

# RHENISH GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL

*The Oldest Girls' School in South Africa*

**Principal: Ms E H Slabber**

20 April 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians and Learners

## **Some Arrangements and Concerns**

It is the end of a long term and I want to take this opportunity to thank all parents, staff and learners for a very successful, busy, yet "different" term.

We are still under Covid regulations and we have tried to normalise the term as far as possible for all. We are very grateful that we are one of only a few schools that could allow all learners to attend school every day since 15 February 2021. According to statistics received from the teachers' unions, 66% of schools could not finish the curriculum in 2020 and 57% of schools could not complete the first term's curriculum in 2021. In many cases, this was challenging because schools could not accommodate all learners at the same time for the whole term. Rhenish Girls' High was in the privileged position of being able to accommodate all of our learners and we have met the curriculum requirements for the term.

We trust that we will be able to continue as we have this term when we return for Term 2 on 3 May. If a further lockdown is on the cards in the future, the school will revert to online teaching immediately.

With regards online teaching, please take note that this will no longer take place from 3 May and all learners are expected to be at school every day. If parents still feel that their daughters should stay at home, your daughter will be able to find all the necessary homework and information on Google Classroom for every educator. All learners will write all the SBA (assessments and tests) at school and **no online tests or assessments** will be administered.

We will have a Test Series of 10 days at the end of next term and most of the papers will be 2 hour papers for the seniors. This is to prepare our learners for the end of the year examination. The test series timetable will be available during the first week of next term.

## **End of term report**

Traditionally we provide reports to all learners at the end of the term. This term, **only the Grade 8 and 9 learners will receive a report.** Grade 8 and 9



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learners can collect the official report on Friday 23 April between 8 and 9am from their register teachers. They may do this wearing civvies. There is no official programme for Friday.

The unofficial report will also be emailed to Grade 8 and 9 parents on Friday and if your daughter does not collect her report on Friday, she will receive it on the first day of next term.

Grade 10 – 12 learners **will not receive a report at the end of this term**. The Department of Basic Education (DBE) is responsible for providing standardised mark sheets that ALL schools in the country must use. These mark sheets regulate the weightings per assessment. Unfortunately, we have not yet received these mark sheets and weightings. **A letter from WCED is attached for parents to read regarding the reports for Grade 10-12**. I am not prepared to print reports, only to be informed that weightings have changed and reports must be reprinted. Reports for Grade 10 -12 will be printed as soon as we receive the mark sheets from DBE in the new term.

### **Rhenish Winter Uniform: Uniform Skirt vs Old Senior Skirt**

Last year, because of the various levels of lockdown, we chose to have our learners come to school in civvies for most of the year and our girls did not have the opportunity to wear our winter uniform. This year, it seems that we will switch to the winter uniform. From 3 May, a two week period of grace will be given to all learners during which time they may wear either summer or winter uniform. However, please note that the learners may not wear a combination of summer and winter uniform – it is either the winter or the summer uniform. From 17 May, all learners will need to be wearing their winter uniforms.

There seems to be an element of confusion around the skirts worn by the Grade 12s. The new skirt was introduced in 2016 so that parents would only have to purchase one item for summer and winter uniform – the current drop waist box pleat skirt that is purchased for summer. This is the only official skirt that is allowed to be worn.

I am aware that some Grade 12s are wearing the old “senior” skirt and some parents have even bought a new ‘senior skirt style’ skirt for their daughters this year. I made an agreement with some learners that they would be allowed to wear the old skirts if they had ‘hand-me-downs’ from their sisters. The Senior Skirt is part of the outdated uniform and is no longer for sale at the suppliers or the school shop. It is not a symbol of their matric status and may only be worn under the condition stated above. Everyone should be wearing the uniform skirt as described on our website and as available at the school stockist. This is the last year that I will allow this “Senior” skirt to be worn as part of the school uniform.

I also want to request that parents check the length of their daughters’ skirts - in some cases, the length of their skirts leaves little to the imagination. The learners grow quickly and a woman’s body shape changes during these formative years. We really do hope that you will support us on this.

I want to take this opportunity to wish everyone a wonderful holiday and trust that we will all return ready and refreshed for Term 2.

Yours sincerely



**Ms E H Slabber**  
**Principal**