CAPRICCIO
Private School

Welcome to Capriccio Arts Powered Pre-school in 2027

Thank you for your interest in our school – a creative, inspiring, fun-filled "Casa dei Bambini" family designed and developed during our 14 years of operation, to serve the cognitive, emotional, physical, social and artistic actualisation of boys and girls aged 15 months – Grade 3.

The Italian word *Capriccio* has the following meaning:

- A lively piece of music, short and free in form;
- A painting or work of art representing a fantasy or a mixture of real and imaginary features.

Our school's name and the interpretation thereof ignited our innovative approach to early childhood development, which sets ablaze the profound benefits of arts-infused, creativity-centred learning in pre- and primary education.

- We encourage children to develop a passion for the arts as they tune in to their own creative processes in the fleeting early years of life, providing an essential outlet for the expressive needs of the individual and a platform to construct age-relevant developmental abilities. This process fosters essential skills to equip them with the advantage to excel in other areas such as mathematics, languages, and science later on in life.
- We maintain an effective balance between right- and left brain stimulation, ensuring whole-brain development and the integration of key growth milestones, during the limited time window when it matters the most - from birth to six years.

OUR PHILOSOPHY

"I believe that creativity will be the currency of the 21st century."

– Gerald Gordon, Ph.D., President/CEO, Fairfax County (Virginia) Economic Development Authority

At *Capriccio Private School*, we are passionate about cultivating creativity in children. Having the ability to comfortably and effectively call on creative processes such as critical thinking, problem-solving, collaboration and initiative, is an essential skill in preparing our little ones for life and the potential challenges of an unknown future.

- We believe in art as a powerful means of learning, a premise we like to describe as *arts-powered education*. 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 – a deep desire to explore and express themselves through *arts-infused learning*, which yearning needs to be fulfilled in order for them to progress, self-actualize and foster healthy self-esteem.
- We believe that the integration of the arts is profound in providing well-rounded, balanced education and essential for developing healthy, functioning communities.

We are a registered *ECD Independent School offering Grade R* (Western Cape Education Department Reg. no. 13/1/4/H2379), inspired by the Montessori philosophy and Reggio Emilia. Focusing on following the child within a nurturing community and prepared environments, we recognize the individual's ability to contribute through inquiry-based learning. We enable our learners to progress at their own pace, in tune with their natural rhythms of development. The traditional Montessori areas of learning, namely practical life, education of the senses, literacy, numeracy & arithmetic, knowledge & understanding of the world, creativity, and outdoor learning, are integrated into our methodology in a modern-day manner. We offer a loving home community, in keeping with Maria Montessori's "Children's House" concept.

Elements of *Waldorf education* are evident as we recognise that the pre-schooler is stimulated and nurtured through creative play and imitation. The inner experiences of awe and wonder are awakened amidst a daily structure of purposeful routine. Our teachers are caring guides who endeavour to accompany the children on an inspiring individual and group journey that is truthful, good and beautiful.

The relevant and sensible integration of fast-advancing technologies is an important aspect at the forefront of the current educational sphere - Our approach allows for a gentle introduction to Coding & Robotics at around age 5, while continuing to emphasise a balanced lifestyle that nurtures overall wellness, encompassing physical, social and emotional well-being.

Capriccio Arts Powered Pre-school provides a loving, fun-filled, all-round inspiring community for little ones aged 15 months - 6 years. Functioning from within our Christian ethos, we foster family values, freedom to flourish and an affinity for the finer things in life. We arm each child with creative thinking and collaboration skills from a young age, and smile upon our unique little masterpieces as they courageously step into the future with confidence and vigour!

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

OUR CURRICULUM:

Our unique, well-rounded and creativity-boosting curriculum sets the stage for emerging symbolic and creative thinking, and the ability to listen attentively. Based on findings by acclaimed authors of works pertaining to child psychology, early childhood education, neurology and brain development, our school's own practical experience of being in operation for 14 years, and ongoing early childhood development research, it develops children holistically and instills advanced literacy, numeracy and life skills.

Our school week makes provision for a unique blend of elements and materials of various educational methods and philosophies to be delivered and integrated within the context of a relevant theme.

1. MONTESSORI-INSPIRED CONTENT:

- ✓ ***Practical Life***: Activities aimed at helping children develop skills which may assist them to become independent, including manipulative skills, care for the environment, self-care and courtesy.
- ✓ ***Education of the Senses****:* Materials and activities focusing on a specific sensory aspect such as visual perception, taste, smell, sound, texture, shape, weight or temperature.
- ✓ ***Language & Literacy:*** Activities to support emerging literacy include reading, story-telling and exposure to materials promoting writing and reading skills.
- ✓ ***Numeracy & Arithmetic***: Materials and activities introducing the mathematical concepts of matching, pairing, sorting and sequencing, as well as estimation, symmetry and one-to-one correspondence, promoting logical systematic work.
- ✓ ***Knowledge & Understanding of the World***: Materials and activities introducing children to geography, history, nature and culture studies.

2. CAPRICCIO'S ENHANCED CURRICULUM PROGRAMMES:

- *OKeyDoKids:* Our fun-filled music programme encompasses elements of music and sound and is delivered during a weekly group session, incorporating percussion instruments and singing, kindling a love for music, verse and literature.
- *DemiDance:* Our exciting dance and creative movement programme, drawing inspiration from various genres of dance, is delivered during a weekly age relevant session and nurtures a love for dance, movement, rhythm and creative expression.
- *ArtXpress:* Our visual arts programme focuses on the creative journey. It aims to promote innovation, creative self-expression and a study of contemporary and historical artists. It is presented in age appropriate group sessions giving the young artist an opportunity to take creative risks and learn from the journey.
- *Plot 'n Play:* Our colourful Musical Theatre programme, presented weekly, focuses on basic theatre and performance skills, building a strong foundation for clear and confident speech and fostering confidence and imagination in the young child.
- *Fundamental Kinderkinetics:* Aimed at stimulating, promoting and rectifying neuro-motor and physical milestones relevant to age and developmental stage, this specialist programme delivered by a qualified Kinderkineticist with an Honours degree, lays a strong foundation for holistic school readiness and the fundamentals of sport. It is presented weekly in a small-group, engaging activity session, followed by weekly feedback and a unique set of exercises to perform at school and at home. Developmental feedback reports are provided by our Kinderkineticist twice a year. Should a referral be required, the services of an occupational therapist is available on the school premises.
- *RobokidzCT (included for Grade R; Grade RR may enrol for extramural option):* 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. This all-encompassing programme is delivered by *RoboKidzCT* and covers robotics building and early programming, utilizing equipment and child-friendly devices supplied by them. Weekly lessons are 45 minutes in duration.
- *Tiny Chefs:* Inspiring our younger generation to cultivate a passion for creativity in the kitchen, healthy eating and good lifestyle habits.
- *Little Green Hearts:* Our "going green" programme instills love, respect and compassion in our children for nature, plants, animals, the environment and our planet.
- *STEM:* Our STEM programme sparks curiosity through hands-on, inquiry-based learning, nurturing critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving while building early design and engineering skills. It equips learners with the confidence and adaptability needed for future-focused fields like AI, robotics, and environmental science.
- *U & Me:* Our U & Me programme is designed to develop a proficient intrinsic and interpersonal skill set that grounds young children mentally as well as spiritually, enabling them to build habits and master techniques to conquer the challenges of everyday life, building positive self-esteem, raising emotional intelligence (EQ) and promoting intuitive and competent communication.

We offer daily opportunities (weather permitting) for free outdoor play, when our little learners enjoy the fresh air, navigating the jungle gym, sandpit, playhouse, monkey bars, trampoline, soft play equipment, outdoor toys, gross motor track, and spontaneous games on the open astro lawn.

During their daily purposeful play & learn sessions in class, little ones engage in a variety of planned, and age-appropriate educational activities, making use of a variety of didactic materials.

We view the pre-school window as a continuous cycle in which school readiness is developed within the guidelines of the National Curriculum Framework (NCF). Our unique, fun-filled WCED-registered Grade R curriculum is arts-infused and CAPS aligned, incorporating a unique blend of innovative curriculum resources. Upon graduating, our learners receive a beautiful Grade R certificate.

DAILY SCHEDULE:

Our school is open on weekdays (Monday to Friday) from **7h30 – 17h30**. (Earlier drop-off at 7h20 can be arranged with the principal at no extra charge.) Grade R's arrive by 8h00; Senior Pre-schoolers arrive by 8h15 and Junior Pre-schoolers arrive by 8h30. Home-time is staggered for our different phases - **Collection times: 12h30 (Pre-school Juniors), 12h45 (Pre-school Seniors), 13h00 (Grade R)**. *Afternoon care* closes at **17h30.**

EXTRA-MURAL ACTIVITIES:

We offer a selection of optional extra-mural lessons in the afternoons, including ballet, hip hop, drama, Shift netball, karate and Tumbling Tigerz. RoboKidzCT is available as a morning extra-mural for Grade RR's. 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:

The children have breakfast at home before coming to school and to ensure they fill up on their own preference of nutritious foods, a well-stocked, healthy lunchbox, as well as a clean bottle filled with fresh water, are brought to school daily. Provision to be made for a mid-morning snack and light lunch; aftercare learners bring additional healthy snacks along for the afternoon.

PARENT COMMUNICATION & FEEDBACK REPORTS:

We place a high premium on synergy between the school and home environments as conducive to the well-being of each of our little ones. Communication with parents include daily feedback via Google sheets (pre-schoolers), email, Kidscloud and WhatsApp; we also send a weekly broadcast on our class WhatsApp groups to keep parents in the loop. Stay in tune with the latest school news and activities by following us on social media:

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

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

TikTok: https://www.tiktok.com/@caprischools/

We provide regular parent feedback reports - two per annum (mid-year and end-of-year) for Junior Pre-school learners, and termly reports for Senior Pre-school and Grade R learners.

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 Pre-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*:
    - R2,450 annually for pre-school learners up to Grade RR
    - R2,750 annually for Grade R learners
    - Payable upon enrolment, covering class stationery, art & sensory materials, exercise/art journals, other educational/creative development supplies and Grade R textbooks/workbooks
    - Excludes hygiene supplies to be provided termly for Junior Pre-school learners and twice a year for Senior Pre-school and Grade R learners.
- *Branded school shirt 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).

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

For more information, feel free to contact us via email or telephonically.

Assuring you of our best attention at all times and looking forward to sharing a wonderful adventure with you and your little one.

Warm regards,

Elbe Webber (school owner)

WhatsApp: 081 271 0572

CAPRICCIO
Private School

Email: info@caprischools.co.za

Tel: (021) 551-7008

Website: www.caprischools.co.za