

P rospectus 2016



Matshwane Primary School
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Botswana

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GENERAL

Parents/Guardians transferring their children from another school into any standard within the school must bring the relevant documents, including school reports, birth certificates, transfer and medical cards. Matshwane reserves the right to waive these procedures in special circumstances. All children entering Grade 00 to Std 7 are assessed and recommendations are discussed with the parents/guardians. All nationalities, religious backgrounds and languages are welcome and great care is taken to assist children to settle in quickly and happily.

SCHOOL DISCIPLINE

Matshwane seeks to establish a tradition of hard work, good behaviour and neat appearance. It is our belief that fair and reasonable discipline is an essential part of education and leads, at all times, to the child developing self-discipline and self-motivation. We instill in our children the ethos of respect for themselves, each other, their school and the community. In essence, children need to be good ambassadors for the school.

SCHOOL FEES – 2016

Registration Fee: P 250.00 (once-off payment)
Development Fee: P 2 200.00 (once-off payment can be paid over an agreed extended period)

Description	Per Term	Per Year	Nine Month Instalment
Grade 00	P3 755.00	P11 265.00	P1 252.00
Pre-School	P5 306 .00	P15 918.00	P1 769.00
Primary School	P8 246.00	P24 738 .00	P2 749.00

All school fees are payable at the beginning of each term. Fees are all inclusive and there is no book fee. Children in Grade 00 and Grade 0 are provided with the majority of stationery. All children are provided with books and art materials at no extra charge. Children are also supplied with their first book bag to carry Library Books and their Class Readers.

MATSHWANE TODAY

The school offers a diverse curriculum that is child-centered and outcome-based, enabling the children to realize their own potential within and without the classroom. The curriculum is based on the Botswana curriculum and draws on various other curriculums for extension work. This is to ensure that the highest International standard is achieved, enabling the learners to excel in any school of their choice/new environment.

Each child is regarded as an individual with different skills and needs. Our committed and dynamic staff strives to keep abreast with current educational trends.

LEARNING AREAS

- Mathematics
- English
- Setswana: First Language and Communicative Language (non-Setswana Speakers)
- Social Studies
- Science & Biology
- Agriculture
- Moral and Religious Education
- Information Technology
- Art/Design & Technology
- Music
- Physical Education
- Life Skills

ASSESSMENT

Continuous individual and group assessment is used at Matshwane. While it is important that the learner is being prepared to sit for “formal examinations”, they are assessed on a continuous basis, using a variety of methods. The standard of work and assessment is in line with other private schools of Botswana. It is also in line with schools in South Africa and children in general have no problems adapting to the curriculum of their high school of choice. The Std 7 Children write the stipulated Botswana Primary School Examinations (PSLE).

This examination includes English and Setswana Creative Writing Papers (First Language only), Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, English, Setswana, Moral and Religious Education and Agriculture written in October. This examination is written by all Standard 7 pupils, even though it is only prescribed for children who will attend a Botswana government school. However, the PSLE is not the main focus in the Matshwane Curriculum. We offer this examination to enable all children, citizen and non-citizen, to attend the high school of their choice.

OUR ENVIRONMENT

Matshwane Primary School is situated on the outskirts of a growing village, Maun, the gateway to the world-renowned Okavango Delta. It is located in the remote northern part of Botswana, 500 km away from the nearest main center.

The frontier village of Maun, meaning “place of reeds”, bustles with goats and donkeys, donkey carts, graceful Herero woman and a variety of different nationalities and cultures that settled here. Although still developing, Maun provides tourists with a variety of places to stay and wilderness lodges to visit. Here it is a mixture of new and developed technology, dominated by the many mud huts of yesteryear. It is still possible to hear the hippos grunting in the Thamalakane River, or silent elephants having left their tracks behind.

The very existence of this unique village is that it borders the Okavango. A water system that originates in the mystic Angolan Highlands and meanders until panning out into the dry Kalahari Sands where it eventually disappears into the earth. This amazing system is the home to an abundance of wildlife that has attracted interesting and interested people for centuries.

It is a perfect environment in which to raise children, away from the influences and pressures of city life, yet, equipping them with the necessary skills to thrive in the changing world.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Matshwane Primary School was started in 1981 as a composite class by Mervyn Palmer. Due to the increasing population and parents not wanting to send their children away, Mervyn opened Matshwane, (meaning “Honey Badger”). This had humble beginnings in a small home on her property, still known as the ‘School House’. As the enrolment grew, and several moves later, it finally took ownership of its present location in 1993.

It has continued to grow and caters for children from a variety of ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds, thereby equipping them to thrive in any secondary educational system.

Matshwane is an English-Medium, Independent, Co-Educational School, catering for learners from Grade 00 (4 year olds) to Standard Seven. It is a proud member of the Conference of Heads of Private Schools in Botswana.

UNIFORM – STD 1 - 7

The girl’s uniform consists of a blue and white dress, obtainable from the school, black shoes with ankle high white socks or brown or black sandals. The boy’s uniform consists of khaki shorts and shirt, obtainable from the school, with Matshwane badge on the left pocket, black shoes with grey socks or brown or black sandals.

Navy blue hat/cap with Matshwane badge is a compulsory item of our uniform. During winter children may wear the regulation Matshwane tracksuit or navy blue jersey.

During sporting activities, children are required to wear regulation blue sports shirt with Matshwane badge, navy blue shorts with white socks, track shoes, regulation hat/cap and dark blue speedo type costume and cap for swimming. Hair needs to be clean and neat, away from the eyes and no unusual styles will be permitted.

No jewellery is permitted, except for sleepers or studs for girls with pierced ears.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The school believes in the concept of a healthy body, a healthy mind and encourages each child to participate in at least one sport and club activity. The Standard 1 children start participating in activities during the third term. The following choices are offered:

Summer	Winter	Summer & Winter
Swimming: Std 1-7	Soccer: Std 2-7	Culture Club:: Std 4-7
Squad Swimming: Competitive at a National Level	Netball: Std 2-7	Art Club: Std 4-7 Art Club: Std 1-3
Cricket: Std 1-7	Athletics: Std 2-7	Wildlife Club: Std 4-7
Rounders: Std 1-7	Ball Skills: Std 2-3	Bible School: Std 1-7
	Hockey: Std 4-7	Setswana: Std 3-7
		Tennis: Std 1-7
		Chess: Std 3-7

Co-curricular activities are dependent on staffing and may be subject to change.

THE ACADEMIC YEAR - 2016

The academic year is based on a three-term system and each term has at least one half-term break. The academic year consists of 180 compulsory school days.

Term One: 12th January – 8th April

Half Term: 26th February – 29th February

Easter Weekend: 25th March – 28th March

Term Two: 10th May – 5th August

Sir Seretse Khama Weekend: 1st July – 3rd July

President's Day & Public Holiday: 16th July – 19th July

Term Three: 6th September – 1st December

Botswana Day and Public Holiday: 30th September – 3rd October

Half Term: 28th October – 31st October

DAILY ROUTINE

The school day begins at 07:45 and ends at 12:30 for the Grade 00 and Pre-School (Grade 0) and 13:00 for the Primary School. The

school day is broken by a half hour break at 10:30. Grade 00 and Pre-School children have an additional break to cater for their needs. The first session of Co-Curricular Activities commences at 13:30 and ends at 14:30. The second session commences at 14:30 and ends at 15:30. The school office closes at 16:00.

ADMISSION PROCEDURE

All children are assessed before admission is allowed.

Our requirements are:

Grade 00:

A child must be four years old before 1 July of the year he/she starts.

Pre-School:

A child must be five years old before 1 July of the year he/she starts.

Standard One:

A child must be six years old before 1 July of the year he/she starts Standard One.

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR ENROLMENT

The following copies are required when you enrol your child:

1. Birth certificate.
2. Medical or immunisation card.
3. The last academic report and transfer card from the previous school, where applicable.

SCHOOL SONG

*Where the Okavango Delta meets the desert sands,
there our school, Matshwane, a world together, proudly stands.
'Neath the blazing sun we learn to be in all things bold and true,
our respect for other cultures this in all we say and do.*

*Sing Matshwane, Matshwane, your name aloud we sing,
for your name we will always pledge to strive in everything.
Sing Matshwane, Matshwane, our days of youthful play,
and where we go far and wide your spirit in our hearts will stay.*