

02 February 2024

Dear one and all

2025 Applications

Join the Mitchell House community and be part of an incredible educational journey! Applications are now open for the 2025 academic year from Pre-R to Grade 10. 📅 Apply today!
Boarding is only available in the College (Grade 8 to 12).

2025 College Scholarship Programme

Attention Grade 7 learners of 2024! Apply for our 2025 College Scholarship Programme before, Friday, 01 March 2024, and stand a chance to win a discount on College tuition fees. It's worth a shot!

Mitchell House Open Day

Please can I encourage you to spread the following information to your family, friends and colleagues.

📅 Save the Date: Saturday, 16 March, 2024! 🏠 Explore Mitchell House at our Prep School and College Open Day. Get a firsthand experience of our vibrant school and discover what makes us unique. Sign up now: <https://forms.gle/rpghe7jKqWNM5cu87>

2024 Limited space available

Limited Spaces Available! Don't want to wait until next year? No problem! We have limited spots for Pre-R to Grade 9 this year.

All application forms and fees are available to view and download on our website, www.mitchellhouse.co.za/admin

Summary: IEB matric final academic results

Someone requested to see a comparison of our matric results with our 2022 results. It might be of interest for parents to see our results over the last couple of years. Please note that the number is only included for last year's (2023) results. All the other columns report the results as a proportion of the number in the cohort or the number of subjects written by all candidates.

Subject	2023	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
	Number	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
No. in cohort	41	41	33	42	37	35	33	38	24
Pass: Bachelor Degree	37	90.2	84.8	61.9	86.5	85.7	75.8	86.8	91.7
Pass: Diploma	4	9.8	12.1	33.3	10.8	14.3	21.2	7.9	8.3
Pass: Higher Certificate	-	0.0	3.0	4.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Fail	-	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.7	0.0	3.0	5.3	0.0
Distinctions / learner		0.88	1.06	1.17	1.38	1.26	1.21	1.26	1.63
Aggregate Ave	n/a	64.2	62.6	63.0	64.9	72.2	57.5	68.0	68.4

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Total subjects	287	100.0	231	294	259	245	231	266	168
Distinctions	36	12.5	15.2	16.7	19.7	18.0	17.3	18.0	23.2
B's	65	22.6	16.0	16.3	22.4	25.3	15.2	24.4	21.4
C's	81	28.2	26.4	27.6	25.9	29.0	25.1	25.6	23.8
Symbols above 60	182	63.4	57.6	60.5	68.0	72.2	57.6	68.0	68.5

New policy: Visitors

In addition to our new policy on Exeats we have had to introduce a new policy on visitors to the school. In order to protect our learners, we have to control any and all visitors to the campus. That includes any and all adults who are not employees of the school, which I am afraid includes all our parents and other relatives of learners.

The new Visitors Policy can also be found on the [General Information page](#) of our website.

Please therefore note that from Monday, 05 February 2024 there are new protocols concerning visiting the school. In brief:

- All visitors including all parents of learners from grade 1 to 12: are required to park outside the admin block and report to reception in the Admin Block.
- All parents of Squirrels Nest learners: are to park outside the SN block and report to reception there for further assistance.

Although this may involve a little more inconvenience for some, we have decided it is no longer in the interests of our learners' safety to have unaccompanied adults wandering about the school. I do beg your understanding in this regard.

Debating

Some good news from Mr. Tlou Mashitsho, a teacher in charge of debating, from a letter he wrote to me and Mr. Goeminne.

"Thank you for supporting the debating activities in Polokwane since 2016. There are only two schools in the city that can claim to be the home of debating ... Children who participate in the coaching programme go on to represent the province (and their schools) at the national championship.

"Additionally, the school has made the school bus available ... (which) has made coordinating the trip so much easier ... All this support is not in vain.

"At the last championship (hosted in Kimberley), the learners performed exceptionally well. Two of our learners from Mitchell House were a part of the delegation. Of the 7 teams that participated, 6 made it into the break rounds for their respective competitions. One of the senior teams (Mabetji Mankga was on that team) made it to the semifinal of the Senior Open division and one of the junior teams made it to the final in

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the Junior Open division (for the first time in 14 years). The Open division is the highest division at the championship.

“This means that learners from our local schools are able to debate competitively against some of South Africa's most elite speakers from the country's most elite schools ... This is such a tremendous achievement ...

Which of course I think makes us one of those top schools!!

Physical Education and Sport

In a thrilling kick-off to the term, Ironwood (Prep school) and Independent schools (College) showcased exceptional athletic ability across the school. Mitchell House claimed a commendable third place in the Ironwood competition, while our college athletes secured a remarkable fourth place in the A division. This achievement solidifies our position in the A division for the first time since the split (into the A and B divisions) a couple of years ago. A huge congratulations to all the athletes for their phenomenal performances.

Special congratulations to the following two athletes:

- Nkhaviso Maswanganyi (Grade 9) achieved Junior Victrix Ludorum at the Independent School athletics.
- Oritonda Tshidavhu (Grade 8) achieved Junior Victor Ludorum at the Independent School athletics.

Forthcoming events: Prep School

2 February 2024	Circuit Athletics at Peter Mokaba Stadium
7 February 2024	Cluster Athletics at Peter Mokaba Stadium
9 February 2024	JP Mini Olympics

Forthcoming events: College

8 February 2024	Cluster Athletics at Peter Mokaba Stadium
16 February 2024	Loius Trichardt Day/Night athletics event

New policy: Exeats (first posted, 19 January 2024)

Please note we have had to adopt a new policy regarding parents taking their children out of the school during the school day. There have been a number of situations where children have been taken by parents without the knowledge of the school, causing some unnecessary consternation. The new policy is called the Exeat Policy and can be found on the [General Information page](#) of our website.

An Exeat is formal permission from the school for the temporary absence of a learner without staff supervision, from campus or any school activity or outing. The rules governing Exeats are taken very seriously by the School due to the safety concerns of the learners. According to the Contract of Enrolment, the school is responsible for all learners during the course of the school day. It follows there is a formal process to be followed by both parties to the contract (parents and school) when a learner is required to

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leave school during the school day. It is equally important such protocols are followed regarding Exeats by boarders.

School Counsellor (first posted, 19 January 2024)

From the start of 2024 the School Counsellor. Ms. Sumayya Cachalia will be working full-time at the school. We are very pleased to be able to extend this service. Ms. Cachalia will still do some teaching of Life Orientation in the College with the remainder of her time being available for consultations.

Ms. Cachalia is a registered Social Worker and her work at the school is governed to a large extent by the regulatory framework governing Social Workers in South Africa. To ensure that the school and all who interact with her comply, we have drawn up a Policy and referral form which is published on the [General Information page](#) of the school website.

Requests for appointments can be made by email to the Counsellor at counsellor@mitchellhouse.co.za.

Memorandum of Incorporation (MOI): proposed amendments (first posted, 24 November 2023)

In terms of Clause 3.16.1. notice is hereby given of the intention to amend the MOI at the Annual General Meeting of the parents to commence at 17h30 on 16 April 2024.

Clause 3.16.1 reads as follows:

“The Memorandum of Incorporation may only be amended or modified at a meeting of the Parents of which at least twenty-one (21) days written notice has been given to all the Parents, and at which meeting seventy five percent (75%) of the total number present vote in favour thereof”

The Board of Governors has been in the process of reviewing the MOI throughout the year and at its last meeting (14 November 2023) approved the amendments to be proposed to the AGM. Such a review was last done in 2014. The proposed amendments update the MOI ensuring it is fit for purpose as the supreme governing instrument for the school.

The current MOI and proposed new version is published and available for review at reception. Included is a version that tracks all the proposed changes. Any comments are to be addressed by email to principal@mitchellhouse.co.za

Reminder: Communications at school (first posted, 15 Sept. 2023)

Please note that from September 2023, I have published the information regarding the channels of communication below, in every newsletter, so that it is easy for parents to find.

We have now developed a formal policy on communication, which explains what is contained below in a bit more detail. It governs all our communications at the school. We have done some training with the staff on this and now publish the policy on the [General Information page](#) of our website for your information. Communication is the oil that keeps the school running smoothly. Please can I encourage all our stakeholders, Parents, Staff and Learners to use the channels correctly.

Highlights from the policy:

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We use many different forms of communication at the school:

- [The Website](#): important information is published either on the [Prep School](#), [College](#), or [Boarding](#) pages. The [General Information page](#) also carries important information. It is well-worth spending ten minutes having a look around.
- Social media platforms are used more for publicity and advertising for the school.
- Our Whats App groups throughout the school is increasingly becoming the most important immediate form of communication.
- Regular newsletters.
- Email still tends to be used as a more formal form of communication.

The above platforms are available for more general forms of communication.

Parents will also want to raise a particular issue affecting their own child. In that regard it is important that such matters are raised with the responsible person. For everything concerning your child your first port of call is to make an appointment to see the relevant teacher (class or subject teacher) or sport coach. Also please make the effort to make an appointment. Don't try and deal with the matter on the side of the field or in the corridor when you come to collect your child. The teacher/coach may not be available and won't be prepared. If the matter is important enough, then it is important to be able to sit down together in private to discuss your child.

If you are not happy after a discussion with a teacher / coach, then by all means escalate the matter to the relevant line manager in the phase:

- Sport: Mituxa Lopes
- Squirrels Nest: Leah Weir
- JP: Mrs. Chane Coetzer
- IP: Ms. Kerry Spratt
- College: Mr. Goeminne
- Boarding house: Mr. Goromondo.

Of course, if you are still unsatisfied, please feel free to contact Mrs. Bartlet (Prep School Head) or Mr. Lowry (Executive Head).

If you have a general query concerning any aspect of the school or its curriculum, also feel free to make an appointment with either Mrs. Bartlet or Mr. Lowry.

I would also like to introduce a new communication channel. If you do have a question, especially if you think it will be of interest to others, please drop me and email and I will publish the query and my reply in a future newsletter. I have used that as a form of communication very effectively in the other schools I have worked at. I will carry a reminder of same in every newsletter from now on.

Any Questions?

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If you have any questions and feedback, please don't hesitate to send an email to principal@mitchellhouse.co.za. If the question is of broad interest, it will be published (without the name) in the newsletter with a reply.

Kind regards



Stephen Lowry
Principal

THE MITCHELL MARKET

The advertisements that follow below are printed as a courtesy to those within our Mitchell House community. Please note as follows:

- There is no charge for placing an advertisement.
- Adverts may not be longer than 100 words (the school will only print the first 100 words).
- The advert must have a short heading (which is considered part of the word count).
- Adverts must be sent to principal@mitchellhouse.co.za
- Adverts will only be published at the sole discretion of the school.
- No tobacco, alcohol, gambling, or adult advertising is allowed.
- Mitchell House and any of its employees do not endorse any of the products services displayed below.
- The advert will be carried in the newsletter for the rest of the term.
- The same or new advertisements can be submitted at any time.

Benefits of Essential Oils

Essential oils have been used for thousands of years in various cultures for medicinal and health purposes. Because of their antidepressant, stimulating, detoxifying, antibacterial, antiviral and calming properties, they continue to gain popularity as natural, safe and cost-effective therapy for a number of health concerns. We sell diffusers, essential oils and many more natural plant-based supplements. You are more than welcome to get into contact with me should you require any assistance or advice. I would love to help you on this amazing journey!

There's an oil for that too!

0825676951

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100065516172133&mibextid=LQQJ4d>

Buy and Sell Properties in Polokwane

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Discover Your Dream Property with Tracy du Bruyn - Your Trusted Property Practitioner at Century 21 Properties, Polokwane! Whether you're selling or buying, Tracy's expertise and dedication will guide you every step of the way. With a keen eye for the market and a passion for matching clients with their perfect homes, Tracy ensures a seamless and rewarding experience. Contact Tracy du Bruyn on 083 797 2899 or tracy.dubruyn@century21.co.za today and turn your property dreams into reality!

Mantseba Interior Deco and Blinds

For your home/office classy unique style look no further, Mantseba Interior Deco and Blinds is available.

Our services includes:

Customized window coverings I.e. Blinds, Curtains and Tinting.

Get in touch with us as follows:

WhatsApp: 0815270227

Email: mantseba@mantseba.co.za

Website: www.mantseba.co.za

Instagram: Mantseba interiors

Build with us (KGWR Constructions and Projects)

Your trusted partner for exceptional construction solutions, delivering quality innovation and client satisfaction every step of the way. Our services include:

- Architecture (house plans)
- Building (brick laying, electrical, plumbing, roofing, painting)
- Renovations/ extensions
- Concrete slabs (manufacturing and installations)
- Pavement and landscaping
- Swimming Pool construction

Contact:

- 062 134 8903

kgwr.constructions@gmail.com

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