



SELLY PARK  
SECONDARY



# School Prospectus

## 2023



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## School Ethos

The School is a Roman Catholic School, which accepts learners of all denominations who are comfortable with the Roman Catholic ethos.

All learners attend and participate in Religious classes, assemblies and services, which form an integral part of school life.

## Catholic School

The following is a description of a Catholic School as laid down in a document signed by the owners of Catholic Schools and the Department of Education. It complies with the provisions in the South African Schools Act of 1996.

A Catholic School is a school community,

- Recognised by the local Bishop
- Which through its general programme of education and especially its
- Religious Education classes and religious education practices,
- Exercises the right to live and learn the values of Jesus Christ
- As upheld by the Catholic Church.

Such a school provides this value-based education for the Catholic community as well as for those from the wider community who seek an education in harmony with the aims of the school.

## The Catholic School Aims

- To provide a challenging educational environment which integrates faith and culture;
- To promote the holistic growth of all learners;
- To give active witness to social concerns and care for others.



## Principal's address



At Selly Park we believe that excellence in education is aided by creating a learning environment in which all learners are supported in maximizing their potential and talents. Education needs to focus on personalized learning and instruction, while promoting an education system that is impartial, universally accessible, and meets the needs of all students.

All children deserve the opportunity to reach their full potential, to discover their unique voice and to contribute to the making of a better world. Education is the vehicle by which together, we can create a just society where all are valued, respected, and encouraged to be the best that they can be.

The ethos and philosophy of Selly Park is a belief in, and reverence for, the dignity of every person who is gifted, unique, talented and therefore worthy of respect. We state clearly our values and our understanding of humanity which is inspired by our belief in God, in the person of Jesus Christ and of his teachings in the Christian gospel.

We firmly believe that young people today, who are leaders of tomorrow, need moral and spiritual guidance. A truly holistic education must include all aspects of a child's development: spiritual, intellectual, physical and emotional.

All our students must be encouraged to be creative, critical and independent thinkers who are reflective, intellectually curious and passionate about learning. Education needs to ignite and inspire, empowering young people to develop and use their talents. We are confident that Selly Park with its passionate and committed staff is offering sound Catholic Education that is providing our learners with the ability to develop multifaceted skill sets in an increasingly unpredictable job market. We trust that our learners will become active, informed and responsible citizens in an ever-changing world.

As a Catholic school, the religious ethos remains our main concern. God must remain at the centre of everything we do and accomplish at Selly Park.

The Religious Education programme is therefore an integral part of the school curriculum. Prayer and worship are central to our Catholic School tradition and an essential part of the learners' development.

The religious ethos permeates throughout the whole life of the school. It re-enforces good morals and values within our learners and it also teaches them the importance of tolerance, acceptance and respect of everyone in our diverse school community. The family atmosphere of Selly Park engenders a sense of belonging, of security, of being valued and

cared for. Learners are encouraged, challenged and nurtured to become the persons God intends them to be.

Opportunities for spiritual development are available at Monday morning assemblies, attendance of Mass, Bible retreats, weekly prayer groups, the Rosary prayer groups, weekly Religious Education classes and the celebration of holy days.

We strongly believe that the religious character of the School is what sets Selly Park apart from an ordinary school. It is this religious character that teaches our learners a set of lived values and attitudes that can not only be seen in the class but also on the sports fields, in the learners' dealings with others and in the outreach undertaken by everyone at the school.

Selly Park Secondary School is registered with the Independent Examinations Board (IEB) and we enter our grade 9 and 12 learners for IEB external examinations. We are also registered with the Department of Education and our teaching is compliant with the National Curriculum. We are also accredited with Umalusi, the quality assurance body for education, in South Africa.

Communication with our parents is essential for us to maintain high academic standards. The school communicates with our parents via a school communicator. Each family will be required to upload the D6 communicator on a home computer, laptop or cell phone. All information pertaining to the school will be sent to parents through the communicator.

The school also has a daily SMS system which informs parents of their child's progress on a daily basis. Parents are invited to regular meetings to discuss any concerns they or the school might have. Our highly competent Phase Heads ensure that the learners are not only achieving the best academic results but they also ensure that the learners are emotionally secure. An Annual General Meeting is held once a year to inform parents about the school's progress through the year. It is required that all parents attend this meeting.

Should parents have any concerns they should feel free to contact the school and make an appointment with the principal, phase head or relevant staff member.

The school expects the highest standard of behaviour at all times. The school aims to enable pupils to grow in self-discipline and learn the right use of freedom. A positive attitude to discipline is encouraged. Sanctions are in place for breaches of school discipline. These include detention, Saturday detention and disciplinary hearings. The code of conduct will be followed for any misconduct at school. Parents will be notified if a Saturday detention or disciplinary hearing is imposed.

On entry to the school, pupils and parents are required to sign the code of conduct, policy for substance abuse and policy for cellular phones and electronic devices, expressing a willingness to uphold the School's Code of Conduct.

All forms of bullying, including cyber bullying, is never tolerated at Selly Park Secondary School. All incidents must be reported to a member of staff since it is important that all learners feel safe and happy in school. Parents are encouraged to report any incidents of bullying, of their child, to the Phase head.

It is school policy that all learners do homework in order to fulfil the requirements of the subjects studied. Teachers set homework appropriate to each subject and parents are

requested to ensure that all the homework is done. The amount of homework varies from grade to grade and from subject to subject.

In addition to the set curriculum, we run a number of educational workshops and intervention programmes for all our learners. These programmes are designed to support and prepare learners to meet the challenges of the future.

The school has outstanding teaching materials and resources. All our classes have interactive whiteboards with the Internet ensuring that our learners are exposed to the best teaching and learning strategies. We have three fully equipped computer laboratories, a food technology lab, four science and biology laboratories, a technology lab and an art lab. We also have a well-equipped media centre and remedial centres for maths and languages. Our learners are exposed to the best facilities available.

Although we at Selly Park are acutely aware of the importance of our learners achieving excellent academic achievements, we are also aware of the fact that a successful adult is versatile, committed and dedicated. We therefore encourage all our learners to also be active outside the classroom.

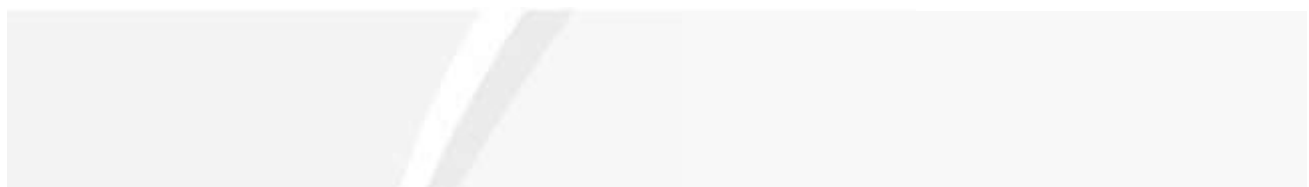
Sport and cultural activities show our learners the importance of teamwork. They teach them perseverance, commitment and loyalty. It also shows them that with hard work anything is possible.

A wide range of sport and cultural activities are offered to our learners both during the school day and after school hours. The activities include: athletics, swimming, hockey, netball, soccer, tennis, equestrian, golf, choir, UN debating, chess and public speaking. The school is involved in Community Service via the Selly Park Interact Club and the eco club known as Common Ground.

In conclusion I end with a quote from the Bishop's Pastoral Statement on education, "Our children are our treasure, our future and our responsibility. We are all one family and nothing can be more important to us than that they should have the love, security and freedom to become the caring and responsible adults that our country and continent so desperately need. God has entrusted them to us and we all have a role to play in their ongoing formation and progress..."

God Bless

*Heidi Lowe*







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## Vision Statement

*In Faith, Hope and Love, we strive for excellence.*



## School Motto

Omnibus Omnia

*"All things to all people"*



## Mission Statement

Selly Park Secondary School is a Catholic Independent School for girls and boys which exists primarily to assist parents in giving their children a sound Christian education based on the Catholic ethos. This should lead them to happy, fulfilled lives and help them to promote the common good of society and attain their eternal destiny.

The School aims:

- To promote an environment where all will experience Christian community living, feel personally valued and be helped to develop and celebrate a personal commitment to Christ.
- To provide a broad, balanced, relevant and coherent curriculum enabling each learner to discover and develop her/his full potential in the academic, sporting, aesthetic, spiritual and vocational dimensions.
- Develop in learners a reverence and responsibility for themselves, others and their environment, together with a deep appreciation for, and tolerance of diversity in our multicultural society.
- To enable learners to face the future with confidence in their personal qualities and achievements, be able to respond positively to the changing needs of society and able to adapt with ease and courage to the demands of family life, their faith community, the world of work and further education.







## General information

Name of School:	Selly Park Secondary School Old Johannesburg Road Waterfall Rustenburg 0300
Postal Address:	Post Net Suite 4821 Private Bag X82323 Rustenburg 0300
Telephone/ fax:	014 592 0284/5
E-mail:	spss_principal2@gwisa.com.
Website:	www.spss.org.za
Classification:	Independent Roman Catholic Secondary School
Principal:	Heidi Lowe
Deputy Principal:	Isaac Mathibe.
Examinations officer:	Mrs M. Hechter
Phase Heads:	Mr M. Matonana Mrs K. Ngwagwe
Heads of Departments:	
Mathematics:	Mr C. Muradzi
Science and Technology:	Mr M. Kalyepe
Languages and Art:	Mr M. Dunning
Commercial subjects:	Mrs M. Hechter
Diocese:	Rustenburg
Teaching Staff:	28
Support Staff:	14
Administrative Staff:	4
School hours:	7.15-14.05
Office Times:	7.30- 14.30



## School Prayer of Dedication

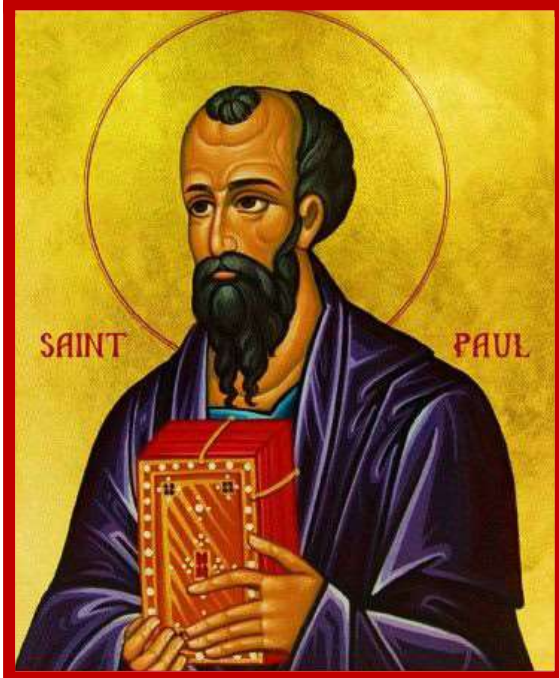
Lord Jesus, I give you my hands to do your work,  
I give you my feet to go your way.  
I give you my eyes to see as you do.  
I give you my tongue to speak your words.  
I give you my mind that you may think in me.  
I give you my spirit, that you may pray in me.  
Above all, I give you my heart,  
that you may love in me  
your Father and all mankind.  
I give you my whole self,  
that you may grow in me,  
so that it is you, Lord Jesus,  
who lives and works and prays in me.

Amen





## Hymn to Saint Paul



Great St. Paul our heavenly patron  
We sing your praise today.  
Great Apostle of the Gentiles,  
Oh hear us as we pray.

We are missionaries of Jesus  
With a message from above  
Having heard the Christian Gospel  
We must radiate God's love.

Your whole-hearted conversion  
So generous and so great  
Inspires a zealous longing  
To strive to imitate.

The noble heart that yielded  
To the light it once defied  
And went forth amongst the Gentiles  
To preach Christ crucified.

Though your labours now are ended  
Still we need you here below  
And we claim you as our patron  
Be our guide where're we go

You will lead us, we will follow  
In the path that once you trod  
You will teach us, we are temples  
Of the one true living God.



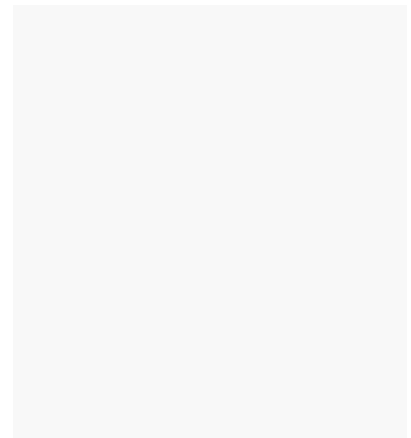
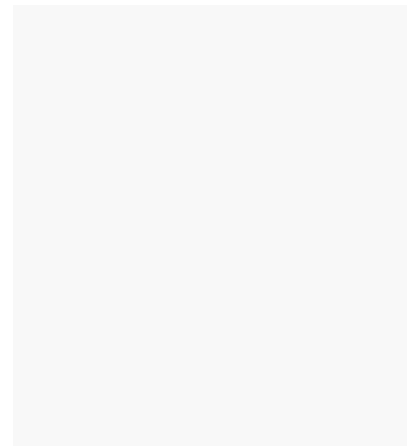
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## History of the school

In 1966 the Sisters of Charity of St. Paul established Selly Park Convent School on its present site, naming it after their mother house at Selly Park, Birmingham, England. The school included a high school, which closed in 1982. In recent years many parents requested the provision of secondary education. As a result, Selly Park Secondary School opened in January 1999, with grades 8 and 9, reaching grade 12 in 2002. The School is owned by the Sisters of St. Paul. Selly Park Secondary School is an Independent Roman Catholic Secondary School providing education for girls and boys from Grade Eight to Grade Twelve.

The aim of our school is to offer children the experience of being in a caring, Christian community where each can develop their abilities and talents to the full. The education provided is based on the message of the Gospel. Jesus Himself is the supreme teacher.

The Trustees of the School are the Sisters of St. Paul. The trustees appoint the Board of Governors, the Governing Body which is responsible for the good running of the School and wise use of resources.





## School Hours

Learners must be in school by 7.15 a.m. and School ends at 14.05.

Cultural activities take place during the cultural hour or between 2.15 and 3.15 each day and sport activities between 3.15 and 4.15 each afternoon. Remedial and extra lessons take place between 2.15 and 4.15 every afternoon.

## Attendance and punctuality

Parents are asked to see that learners arrive at school on time for registration in the morning. Unless permission has been granted by the Principal, no pupil may be absent except for reasons of personal illness or family bereavement. In the case of illness, it is important that parents notify the school. When a learner is absent from school a letter of explanation is required. A telephone call to the school is also welcome.

A medical certificate should be produced if the learner is to be excused from participation in sport over a period of time, and for absence during tests and examination.

Parents are asked to make all doctors', dentist and other appointments after school hours.





