



## POLICY SUPPORTING CONSTITUTIONAL VALUES

Heatherbank Primary School supports the Constitutional values as in the Constitution of South Africa.

Our mission statement and Philosophy as in the constitution of Heatherbank Primary spells out the role of the school.

### Mission and aim of the School

#### 1 Mission :

To provide an environment based on Trust, Respect and Hard-work, so that each learner has the opportunity to self-actualise and become the best version of themselves, so that they can be an asset to their school, family and community.

#### 2 Aim:

To produce young men and women who are independent thinkers with physical and moral courage, who are articulate, well mannered and tolerant, educated in the widest sense of the word, sensitive to the needs of others, and dedicated to the service of their fellow men and women and the community as a whole.

### 3. Philosophy of the School

The mission of the School is founded upon the following philosophy:

3.1 We believe in the worth, dignity and unique character of the individual.

3.2 We strive to provide quality, structured, disciplined, intellectual education and training and to encourage creativity limited only by the ability of the student.

3.3 We strive to create an environment of tolerance and understanding, to ensure that all feel accepted, safe and happy.

3.4 We believe that the staff of the School should be proficient in the teaching of their subjects, dedicated to the physical and spiritual wellbeing of the students, and committed and loyal to the profession. To this end, we believe in the recruitment, motivation and retention of staff that fulfil these criteria.

3.5 We believe in the value of a holistic education in which students are exposed to, and encouraged to participate in, the widest range of intellectual, cultural and sporting pursuits, so as to produce a balanced and rounded individual.

3.6 We believe in the upholding of traditional values that include good manners, fair play, sportsmanship, high moral standards, patriotism and integrity.

3.7 We believe that successful education is a partnership between the home and the School. An atmosphere of openness, mutual trust and respect must exist amongst partners - parents, students and staff.



# HEATHERBANK PRIMARY SCHOOL – CONSTITUTIONAL VALUES

Approved by: Executive Head Approval date: 30/05/2021

Review date: 05/2023

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 (Act No 108 of 1996) provides the basis for curriculum transformation and development in contemporary South Africa. The preamble to the Constitution states that the aims of the Constitution are to:

- Heal the divisions of the past and establish a society based on democratic values, social justice and fundamental human rights.
- Improve the quality of life of all citizens and free the potential of each person.
- Lay the foundations for a democratic and open society in which Government is based on the will of the people and every citizen is equally protected by law.
- Build a united and democratic South Africa able to take its rightful place as a sovereign state in the family of nations.
- The Manifesto on Values, Education and Democracy (Department of Education, 2001) identifies ten fundamental values of the Constitution. These are:
  - Democracy
  - Social Justice and Equity
  - Non-Racism and Non-Sexism
  - Ubuntu (Human Dignity)
  - An Open Society
  - Accountability (Responsibility)
  - Respect
  - The Rule of Law Reconciliation
- The Manifesto further identifies 16 strategies for familiarising young South Africans with the values of the Constitution. These strategies find expression in the Revised National Curriculum Statement and include:
  - a) Nurturing a culture of communication and participation in school.
  - b) Role-modelling: promoting commitment as well as competence amongst educators.
  - c) Ensuring that every South African is able to read, write, count and think.
  - d) Infusing the classroom with a culture of human rights.
  - e) Making Arts and Culture part of the curriculum.
  - f) Putting history back into the curriculum.
  - g) Learning about the rich diversity of cultures, beliefs and world views within which the unity of South Africa is manifested.
  - h) Making multilingualism happen.
  - i) Using sport to shape social bonds and nurture nation-building at schools.
  - j) Ensuring equal access to education. Promoting anti-racism in schools.
  - k) Freeing the potential of girls as well as boys.
  - l) Dealing with HIV/AIDS and nurturing a culture of sexual and social responsibility.
  - m) Making schools safe to learn and teach in and ensuring the rule of law.
  - n) Promoting ethics and the environment.
  - o) Nurturing the new patriotism, or affirming a common citizenship.



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- The Constitution expresses the nation’s social values and its expectations of the roles, rights and responsibilities of citizens in a democratic South Africa. The Bill of Rights places pre-eminent value on equality, human dignity, life, and freedom and security of persons. These and other rights to freedom of religion and belief, expression and association, exist side-by-side with socio-economic rights. Each person has a right to freedom from poverty, homelessness, poor health and hunger.
- The Revised National Curriculum Statement seeks to embody these values in the knowledge and skills it develops. It encourages amongst all learners an awareness and understanding of the rich diversity of cultures, beliefs and world views within which the unity of South Africa is manifested.
- The challenge for the Revised National Curriculum Statement is how the goals and values of social justice, equity and democracy can be interwoven across the curriculum. The promotion of values is important not only for the sake of personal development, but also to ensure that a national South African identity is built on values different from those that underpinned apartheid education.
- The kind of learner envisaged is one who will be imbued with the values and act in the interests of a society based on respect for democracy, equality, human dignity, life and social justice.
- The curriculum aims to develop the full potential of each learner as a citizen of a democratic South Africa. It seeks to create a lifelong learner who is confident and independent, literate, numerate and multi-skilled, compassionate, with a respect for the environment and the ability to participate in society as a critical and active citizen