

VISION - MISSION VALUES



WHO WE ARE

Somerset House is an established, independent, and co-educational Pre-Primary and Preparatory school (Grades 000 to 7) situated in the heart of Somerset West.

Our extensive campus offers children a unique natural setting rich with trees and open spaces.

Historical buildings house modern classrooms, specialised learning centres, technology hubs and a shared dining room, the heart of the school.

Children find themselves in a safe and nurturing space in which self-belief, independent thought, and joy flourish.

Our motto, "**Non nobis solum**", not for ourselves alone, is at the core of our ethos. It is lived, cherished, and celebrated by staff, pupils and their families, alumni, and friends of the school.

OUR PURPOSE

To prepare children for a changing world whilst keeping them grounded with traditions, values, and a sense of legacy.

OUR MISSION

We aim to provide an environment and ethos within which children can thrive.

We do this by providing the following:

- A stimulating and challenging academic programme, emphasising child-centred education, and the development of life-long learning habits and self-discipline.
- A learning orientation in which creative and critical thinking skills are prioritised and curiosity and initiative are encouraged
 - A values-based environment which promotes respect, understanding and empathy, based on the school's Christian heritage
- Experiences and initiatives which foster a deep appreciation and celebration of diversity and inclusion
 - A comprehensive sporting, cultural, artistic, and extra-mural curriculum which both supplements and strengthens the academic programme
- An extensive outdoor development programme which teaches self-awareness, leadership, courage, and a profound appreciation of the natural world
- Highly-committed teachers and staff who demonstrate the highest standards of their craft and who care deeply for the children entrusted to them

1-TEAM

The Somerset House 1-Team concept originated on our sports fields where our pupils all carry the number 1, instead of their names or a personal number, on their sports kit.

The reason for this lies in one of our core values - team spirit. A team is strong when there is trust, cohesiveness and co-operation between its members.

No one team member is more important than another.

The 1-Team philosophy spread to the classrooms, the playgrounds the staff room and the parent body and has become a phrase used daily.

Together, as a community, as a team, we celebrate our successes, face our challenges, live out our values and look out for one another.

VALUES

INTEGRITY

Consistency of actions and values. Maintenance of social, ethical and school standards; adherence to ones code of conduct and principles.

Honesty: Engages with people in an open and forthright manner, represents information accurately and completely. Does the right thing even when no one is looking.

Keeps commitments: Does what one says one will.

Trust: Behaves in such a way as to earn the trust of others through consistency in words and deeds.

Authenticity: Stays true to one's value system in the face of adversity.

Sportsmanship: Has a desire to win balanced by humility and is able to concede defeat with grace.

DETERMINATION

Makes a conscious choice to take on an activity or accomplish a goal. Then engages both head and heart in working towards achieving the desired outcome with a firmness of purpose.

Goal focused: Strives to achieve goals.

Reliable: Demonstrates a level of dependability and predictability.

Disciplined: Does what one can, even if it is difficult, to achieve the goal.

Tenacious: Does not give up easily and looks for ways to overcome hurdles.

Hardworking and diligent: Sees a task through to completion.

Responsible: Accepts consequences of ones actions.

UNSELFISHNESS

Non Nobis Solum - Not for ourselves alone. To put others needs before one's own.

Compassionate: Feels empathy for others.

Humble: Is not vain and has a strong rather than a big ego.

Considerate: Thinks how ones actions will affect others.

Kind: Is friendly, generous and warm hearted.

Self-controlled: Is able to control ones emotions and needs, even when under pressure.

TEAM SPIRIT

The willingness to put the success of the team above one's own. All for one and one for all.

Co-operative: Works effectively and willingly with others to achieve the best outcome.

Loyal: Helps and speaks up for others. Is steadfast.

Energised: Creates enthusiasm that keeps ones own and others energy high.

Inclusive: Creates a sense of belonging for the whole team.

Fun: Introduces fun when appropriate to increase engagement and energy levels.

Informal relationships: Fosters relaxed relationships whilst respecting essential order, to minimise communication barriers.

RESPECT

A positive regard for self, others, the environment and property with a no-harm attitude to all.

Well-mannered: Courteous towards people and their feelings. Being polite in all interactions.

Tolerant: Maintains human dignity.
Treats people as equals; recognises and accepts what is unique about them.

Considerate: Thoughtful to others and their feelings.

Self-respect: Stands tall, feels proud and values oneself.