

Camphill School Hermanus: A Place of Hope

Tucked away in the folds of the beautiful Hemel en Aarde Valley near Hermanus in the Western Cape, lies a haven of tranquillity for children with intellectual and other disabilities. Established in 1952, as an independent, registered NPO 003-320 special needs school, Camphill has offered generations of children the opportunity for high quality education and care.





The brainchild of Hermanus resident, May Redman, in association with Dr Karl König, founder of the worldwide Camphill Movement, the School perpetuates his philosophy that all children, no matter what their disability, carry within them a divine spark of humanity, worthy of love, respect and nurturing. In this peaceful and caring environment, children are assisted to develop to their full, unique potential.

Catering for both day and residential learners, aged between 5 and 20 years, not only do the children, many with multiple disabilities, receive high quality, individualised education in small classes, but they also have access to a wide range of therapies, from physio-, occupational and speech therapy, to eurythmy, music, art and equine therapy. An educational psychologist is retained as a consultant.





With many of the learners requiring one-onone attention, Camphill School is expensive to run. In fact, it costs the School roughly R2 500 a month to educate and care for a day learner and R8 200 for a boarder. More than 80% of the pupils come from extremely disadvantaged communities, where the parents can afford little or nothing towards the already-low school fees, accounting for no more than 15% of the School's budget. The government subsidy covers only a further 20%, leaving it with a deficit of around 65% to source elsewhere.

This is where you come in: by sponsoring an individual learner (receiving an annual update on his or her progress), or by contributing towards the Sponsorship Programme. In making even a small regular donation (see options overleaf), you will become a valued partner in offering hope, happiness and self-actualisation to a child.