academies provide an afternoon enrichment programme to boys from our immediate surroundings of Yeoville, Berea, and Hillbrow in the key subject areas of English, Maths, and Physical Sciences. Our Centenary Scholarship programme offers scholarships to talented young black South Africans who would otherwise not be able to afford our fees, and we cultivate future generations of teachers via our teacher internship programmes.

St John's is internationally connected through its membership of the International Boys' Schools Coalition (IBSC) and the prestigious G30 group of schools.

It is an honour to be the 16th Executive Headmaster of this great school. I hope that whether you are a Johannian, a teacher, a parent, Old Johannian or visitor, you are as inspired by this place as I am. Together, as partners, we will continue to produce young men and women of character who will go out and make a difference in the world.

Mr Stuart West
Executive Headmaster

| St John's College. A World-Class Christian African School

St John's College is internationally recognised as a top academic Anglican boys' school in South Africa. It is renowned for providing a holistic education rooted in compassion, integrity, responsibility, humility, and service. With a rich history closely interwoven with that of Johannesburg, the College prepares its students to thrive in a globally competitive world through a relevant curriculum taught by highly qualified teaching staff. Our commitment to excellence shapes the success of St John's in every aspect of school life.

| Ethos and Spirituality

St John's College is an Anglican Diocesan School under the care of The Visitor, the Bishop of Johannesburg. Its Anglo-Catholic character was shaped by the Benedictine Community of the Resurrection, instilling principles of prayer, study, work, and recreation.

The chapel lies at the heart of the school, where worship reflects both Anglo-Catholic traditions and African expressions. These daily acts of worship affirm the school's foundational values of *Lux, Vita, Caritas*.

St John's welcomes a diverse community while remaining committed to its Anglican identity. The school emphasises shared Christlike values such as hospitality, inclusion, justice, and compassionate care.

Our Chaplains provide pastoral care through weekly chapel services and divinity classes, focusing on student and staff well-being.





| Academics

St John's College follows the National Senior Certificate curriculum, which is examined by the Independent Examination Board (IEB). The College is proud of its high academic standards, and students regularly excel in national Olympiads and Expos, contributing to a long tradition of academic excellence.

The Academic Support Centre is available to provide students with the resources and guidance they need to succeed. All subjects run weekly consolidations lessons for additional academic support.

We are committed to developing young men of integrity who can excel academically and become leaders of significance in Africa and beyond.

Subjects Offered:

- **Languages:** English Home Language, Afrikaans First Additional Language, IsiZulu First Additional Language, Sesotho First Additional Language, French 2nd Additional Language
- **Sciences:** Physical Sciences, Life Sciences, IT
- **Humanities:** History, Geography, Life Orientation
- **Arts:** Music as a Subject, Music Appreciation, Visual Art, Dramatic Art
- **Mathematics:** Mathematics, Mathematics Literacy
- **Further Studies:** Further Studies English, Further Studies Mathematics and Further Studies Physics

Divinity, Perspectives, and Physical Education are additional subjects. Junior Phase students are also introduced to Design and Technology, Computer Literacy, and Economic and Management Sciences.

| Facilities

St John's College boasts world-class facilities that support both academic and extracurricular excellence:

- **Academic:** A Science Block with nine laboratories (Physics, Chemistry, Life Sciences), six fully networked IT laboratories and a library with ICT systems.
- **Cultural:** A music centre, theatre, and two fully-equipped auditoriums with seating for up to 700 people.
- **Sports:** Three cricket fields, four rugby fields, a Hockey Astro, an indoor Cricket Centre, an indoor Aquatics Centre, an outdoor swimming pool, a high-performance gym, four tennis courts, a Squash Centre, and seven basketball courts.
- **Wilderness School:** Located in the Waterberg, Limpopo, this outdoor education centre provides students with opportunities for experiential learning.



| Sports

Sports play a vital role in student life at St John's College, promoting teamwork, discipline, and leadership. All students must take a summer and winter team sport, of which the College offers a variety, with expert coaching and opportunities to compete in festivals and tournaments.

Students typically engage in two practices and one match per week during the sports season. Although sports are not formally assessed, Physical Education classes include assessments, and the school runs a steroid testing programme as part of its commitment to student health and integrity. Conditioning and fitness training are encouraged, with access to the high-performance gym staffed by sports scientists.

Sports Offered:

- Basketball
- Chess
- Cricket
- Football
- Golf
- Hockey
- Rowing
- Rugby
- Tennis
- Squash
- Swimming
- Water Polo



| House System and Boarding

The College operates on a House System, fostering a sense of community and belonging among students. It is divided into eight houses: four boarding houses — Nash, Hill, Clayton, and Hodgson — and four day-boy houses — Thomson, Alston, Clarke, and Fleming. Each house has its own common room and Housemaster's study, creating spaces for mentorship and camaraderie.

The College offers both weekly and termly boarding for approximately 240 boys across the four boarding houses. Juniors share rooms, while Seniors enjoy single rooms equipped with personal study spaces. Boarding life is designed to provide a 'home away from home' atmosphere, with Housemasters, Assistant Housemasters, and Resident Tutors offering guidance and care. Common areas are equipped with DStv, table tennis, pool tables, and Wi-Fi, encouraging relaxation and community bonding outside of academic responsibilities.

Meals are served in the dining hall, prepared by our in-house kitchen staff.

Each house is led by a Housemaster, supported by an elected Head of House, House Prefects, and Resident House Tutors, ensuring close contact with the boys in their care.

Students have access to a fully equipped sanatorium, staffed by qualified nurses, with daily visits from the school doctor.

Two full-time chaplains and two educational psychologists are also available to support both students and parents.

| Clubs & Societies

To complement academics and sports, St John's College offers an extensive range of clubs and societies. Participation is a key component of student life, with all students required to join at least one club or society each term. These extracurricular activities foster personal growth, leadership, and lifelong skills.

| Community Service

As a proud Anglican school, St John's College integrates community service into the curriculum, encouraging students to give back and gain insight into the lives of those in need. Each student from Remove (Grade 8) to Lower V (Grade 11) completes 18 hours of service annually, with 12 hours required in Matric.

Partnering with reputable NGOs, the College ensures that students participate in safe, meaningful service projects. The Golden Eagle Award recognises students who complete a five-day community service camp during the April holidays, further promoting the values of responsibility and compassion.





MATRIC RESULTS



The Matric Class of 2024 achieved outstanding results in the Independent Examinations Board (IEB) examinations, underscoring St John's College's tradition of excellence.

Overall Performance

- 125 students wrote the IEB exams
 - 100% pass rate
 - 124 Bachelor's Degree passes
 - 401 distinctions (3.2 per candidate)
- 42% of students achieved four or more distinctions

Top Achievements

- 2 students achieved 9 distinctions
- 11 students achieved 8 distinctions
- 7 students achieved 7 distinctions
- 7 students achieved 6 distinctions

Further Studies

St John's offers Further Studies in English, Mathematics and Physics as part of the IEB International Secondary Certificate:

- 28 distinctions in Further Studies subjects
- 24 distinctions in Further Studies Mathematics (63% of candidates)

IEB Recognition

- 3 students on the IEB Outstanding Achievement list
- 1 student on the IEB Commendable Achievement list
 - 16 subject results in the top 1% nationally

STEM Excellence

- Mathematics: 86% uptake (IEB: 58%), 77% average (11% above IEB)
- Physical Sciences: 66% uptake (IEB: 37%), 69% average (8% above IEB)
 - Life Sciences: 70% uptake, 73% average (6% above IEB)
- Information Technology: 25% uptake, 78% average (7% above IEB)

Humanities and Arts Excellence

- English: 77% average (7% above IEB)
 - Dramatic Arts: 88% average
 - History: 79% average (IEB: 70%)
- French: 86% average (10% above IEB)
 - Music: 85% average

By excelling across STEM, Humanities and the Arts, the Class of 2024 demonstrated the all-round academic excellence that prepares St John's students for success at leading universities in South Africa and internationally.



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FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

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