

TEL: (021) 855 4949
ADDRESS: P O BOX 22
SOMERSET WEST, 7129
EMAIL: admin@helderberghs.co.za

HOËRSKOOL
HELDERBERG
HIGH SCHOOL



TO LEARN | TO LIVE | TO SERVE

31 March 2020

Dear Parents/Learners

I trust you are all well and have enjoyed the time at home, despite it being a confined space. Certainly, many of you are facing real challenges and I encourage you to continue to put your trust in God.

The closure of the school due to lock-down for the first two weeks of the second term, with the possibility of a longer period, has a significant impact on teaching and learning in the following ways:

- Lost teaching time
- Lost assessment time
- Less revision times
- Academic momentum is lost
- Rise in stress levels

I remind you of the first announcement where the President indicated that schools would start on 14 April, thus extending the 2nd term into the June/July holidays. Helderberg High School is still in support of this announcement and intends to formally commence teaching on Tuesday, 14 April. To date we have no indication when schools will resume.

As a school we are acting in a proactive manner. Our Educators have spent considerable time from home to successfully manage the uncharted waters of home-based learning.

The school has will continue with lessons via 2 platforms, WhatsApp groups and Microsoft Teams. These lessons will contain new work that we expect the learners to go through with guidance and monitoring from their parents and teachers.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR HOME-BASED LEARNING

Teachers will communicate via WhatsApp on class groups and will be teaching via both Whatsapp and Teams. Work will be shared with the children directly and they are expected to show self-discipline during this period of home-based study. We will follow the timetable which your child is already used to, attendance is compulsory and register will be taken. Copies of the timetables per Grade are available on www.helderberghs.co.za under the Documents tab

In order for your child to successfully receive these lessons, access to the internet is imperative.

PLATFORMS

Whatsapp : I have no doubt that every child at Helderberg High has access to Whatsapp and will thus be able to receive instructions from their educator, this will be the first port of call. Please can you ensure that your child has sufficient data on a daily basis.

Microsoft Teams : Email addresses have been created for all our learners as follows : a.banana@helderberghs.co.za (initial from first name.surname) For a brief look at the Teams environment use this link - <https://youtu.be/NEg2DIs9S58>

TRIAL RUN – 8 APRIL

As mentioned this will be a totally new experience and we recognise there may be teething problems. We therefore request each learner to be available on Wednesday, 8 April, as a trial run for the whole school day – following the Wednesday timetable. Parents, we encourage you to also be available to assist and monitor, our hope is that most of the problems or issues will be ironed out.

TUESDAY – 14 APRIL

Teaching will start with register period at 7:30 on Tuesday, 14 April, attendance is compulsory and parents whose children do not “appear” for class will be notified by Mrs Richards. The school day will end as usual at 14:00, break time will be given according to the timetable.

To each learner of Helderberg High School, we are taking your education very seriously and we strongly encourage you to do the same. We recognise this is not the ideal situation but we can successfully manage this together, please don't hesitate to ask for help from any of your educators.

Thank you for your support and cooperation in this matter.

AR BASSON
PRINCIPAL