

Book a tour to view the school - group bookings welcome.
Email: Tracey du Toit - info@somersethouse.co.za

ACADEMICS

Somerset House is a main stream, Independent School.
We comply with the CAPS framework and are guided by the IEB Curriculum.
We are intentional in what we teach and incorporate research based international curricula to extend and develop our children.

The school is also aware of the requirements of quality assurance bodies like UMALUSI and OISESA and always seeks to deliver good quality education through sound educational practice.

Preparing children for an ever-changing future requires that we focus on teaching knowledge, skills and attitudes which are globally relevant and locally competitive.

Somerset House engages in a process of bench-marking to ensure that standards are understood and maintained.

This in turn informs decisions regarding curriculum and staff development.

Somerset House places emphasis on language skills.
This is vital as sound progress in all subject areas is dependent on strong language and communication skills.

Mathematics is a core subject and emphasis is placed on developing a solid foundation for understanding maths.

Children are encouraged to work collaboratively.
We use a three-step learning process – concrete, pictorial and abstract.
Children are encouraged to question, think critically and problem-solve.

Through content subjects strong emphasis is placed on the use of IT and research.
Children are expected to collaborate, explore, think critically and present solutions effectively.

INFORMATION

24 Children in a class (in isolated circumstances up to 26)
2 English classes per grade
Afrikaans and isiXhosa taught as subjects

School starts at 07:45
Four School Terms
Closed during School Holidays
Some Holiday Club and Clinic offerings

SPORT

FOR BOYS

Cricket
Swimming
Tennis
Rugby
Hockey
Athletics
Cross Country
Football
Mountain biking
Waterpolo
Chess

FOR GIRLS

Cricket
Swimming
Tennis
Netball
Hockey
Athletics
Cross Country
Football
Mountain biking
Waterpolo
Chess

THE ARTS - EDUCATION AND EXTENSION

All Arts activities are presented by specialist teachers.

BEFORE SCHOOL:

Senior Choir, Pop and Rock band, Jazz band, String Ensemble and Grade 4 – 7 Marimba bands

DURING SCHOOL:

Weekly Music, Drama and Art classes
Junior Choir

LATE AFTERNOON (AFTER SPORT):

Junior and Senior Art Club

ANY TIME AT A MONTHLY FEE:

Private Music lessons in Piano, Ukulele, Guitar, Violin, Voice, Drums, Clarinet, Flute, Saxophone, Trumpet, Music Production and Recorder.

NUTRITION

The Catering Department at Somerset House provides the children and Staff of the school with a morning snack of sandwiches and fruit as well as a cooked lunch.

We provide a healthy, balanced meal with options to choose from.

There is always a protein, starch, vegetables or salads as well as yoghurt or fruit.

Bread and spreads are also available at snack times, at lunch, as well as after school.

All this is included in the school fees.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

The key life skills of teamwork, communication, decision making, taking responsibility, trust and fun are all developed at Somerset House in our Outdoor Education Programme.

The cost of the Outdoor Education Programme is included in the annual school fees.

The level of "self- sufficiency" increases with each Grade and a wide variety of experiences will have been enjoyed by the time Grade 7 is reached.

Some of our camps link with the curriculum and we use our venues as bases from which to explore the local area.

LEARNING SUPPORT

Our Mission Statement recognises differences in children's individuality and potential.

The Learning Support Centre enables children's individual needs to be addressed so that they are able to achieve their unique potential.

The Learning Support team works closely with the teachers to help support and guide each child in their learning.

Teachers or therapists could recommend therapy based on a variety of factors.

Currently the following services are provided:

Learner Support, Specialist Counsellor, Educational Psychologist, Speech and Language Therapy and Occupational Therapy.

Where it is deemed necessary, children may be referred to a Psychologist, Play Therapist or Counsellor practising in the community.

INTEGRATED LEARNING

Work on authentic learning tasks provides the context for learning.

Various approaches to learning that include 21st century skills are applied.

Pupils typically work together toward a common goal.

Performance is assessed on an individual or group basis, and takes into account the quality of the product, depth of content understanding demonstrated, and the contributions made to the on-going process.