

# Petra College

Prospectus



Come and be part of our story





Loving Learning





Forming
Character



Radically Inclusive





Stepping
Into Tomorrow





#### Welcome to

## Petra College

We are an inclusive Christian co-educational day school for 4-18 year olds following the Cambridge International Curriculum from Grade 1 to A Level. As part of our strong belief in educating the whole child, we offer a range of diverse extra-curricular activities throughout the College and some vocational programmes at the senior level.

Situated in Bulawayo, the City of Kings, we are nestled in the suburbs with easy access to both the city centre and the national heritage sites that surround us.

Our Christian foundations inform our motto 'On this Rock,' signifying our belief and ethos as well as being a nod to our proximity to the mighty Matobo National Park.





# Heads'

"As we focus on 'learning for tomorrow,' I continue to be excited and impressed by the individual successes and achievements of our remarkable young people. Please come and visit so we can share the Petra story with you."

Heather Wells, Principal

"It is a privilege to be part of a community that learns, laughs and shares together as family members who value each others' unique gifts from the moment they join Petra."

Magura Mhaka, Headmaster, Petra College Junior



# Welcome

Petra College is committed to 'Learning for Tomorrow.' Our aim is to nurture and empower whilst ensuring school is a place of fun, security and community. Our distinctives are focused on the uniqueness of individuals and their need for a holistic educational experience that both stretches and supports. All of this we aim to deliver in an environment that promotes purpose and passion whilst embracing both challenge and opportunity.

"I am proud to be part of a welcoming school community that aims to live out our Christian faith. We strive to create a place where young women and men can develop and flourish."

Robert Aldridge, Headmaster, Petra College Senior



#### Stepping into Tomorrow

Petra creates a platform to help build within each child and teen a strong, respectful and upstanding character they will take with them into their adult life.

Being an ex-student, I look at the people I know from the past, in my class or above or below me, that I am in touch with, and they are all well-respected adults. They are strong, confident and upstanding in society. Even if they don't have 'important' jobs, their characters make them socially influential. I put this down to their Petra foundations.

Michelle Sant, Petra alumni and current parent





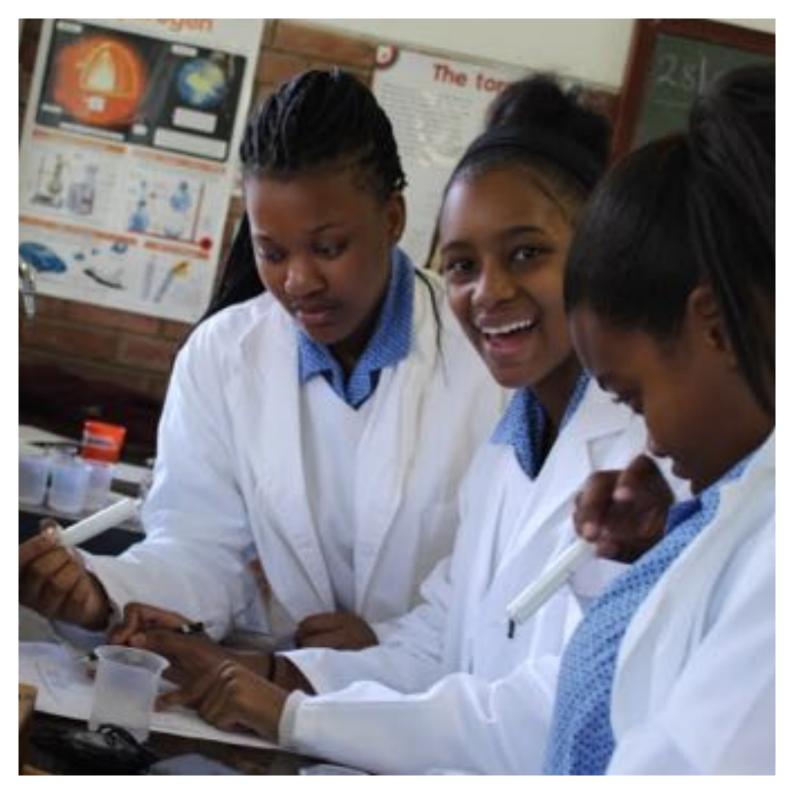












### Confidence, Compassion, Creativity

For me, Petra was, and is, the school that, whilst committed to academic excellence, appreciates the fact that the whole pupil is more than only their mind, and consequently lays the foundation for one's social, mental, physical and spiritual well-being, allowing students to hone their own skills in various areas of life, with a sound blueprint established 'on this rock', the foundation of Petra.

I recall vividly the unfolding of my first interview in the corporate world. The partner of the firm looked at nearly 100 prospective employees, and said, "Your academic excellence has gotten you this far, but now we want to see what makes you different, what makes you a cut above the rest." For me, having had the opportunity to hone my own gifts at Petra, meant that I was uniquely positioned to know my selling point, and thus, take one step forward ahead of my contemporaries.

So I do honestly believe the principles taught, and general life experienced at Petra, allow not only for an enjoyable and memorable school experience, but indeed set you in good stead to continue to release your potential, long after you've exited the Petra gates, because Petra itself, will have left an indelible mark on you.

Terry Nesu Kandiado, Petra College pupil 2011-2015

My biggest takeaway from Petra and the thing I love about it the most was that in my case it allowed me to become the person I want to be, in the sense of me wanting to do something so radically different from what most people do in Bulawayo or Zimbabwe. The school allowed me the freedom to develop, work on and grow that.



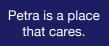
Daniel Lasker, Petra College pupil 2012-17











Kath Simpson, Parent









# Forming Character

My schooling began at Petra Junior. Being in a co-ed school taught me how to integrate well and relate with everyone and believe in equal opportunity, as well as the idea that there's also enough sunshine for everybody. The inter house activities and assemblies gave the school a family feel, healthy competition and good school and team spirit which taught me the fundamentals of teamwork and support from a very young age.

In high school I had the opportunity to go on a Rotary Youth Exchange programme to France. Often when I shared stories about my school and explained how my day at school typically unfolded, the activities we did as a school such as devotions or prize giving, and the extra curricular activities, everyone was envious of how united the school seemed and wished their school system was like mine. I had never realised what an amazing opportunity being at Petra was until I started hearing about other schools where students barely knew their classmates' names because they never had the opportunity to interact. Petra made it possible to know everyone in your stream and many others through clubs and sports. It was easy to make friends.

Ivonne Meares, Petra College pupil 2003-16





# Learning for Life

I think the one thing that stood out for me in making Petra different is that it embraces and encourages individuality. Petra accepts and encourages everyone, no matter how you look, what you are good at, what you are capable of. You are accepted as part of the family.

Adulthood and the world out there is dynamic. A school can't fully prepare a child for every adult experience but they definitely assist. Petra does this by instilling principles of honesty and integrity, putting others before yourself, accepting those who are different from you. These simple but solid principles are set as a foundation upon which one in adulthood can build. I feel these are the things that have helped me in my life after school.

Success in anything is all about mindset, whether it is in sport or academics.

Ashleigh Fredericks, Petra College pupil 2006-18







Our children learn to deal with, tolerate and help those who may not fit into the 'normal' mould that the world dictates.

Nadine Stephens, Parent



"I was very uncertain whether Petra Senior was the right choice for us. At the open day, I decided to focus on individually asking current Petra pupils about their experience. I was surprised by the overwhelmingly positive response, how happy they all were at Petra. Fast forward twelve years and all four of our children have gone through Petra College Senior. Each one of them will tell you that Petra was indeed a very happy place for them where they flourished."

Helene Stambolie, Parent



Petra has the best scenery, great learning environment and lovely Christian community.

Takudzwa Muziri, Grade 5

Co-education gives the school balance it mellows aggressive competitiveness.

Christina Gillott, Parent







The teachers are kind and gentle and know what's best for their children.

Lily Sant, Grade 4





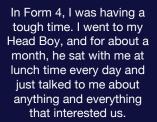
Petra provides a caring, God-centered environment

Mike Sullivan, Parent



I personally love the professionalism shown by the teachers at Petra. We have had the most wonderful teachers thus far.

Thembi Sibanda, Parent



U6 Student



Petra is unique in being radically inclusive.

Mpi Ndebele, Parent





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