CAPRICCIO
Private School

Welcome to Capriccio Arts Powered Preparatory in 2027

Thank you for your interest in our preparatory school. We offer a warm and inviting, family-like learning community, 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 creativity-centred 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 long-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 learners from Grade R to Grade 3.

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 - providing 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 cultivating creativity in children and harnessing 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, 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 instil 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, individual expression 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 specialised curriculum modules, with pertinent focus on instilling values and building emotional intelligence and resilience in our learners.
- → *Coding & Robotics:* Our interactive coding and robotics programme guides and prepares learners to solve problems, think critically, work collaboratively and creatively, and function in a digital and information-driven world. The programme is delivered by RoboKidzCT and covers robotics building and early programming, utilising cutting-edge technology and child-friendly devices supplied for this purpose. Weekly lessons are 45 min - 1 hour in duration.

Along with CAPS Language, Mathematics, Life Skills & Robotics, 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 instil family values - Practical lessons from the Bible form part of equipping our learners for a meaningful life.

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: 7.45, to commence at 8am (earlier drop-off available free of charge).
- Afternoon collection time: 2pm.
- Afternoon care is available (additional cost applies) until 5pm (a late aftercare option until 5.30pm is available as a standing arrangement, at an additional fee).

EXTRA-MURAL LESSONS

We offer a selection of optional extra-mural lessons at our school in the afternoons, including ballet, hip hop, drama, Shift netball, karate and Tumbling Tigerz. Further information is available on request.

CALENDAR & HOLIDAY CLUB

Our annual calendar is based on four school quarters as advised at the end of the previous school year. Our school (and aftercare service) is closed during school holidays and on public holidays, however, we offer an optional Holiday Club (hours: 8h00 - 13h00) at a fee of R550 per week or portion thereof, during one week of the April, September and December school holidays, and two weeks of the July school holidays. Our school closes earlier (no aftercare offered) on the last day of term, and occasional special event days.

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 class broadcasts and our Kidscloud portal, 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/
TikTok: https://www.tiktok.com/@caprischools/

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

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Non-refundable, once-off enrolment fee payable upon notification of successful application: R5,950 per learner.

Fees are calculated annually based on four school quarters and subject to annual escalation. Enrolment of the learner at the School shall be ongoing from one school year and/or phase to the next, unless terminated as per the School's cancellation policy.

✓ *2027 Fees Outline:*

- *Private School Tuition fees*: R42,000 per annum payable monthly in advance, in 12 instalments of R3,500 each (Jan to Dec) due on the 1st day of each month.
    - Sibling discount: 10% per sibling may be granted, available on tuition fees only.
- *Enhanced Curriculum fees (compulsory for all learners)*: R12,000 per annum payable monthly in advance, in 12 instalments of R1,000 each (Jan to Dec) due on the 1st day of each month.
- *Annual educational supplies fee*:
    - R2,950 annually for preparatory learners
    - Payable upon enrolment, covering class stationery, art & sensory materials, exercise/art journals, other educational/ creative development supplies and textbooks/workbooks
    - Excludes hygiene supplies to be provided twice a year per learner.
- *Branded school shirts and sunhat:* R240 per item.

✓ *2027 Optional Services:*

- *Full Aftercare* (5-days per week, until 5pm): R18,000 per annum payable monthly in advance in 12 monthly instalments of R1,500 each (January to December), due on the first day of each month.
- *Late Aftercare* (5-days per week, until 5.30pm): R21,600 per annum payable monthly in advance in 12 monthly instalments of R1,800 each (January to December), due on the first day of each month.
- *Half Aftercare* (5-days per week, until 3pm): R14,400 per annum payable monthly in advance in 12 monthly instalments of R1,200 each (January to December), due on the first day of each month.
- *Early drop-off* (at 7.20): free, provided it is arranged with the principal in writing, in advance.
- *Holiday Club* (8.00 - 13.00; one or two weeks per holiday): R550 per week or part thereof, payable before commencement of the service.
- *Extra-mural lessons*: refer to the School's Extra-mural Information (available on request).

Should a learner be absent from attending school 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. In the case of aftercare and extramural option amendments, the parent must provide one month's advance notice via email.

Kindly refer to our school's Financial Information for further important policies and procedures in this regard.

ENROLMENT PROCESS

Capriccio Arts Powered Preparatory is an education facility registered with the WCED as a primary school offering Foundation Phase education. The completed application form (or waiting list application form, if applicable) and relevant supporting documents as listed, to be presented to the principal. One or more observation days at school may be set up at a nominal fee, which will form part of the application procedure. In case of a waiting list application, the learner and parent(s)/guardian may be invited to an interview at the School, to finalise the application.

Should the application be successful, you will be advised via email communication, at which point the enrolment fee becomes due and a contract comes into effect between the parents/guardian and Capriccio! Arts Powered Schools (and/or their duly authorised representative/s), as embodied in this signed agreement. Upon payment of the enrolment fee, your child will be successfully enrolled and his/her place at the School is guaranteed.

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)

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