



Camphill School Hermanus

An Independent Residential
and Day School for
Children and Young Adults
with Special Educational Needs

A Place of Hope ☀ A Place of Love



Camphill School Hermanus

Tucked into the folds of the tranquil Hemel en Aarde (Heaven and Earth) Valley near Hermanus in the Western Cape Province of South Africa, lies Camphill School, a Christian-based haven for children with intellectual and other disabilities. Since 1952 generations of children have enjoyed the benefit of high quality education and care at the School.

Rooted in the world-wide Camphill Movement, the School believes that all children, no matter what their disability, carry within them a divine spark of humanity, worthy of love, respect and nurturing. In this caring environment, they are assisted to grow to their full, unique potential.

One of only two small special needs schools in the vast, largely-rural Overberg region, Camphill caters for between 60 and 70 day and residential learners, from 5 to 19 years of age.

At Camphill School the learners are happy and self-confident. They are loved for the special people they are and offered a chance at self-actualisation and hope.



Developing free, confident and self-affirmed young people

Camphill School Hermanus is both a day and a residential special needs school, currently catering for significantly more day pupils than boarders.

In line with the founding principles of the Camphill movement, the School maintains the ethos of loving respect for the dignity of the child and a desire to develop his/her unique potential. Philosophically, it adheres to the Camphill concept of curative education, but follows the South African Education Department's curriculum for special needs children.

In addition to teaching basic competence in literacy, numeracy, language and life skills, at each child's level, there is a strong emphasis on spiritual growth and practical skills, like baking and gardening; as well as creative expression through arts and crafts, story-telling, music and movement. The learners in the vocational phase participate in vocational and life skills workshops, in preparation for the world of work and life after school.

From kindergarten to the vocational phase, classes are small and the children receive individual attention from well-qualified teachers aided by dedicated teaching assistants and young volunteers. A characteristic of all the staff at Camphill School, from School Principal to gardeners, is their single-minded commitment to the care and development of the learners.



Therapy

Given the nature and wide spectrum of disabilities represented at the School, a range of therapies is integrated into the care and education of each child. A team of part-time therapists, backed up by an educational psychologist and a social worker, collaborate closely with the Head: Educational Curriculum Delivery; Head: Health, Therapeutic, Psychological and Social Services and Head: Residential Care, in a multidisciplinary approach to the development of each child. The pupils are individually assessed and specific development programmes designed. Progress is continuously monitored and the programmes adjusted where necessary. Therapeutic disciplines currently include physiotherapy, occupational and speech therapy, as well as art, music, equine, massage and eurythmy therapies. Each child in the school has access to at least two of these modalities at any given time.



“Our highest endeavour must be to develop **free human beings** who are able of themselves to impart purpose and direction to their lives.”

Rudolf Steiner (1865 -1925)





Day School

Camphill operates on a four-term basis; school starts at 8:30 and ends at 16:00, except on Fridays when it closes at 13:00. School buses collect the learners from their homes in the mornings and take them back there in the afternoons. Pupils are divided into classes according to age and ability and a high adult-to-child ratio is maintained. Daily, each child receives a balanced and nutritious breakfast and lunch, as well as morning and afternoon snacks. In addition to school and therapy sessions, plenty of time is set aside for play and rest. Regular educational outings are organised for individual classes, as well as the whole School. The pupils have access, under supervision, to the swimming pool and the computer lab.

Residential care

The residential house is run under the supervision of two housemothers, assisted by several young volunteers, together with housekeeping and kitchen staff. The children are accommodated in one- or two-bed rooms and the atmosphere created is as close to that of a normal family home as possible, with children carrying out household chores, according to their ability, and having story- and games-times, as well as cultural activities and church services. They receive three full meals a day, seven days a week, as well as nutritious snacks in between. Their health is monitored by an on-site medical officer, who makes arrangements for any special care they may need.



Admissions

For information about fees, admission criteria and procedures, please contact the School (see contact details below).



Camphill School Hermanus contact details

PO Box 68
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South Africa

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E-MAIL school@camphill-hermanus.org.za
WEB www.camphillschool.org.za

- Camphill School is an independent, Section 21 special needs day and residential school (Registration Number 21/52/7).
- Department of Social Services NPO Number: 003-320 NPO
- SARS PBO Number: 18/11/13/1234, with Section 18A tax exemption
- The School is registered with the Western Cape Education Department (WCED) as an independent special needs school (Registration No 13/3/1/215)

In compliance with its founding Section 21 Memorandum and Articles of Association, Camphill School is governed by a Board of Directors and its financial accounts are audited annually by a certified firm of Chartered Accountants and presented for scrutiny and approval at the Annual General Meeting.

Camphill School is supported by a limited subsidy from the WCED. School fees are well below the actual cost to the School per child and may be adjusted according to the financial circumstances of the parents. Approximately 65% of the School's operating budget is sourced from private fundraising.



Banking Details

ACCOUNT NAME	Camphill School
BANK	First National Bank
BRANCH	Hermanus
BRANCH CODE	200412
ACCOUNT NO	524 7070 4936
SWIFT CODE	FIRNZAJJ