



## Welcome to Capriccio! Arts Powered Preparatory in 2022

Thank you for your interest in our preparatory. We offer a warm and inviting, family-like learning environment, in keeping with Maria Montessori's "Casa dei Bambini" concept.

### ABOUT CAPRICCIO! ARTS POWERED PREPARATORY

Capriccio! Arts Powered Preparatory is an arts-powered, inspiring learning environment that offers learners a holistic and creative educational experience. Our innovative arts infused approach to primary education is specifically designed to provide learners with an enriched curriculum, incorporating elements of Montessori, Waldorf, and Reggio Emilia into the CAPS curriculum (the official national curriculum prescribed by the Department of Basic Education, which oversees primary and secondary education in South Africa), against the backdrop of our Christian ethos.

Capriccio! Arts Powered Preparatory came to life as a response to requests from parents of learners at our established Capriccio! Arts Powered Pre-school for an extension of our unique, arts powered curriculum into foundation phase education. In 2019, we accommodated our first, small group of Grade 1 learners and our preparatory now caters for Grade R to Grade 3 learners.

### OUR PHILOSOPHY

"Logic will get you from A to B. Imagination will take you everywhere." – Albert Einstein

At *Capriccio! Arts Powered Preparatory*, we believe that education should be experienced as an enjoyable, inspiring adventure - It should provide children with a safe space and a sense of belonging in which to truly explore their creative potential in its widest sense. In the process, their curiosity should awaken naturally, gently propelling them forward to want to know more, instilling in them a life-long love of learning.

With many well-researched models of education available, we believe that it makes sense to integrate different elements that best serve our children's educational interests in modern times.

True to our arts-powered roots, we are passionate about the *power of art education* in all its forms, namely music, dance, drama, and visual art.

- We believe in art as a powerful means of learning, a premise we like to describe as *arts-driven learning*. Art for the young child is seen as a pivotal mode of uninhibited self-expression. It creates a sense of wonder and amazement and in essence forms part of what makes us uniquely human. The various forms of art have an infinite capacity to affect brain and body and act as a unifying force, a vehicle by which important cognitive, physical, emotional, and social skills can be developed and integrated in young children.
- We believe that children possess an innate property for appreciation and enjoyment of the arts – it goes beyond verbal language and enables children to communicate feelings that might not otherwise be expressed. A child's individual uniqueness is brought to the fore which in turn fosters a positive self-concept.

## OUR CURRICULUM

To ensure that our learners stay on track with the South African schooling system and remain well on their way to obtaining the National Senior Certificate (NSC) in Grade 12, we follow CAPS as our core curriculum and facilitate relevant CAPS aligned assessments. We do not believe in exposing learners at this tender age to the pressure of unnecessary tests, as we believe that primary school children benefit greatly from having time to play and socialize with family and friends.

*"I believe that creativity will be the currency of the 21st century." – Gerald Gordon, Ph.D., President/CEO, Fairfax County (Virginia) Economic Development Authority*

- **Emphasis is placed on the following skills which is in keeping with current global educational trends:**

- **CRITICAL THINKING AND PROBLEM SOLVING**

We teach our learners to ask questions and think for themselves.

- **COLLABORATION AND LEADING BY INFLUENCE**

We endeavour to instill in each child the value of being a good team player, to know their own strengths and talents – This enhances the learning environment and encourages co-operative and independent learning.

- **INITIATIVE AND ENTREPRENEURIALISM**

Children are inspired to become creators and change-makers. We provide them with the tools necessary to utilize their individual abilities and to eventually use them to meet economic opportunities.

- **GOOD ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATION**

We provide our children with a platform to convey their ideas and emotions clearly and concisely – encouraging global awareness, and confidence for public speaking.

### Core curriculum (CAPS):

- *Language*: development of reading, writing, comprehension and oral communication skills
- *Mathematics*: development of numeracy skills
- *Life Skills*: in accordance with CAPS, the intellectual, emotional, physical and social development of our learners are nurtured through our own specialized curriculum modules, with pertinent focus on instilling values and building emotional intelligence and resilience in our learners.

Along with CAPS Language, Mathematics and Life Skills, the *Montessori* starting point for all courses of the Cultural Curriculum is followed, which involves the *Five Great Lessons* as a framework. The curriculum seeks to develop in the child a sense of the connectedness of things, to understand that:

- We all share the sacredness of life
- We all belong to groups and institutions
- We all place ourselves in time and space
- We are an inseparable part of nature
- We are all engaged in producing and consuming
- We all seek to live with purpose

Our *Christian ethos* provides a consistent foundation upon which is built to instill family values - Practical lessons from the Bible form part of equipping our learners for a meaningful life.

*Technology* is integrated under supervision of teachers without it becoming overly prominent.

Promoting *health and fitness* as a life-long priority to maintain a balanced lifestyle, is a further important aspect addressed in our approach. We encourage physical fitness and the development of sport skills through our physical education programme.

## DAILY SCHEDULE

- Arrival time: 7.30 - 7.50, to commence at 8am.
- Afternoon collection time: 1.50pm.
- Afternoon care is available (additional cost applies) until 4.45pm.

## EXTRA-MURAL LESSONS

We offer a selection of optional extra-mural lessons at our school in the afternoons. Further information is available on request.

## CALENDAR

Our annual calendar is based on four school quarters as advised towards the end of the previous school year. Though the school (including aftercare) is closed during the school holidays and on public holidays, we offer an optional holiday club at a nominal fee, during a portion of the school holidays. School closes earlier on the last day of term (no aftercare).

## SNACKS & LUNCH

Learners bring their own, healthy mid-morning snacks and packed light lunch in a clearly labelled lunch box. Should they be attending afternoon care, they provide their own healthy afternoon snacks.

## PARENT COMMUNICATION & FEEDBACK REPORTS

We place a high premium on synergy between the learning and home environment as conducive to the well-being of each of our learners.

We communicate with parents via email, WhatsApp and ChildCloud communicator and encourage all to stay in tune with the latest news and activities via our social media platforms:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/caprischools/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/caprischools/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ArtsPowered>

We also provide a regular parent newsletter and facilitate quarterly progress reports.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

- *Once-off, non-refundable enrolment fee:* R4,500 (not applicable to learners who completed one or more pre-school years at Capriccio! Arts Powered Pre-school). Kindly note that this does not include educational supplies.
- *Fees:* billed annually based on four academic terms; subject to annual escalation, as advised at the end of each academic year for the following year.  
*2021 fees:* R48,000 per annum payable monthly in advance in 12 instalments of R4,000 each (January to December), kindly due on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of each month.
- *2021 Afternoon care fees - (optional; subject to annual escalation):*
  - a. 5-days per week option: R18,000 per annum payable monthly in advance in 12 monthly instalments of R1,500 each (January to December), kindly due on the first day of each month.
  - b. 3-days per week option: R15,600 per annum payable monthly in advance in 12 monthly instalments of R1,300 each (January to December), kindly due on the first day of each month.
- *Annual educational supplies fee (subject to annual escalation):*  
R2,000 payable for the first year upon enrolment, covering class stationery, books, art materials, ingredients towards specific projects, exercise books, workbooks and other educational supplies.

Information with regard to selected hygiene/household items to be supplied per learner twice a year, will be provided in our Parent Information letter.

Should a learner be absent from attending for any period of time, all fees due for that period will continue to be payable. In the case of a learner's discontinued attendance, advance written notice of one complete academic quarter (3 months) is required.

## ENROLMENT PROCESS

Capriccio! Arts Powered Preparatory is an education facility registered with the WCED as a primary school offering Foundation Phase education. Parents enroll their children by completing the relevant application form. Once the application for enrolment has been accepted, the once-off enrolment fee is due.

We look forward to sharing this exciting educational adventure with you and your child.

Feel free to contact us should you have any questions.

Kind regards,

*Rosina Lee-Warden (principal)*

## CAPRICCIO! PRIVATE SCHOOL

### Incorporating:

Capriccio! Arts Powered Pre-school Reg. no: 13/1/4 H2379

Capriccio! Arts Powered Preparatory Reg. no: 0100000692

Tel: (021) 551-7008

Email: [principal@caprischools.co.za](mailto:principal@caprischools.co.za)

Website: [www.caprischools.co.za](http://www.caprischools.co.za)