



# **THE GOLDEN GROVE ADMISSION POLICY**

**Adopted by the Golden Grove School Governing Body  
on 19 February 2021**

## 1. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Policy, the following terms have the below meaning, unless otherwise stated:

**"Alumni"** means a person who at some stage was a pupil of GGPS;

**"Applicant"** or **"Child"** means any Learner who applies or intends to apply to GGPS for admission;

**"Budget Meeting"** means the annual general meeting convened by the SGB to vote on the budget for the year of admission for the Applicant;

**"Constitution"** means the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, Act No. 108 of 1996;

**"Education Legislation"** means the SASA, the National Policy Act and the WC Act;

**"GGPS"** means Golden Grove Primary and Pre-Primary School in Stuart Road, Rondebosch, Cape Town, being a public school with legal capacity as contemplated in chapter 3 of the SASA;

**"Head of Department"** means the Superintendent-General of the WCED;

**"Learner"** means any person receiving education or obliged to receive education in terms of the SASA, subject to any amendment of the term as defined in the SASA from time to time;

**"National Policy"** means the admission policy for learners to ordinary public schools issued by the Minister of Education in terms of section 3(4)(i) of the National Policy Act and as Notice No 2432 of 1998;

**"National Policy Act"** means the National Education Policy Act No. 27 of 1996;

**"PAJA"** means the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act No. 3 of 2000;

**"Parent"** means:

- (a) the biological or adoptive parent or legal guardian of a Learner,
- (b) the person legally entitled to custody of a Learner, or
- (c) the person who undertakes to fulfil the obligations of a person referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this definition towards the Learner's education at school,

subject to any amendment of the term as defined in the SASA from time to time;

2.2.7 Judgements of the Constitutional Court on the rights, powers and obligations of SGBs'.

2.3 This Policy:

2.3.1 regulates and clarifies the conditions of, the requirements for and the expectations attendant upon the admission of Applicants to GGPS;

2.3.2 seeks to ensure the correct and fair handling of applications, the lawful administration of Learner admission and registration, the commencement of effective teaching and learning on the first day of the school year, and the long-term maintenance of the special ethos and vision of GGPS; and

2.3.3 is subject to, and shall be read in conjunction with the Constitution and the Education Legislation, the provisions of which shall prevail to the extent of any conflict with the provisions of this Policy.

2.4 Whereas GGPS is a public school, the SGB:

2.4.1 acknowledges that it has been entrusted with a public resource which must be managed not only in the interests of Learners and Parents at the time, but also in the interests of the broader community in which the school is located, and in the light of the values of the Constitution;

2.4.2 commits to working in partnership with the Head of Department to find workable solutions to matters of disagreement, and to engage meaningfully and in good faith on any disputes, including disputes over this Policy and any decision on the basis thereof; and

2.4.3 agrees thereto that any such engagement will be directed towards furthering the interests of Learners, taking into account the best interests of the Child insofar as this does not impinge upon the rights or best interests of other children.

### **3. POLICY AIM**

3.1 It is the aim of GGPS to:

3.1.1 Provide an environment where race, gender, culture, religion and economic standing of the Learner and/or Parent are in no instances an impediment to his/her access to, or progress in, any aspect of school life.

3.1.2 Make provision during the enrolment process for applicants from variety of backgrounds.

3.1.3 Promote transformation in line with the Republic of South Africa's Constitution and eradicate such policies or practices which are unfairly discriminatory.

3.2 It is the policy of GGPS that:



enrolled. Consequently, no application will be accepted or regarded as being valid unless it is made by the parent(s) or legal guardian, or persons entrusted with the care of the minor learner by order of a competent court, or by a person authorised thereto, in writing, by one of the foregoing.

4.4 Where the number of applicants exceeds the number of available spaces in **GGPS, grade or class** for which application is made, applicants will be placed on the following basis, bearing in mind GGPS's policy on non-discrimination:

4.4.1 Whether placement at GGPS is considered by the school to be in the best interest of the Applicant concerned;

**NB!** The ability of the GGPS to provide adequately for the educational needs of the Applicant (including but not limited to the language needs and other special needs) will be regarded as part of the best interest of the Applicant, and will be considered before offering a place to the Applicant.

4.4.2 In accordance with the criteria listed in 5 below.

4.5 While no admissions test will be administered to Applicants, all Applicants and their parents/legal guardians will be expected to attend a meeting with the Principal and/or his/her representative. This meeting may be in the form of a face to face or virtual meeting.

4.6 A written response to every application received by the closing date will be forwarded to parents/legal guardians.

## 5. FACTORS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN CONSIDERING APPLICATIONS

5.1 In considering applications, the factors set out in clauses 5.2. to 5.11 below will be taken into account as far as reasonably possible, provided that:

5.1.1 The fulfilment of any one or more of the following provisions shall **NOT** guarantee admission; and

5.1.2 No particular factor shall prevail over any other to the exclusion of any other.

### 5.2 General expectations

In considering applications, a potential learner will be expected to:

5.2.1 Demonstrate that he/she will be able to cope academically with the specific demands of the grade, in the language of instruction;

5.2.2 Have successfully completed or been promoted out of the grade immediately below the grade in which the admission is sought, except that this requirement is not applicable to Applicants for entry into Grade R and/or Grade 1;



## **5.6 Language**

5.6.1 In terms of section 6(2) of the SASA, the SGB has determined GGPS's language policy as follows:

5.6.1.1 The language of learning and teaching is English; and

5.6.1.2 The first additional language is Afrikaans.

5.6.2 Preference will be given to an Applicant who is proficient in English or who demonstrates capacity to become proficient within a reasonable period of time, so as not to prejudice the Applicant's academic prospects.

## **5.7 The circumstances of the Applicant**

5.7.1 Admission must be considered to be in the best interests of the Applicant. Every application will be considered on its merits as determined by the Principal and in consultation with other professionals.

5.7.2 GGPS will consider admitting Applicants with special educational needs, where this is reasonably practical and is in the best interest of the Applicant and where GGPS believes it can fully support these needs.

5.7.3 The following will also be considered where an Applicant is seeking admission to grade 2 or a higher grade:

5.7.3.1 Whether the Applicant will benefit from the subjects, activities and facilities offered at GGPS;

5.7.3.2 Whether the Applicant shows academic, sporting, cultural, or musical potential or has other special talents that will contribute to the ethos of GGPS;

5.7.3.3 The Applicant's disciplinary record.

## **5.8 Age**

5.8.1 The Education Laws Amendment Act of 2003 provides that the admission age of a Learner to a public school for Grade R is four turning five by 30 June and for Grade 1 is five turning six by 30 June in the year of admission. However, GGPS's experience has been that it benefits children to enter Grade 1 in the year they turn seven. Children are therefore given preference for admission to:

5.8.1.1 Grade R, in the year that they turn six; and

5.8.1.2 Grade 1, in the year that they turn seven.

5.8.2 Applicants admitted to senior grades at GGPS must fall within two years of the average age within that grade cohort.

## **5.9 School zoning**

5.9.1 There is no formalised school zoning applicable to GGPS, but we will try to accommodate those whose Primary Residence is closest to the school.



- 6.1.6 Proof that the Applicant has been immunised against polio, measles, tuberculosis, diphtheria, tetanus and hepatitis B; and
- 6.1.7 Only where the Applicant is transferring from another public school, the WCED's designated transfer form (to be completed by the principal of the previous WCED school and handed to the Parent, or forwarded to the Principal of GGPS), provided that if the transfer card is not available, the Principal may admit the Applicant and place the Applicant in a grade on the basis of the original report from the previous school stating the grade to which the Applicant has progressed.
- 6.2 Parents who require assistance in completing the application forms may approach the school for assistance.
- 6.3 Save where one Parent is deceased, both Parents must indicate their agreement by signing the application form (**A certified copy of the death certificate of the deceased parent to be provided with the application**). In the case of divorced or separated parents, it is the responsibility of the Parent applying for application at GGPS to obtain a signed copy of the application form from the other Parent.

## 7. ADMISSION OF NON-CITIZENS

- 7.1 Children of parents who are not South African citizens will be considered for enrolment, subject to the relevant legal documentation being in order. Where relevant, English proficiency will be taken into consideration.
- 7.2 Depending on the category of immigration status, certified copies of the following documents need to be submitted at the time of application, in addition to the documentation specified in clause 6.1 above:
- 7.2.1 Temporary or permanent permit for residence issued to the Parents by the Department of Home Affairs; or
- 7.2.2 A study permit issued by the Department of Home Affairs to the Applicant or the Applicant's Parents; or
- 7.2.3 In the case of persons classified as illegal aliens/immigrants, evidence must be given that they have applied to the Department of Home Affairs to legalise their stay in the country in terms of the Immigration Act 13 of 2002 or the Refugees Act 130 of 1998 ("the Refugees Act"); or
- 7.2.4 In the case of refugees, such persons are advised to register with the Centre for Refugees in terms of the Refugees Act.

## 8. INCOMPLETE OR IRREGULAR APPLICATIONS

- 8.1 An application will be rendered null and void if:



14.5 the headings and subheadings in this Policy are for convenience only and are not to be taken into account for the purposes of interpreting it; and

14.6 words and expressions defined in the Education Legislation but which are not defined in this Policy shall bear the same meaning in this Policy as those ascribed to them in the Education legislation.

Acceptance of this policy:

Adopted at CAPE TOWN on this 19<sup>th</sup> day of FEBRUARY 2021

Signed:  \_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson of SGB

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Principal



School Stamp