



WOODRIDGE

COLLEGE AND PREPARATORY SCHOOL

MORE THAN A SCHOOL, AN EXPERIENCE

IEB | BOARDING | DAY SCHOLARS | CO-ED



Nurturing Minds,

EMBRACING NATURE, AND CRAFTING FUTURES

Founded in 1936, Woodridge is an independent co-educational private school catering for just over 800 day and boarding pupils from local, national, and international origins.

Situated on a captivating 365-acre eco-estate between Gqeberha and Jeffreys Bay in the Eastern Cape, South Africa, the school is surrounded by a breathtaking natural landscape of rich coastal fynbos.

This tranquil setting offers ample space for each pupil to achieve their goals, encouraging exploration and the discovery of a range of activities that contribute to both enjoyment and excellence, promoting holistic development.

Grounded in core values such as honesty, respect, integrity, and positivity, we cultivate a nurturing and welcoming atmosphere, encouraging pupils to achieve their best.

BOARDING:

DISCOVER A HOME AWAY FROM HOME

Boarding forms a crucial part of the Woodridge experience... Our diverse community includes boarders from Grade 4 to 12 from the Eastern Cape, other South African provinces, and various countries worldwide.

At the Preparatory School, we offer separate boarding residences for boys and girls from Grades 4 – 7. Our focus is to make the boarding establishment a more homely environment with dedicated House Parents looking after the needs of the children.

The College boarding comprises 4 residences, with 2 for girls and 2 for boys. Weekends can include a variety of activities, as well as Sunday school and Chapel service for seniors, contributing to a well-rounded boarding experience. The spiritual well-being of all boarders is of utmost importance, as the school is guided by Christian principles and values.

WOODRIDGE EQUESTRIAN CENTRE (WEC)

As one of the few schools in the country embracing Equestrian pursuits as a sport, we offer top-notch lessons, skilled instructors, and a range of well-trained horses, creating an environment where riders thrive in various English disciplines such as Show-jumping, Dressage, Equitation, Eventing, Western Mounted Games, and Mounted Archery. Our riders have excelled, proudly representing their provinces in diverse disciplines at national competitions, bringing acclaim to Woodridge.

ENSURING PUPILS' WELL-BEING WITH OUR ON-CAMPUS SANATORIUM

Ensuring parents' peace of mind, our school boasts a well-equipped Sanatorium with qualified nursing sisters on duty to attend to any medical needs of the children.

There is also a doctor that attends to any ill patients on campus during regular scheduled visits. Pupils also have access to physiotherapy, occupational therapy,

speech therapy, therapeutic play therapy and psychology. These services are billed separately from the school fees (or charged to medical aid) via the relevant service provider. The College has a full-time Biokineticist who runs the first team sports strength and conditioning sessions and rehabilitation.

SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION

Reliable daily transportation (billed separately from tuition) is a breeze with our bus services, catering to the needs of all our day scholars. There is also an early bus option (departs at 15:00) for bus users in the Pre-Primary & Grades 1, 2, & 3. More information on the various bus routes and tariffs can be found on the school website.

TERM DATES & PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Woodridge is a three-term school. Pupils are required to attend school on public holidays that fall within the term dates. Please refer to the school website for further information.



Did you know?

In 2022, Woodridge proudly became the first Nelson Mandela Bay school to join the prestigious Round Square Network, thereby forming part of a diverse network of over 200 like-minded institutions across the world. Read more about this on the school website.



» STAYING AHEAD OF THE GAME

Fun-filled ADVENTURES AWAIT!

Welcome to our vibrant Pre-Primary, where our passionate team of teachers and assistants go the extra mile to create a nurturing and friendly environment for **children aged 2 to 6-years old.**

In our Pre-Primary, every day is an exciting adventure filled with wonder, joy, and exploration, ensuring that laughter and learning go hand in hand. **Join us for an exciting journey of fun and discovery at our lively Pre-Primary!**

LEARNING IS AN ADVENTURE!

Our focus is on unlocking the potential in every child. This involves making learning hands-on and enjoyable! Embracing our unique outdoor surroundings, we integrate the natural classroom into our daily routine, guiding your children's social, physical, intellectual, spiritual, creative, and emotional development within a wholesome environment.

On-campus support services are available at an additional cost. These support services aim to cater to the various needs your child may have and include, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, Therapeutic Play Therapy and a School Counselling Psychologist.

DAILY SCHEDULE

Half-Day: 08:00 to 13:30 (Mon – Fri)

Full day: 08:00 to 16:30 (Mon – Thu)
and 08:00 to 15:00 (Fri)

Aftercare is available from Monday to Friday. Children enjoy supervised playtime and are provided with an afternoon snack in addition to receiving lunch in the dining hall.

Aftercare: 13:30 to 16:30 (Mon – Thu)
and 13:30 to 15:00 (Fri)

BUILDING BRIGHT FUTURES: EMPOWERING POSITIVE CHOICES!

Adopting a positive approach to behaviour management, we emphasise the good things children do and encourage self-control and responsibility. In addressing disciplinary concerns, we make use of guiding principles such as encouraging communication during disagreements, redirecting behaviour, brief time-outs, individual discussions, and keeping parents informed.



MUNCH & MINGLE:

LUNCH IN THE DINING HALL

All our pupils enjoy the advantage of a spacious and inviting dining hall, where nutritious and wholesome meals are provided. The warm lunchtime routine establishes structure, assisting children in developing healthy eating habits.

Children gain a sense of independence as they navigate meal choices and dining etiquette, as well as enjoy social interaction, nurturing friendships and a strong sense of community.

DISCOVER AND PLAY WITH OUR UNIQUE FACILITIES & OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENT

Nestled in nature, our outdoor play areas are designed to be fun with creative jungle gyms, a paved bike track and open grassed areas accompanied by a delightful sandpit zone, where children can play and engage in sensory-rich experiences.

Our on-campus Nature Reserve invites children to partake in activities such as fishing, picnicking, bird-watching, and more. This serene space doubles as an exciting outdoor classroom, offering immersive learning opportunities within a natural setting.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM: WHERE FUN TAKES CENTRE STAGE IN EXTRA-MURAL ACTIVITIES!

Dive into the world of fun and growth with our exciting extra-mural activities! We offer children various optional extra-mural activities such as:

Horse-riding, Golf, Sandula Kids, Ballet, Swimming (Grade R only), and Jiu Jitsu.

Please note that these activities are arranged privately and involve extra charges beyond the school fees.

Kindermusik and **Monkeynastix** are included in our weekly routine and fees.

TURNING LEARNING INTO A *Fun Journey*

Welcome to Woodridge Preparatory School, where we are dedicated to transforming the educational journey into a rewarding and enjoyable experience. Our focus is to guide each pupil towards reaching their full potential, nurturing caring and confident individuals equipped to make positive contributions to society.

NURTURING YOUNG MINDS FOR LIFELONG SUCCESS: OUR HOLISTIC CURRICULUM

Envision a school where pupils take joy in a complete and enriching education that includes academics, sports, culture, and outdoor activities. Look no further, as our setting enables children to cherish carefree moments and value the uniqueness of life.

While nurturing a love for learning in a

supportive environment, our academic emphasis lies in developing essential skills in reading, writing, and arithmetic in the Foundation Phase. In the Intersen Phase, the focus is on English and Mathematics. Besides the acquisition of knowledge, by harnessing thematic and inquiry-based teaching, there is significant emphasis on developing skills, such as critical thinking, innovative thinking, analyses, and creativity.

As for homework, all children are encouraged to read at home in the evenings. From Grade 1-3, we encourage parents to be a part of their children's learning journey. Therefore, a minimal amount of numeracy activities and reading is sent home to give parents an opportunity to see how their child is progressing. This assists with the consolidation of work and is meant to be fun, informal and stress free. At times, pupils will be expected to work on prepared orals or do some form of research on a particular topic.

CHARACTER EDUCATION THROUGH ROUND SQUARE

Round Square aligns seamlessly with our mission to nurture well-rounded individuals. Being part of this network enables us to offer our pupils unique opportunities to engage with peers from diverse backgrounds, enhance their leadership capabilities, and contribute to significant global dialogues. We make use of various strategies to embed character education within our curriculum. At the core of Round Square's philosophy are the six ideals that serve as a foundation for character education, guiding students to develop essential life skills such as resilience, empathy, and social responsibility. You can read more about these on our website.

EMBARKING ON OUTDOOR EDUCATION: IGNITING A PASSION FOR LIVING LIFE

We embrace the philosophy that 'not all classrooms have four walls.'

Throughout the year, OE is an integral part of our curriculum, taking place on our expansive 365-acre campus and beyond.

Pupils from Grade 1 to 7 engage in various OE activities such as canoeing, mountain biking, rock climbing, archery, fishing, trail

running and camping, equipping them with essential outdoor adventure skills.

CODING & ROBOTICS: CRACKING CODES AND BUILDING BOTS WITH A SMILE

Grade 1 and 2 pupils benefit from the Young Engineers programme, run by an external service provider at no extra cost to parents. In every 10-day cycle, they will have an hour lesson. For Grade 3-7 pupils, coding and robotics is incorporated into their curriculum, with an hour lesson every week to develop their understanding of technology. Following the Inspire Africa curriculum and lesson plans pupils are introduced to a variety of coding and programming languages.

A COLOURFUL JOURNEY THROUGH MUSIC, ART, AND CULTURE!

A rich array of cultural activities is offered and encompasses **class music** and **art**, providing pupils with exposure to instruments such as the **violin, recorder, and guitar**.

The musical tapestry is further enriched by junior and senior choirs, marimba band, and djembe drummers. For those eager to hone individual instrumental skills, we offer tailored tuition (at an additional cost) in **piano, voice, flute, violin, guitar, and drum**.





SPORT & EXTRA-MURAL ACTIVITIES WITH A DIFFERENCE

We pride ourselves on our pupils being able to immerse themselves in enjoyable activities that extend beyond the confines of the classroom.

In addition to traditional sports such as **water polo, soccer, tennis, cricket (boys & girls), rugby, hockey, and netball**, we offer activities that harness our extraordinary natural surroundings. These include **archery, canoeing, fishing, rock climbing, orienteering, mountain biking, camp cooking, and shelter building**.

PRESERVING LEGACY, INSPIRING TOMORROW: OUR RICH SCHOOL HERITAGE

If you're intrigued by a rich history, our Preparatory School has something special in store for you. It is intricately woven around the historic Cadles Hotel, a nineteenth-century coaching inn.

Formerly a beloved honeymoon destination fondly known as 'Cuddles,' the engravings of names from those joyful couples can still be spotted on the windows of the main administrative building, including the Headmaster's office!



WELCOME TO WOODRIDGE COLLEGE, A SCHOOL WHERE EACH DAY BECKONS PUPILS

*to explore,
learn, and
flourish*

Discover the brilliance of a premium IEB education and a rich legacy of success. Elevated by a dynamic blend of academic excellence, state-of-the-art facilities, innovative teaching methods, and a comprehensive curriculum, along with a rich spectrum of sports, cultural activities, and authentic outdoor education, our College transcends the conventional schooling experience, transforming it into an immersive and enriching journey.

Benefiting from smaller classes, our pupils flourish in an environment where the focus is not solely on their recent test scores but on fostering qualities that shape them into responsible citizens. Encouraging respect, independent and creative thinking, and sound decision-making, we establish a robust foundation that cultivates a mindset for lifelong learning.

LEARN WITH PURPOSE! EXPLORE OUR RIGOROUS CURRICULUM

Woodridge College, a proud member of ISASA and the IEB, maintains a tradition of excellence in IEB Matric results. Afternoon academic clinics provide additional support for subjects, complemented by teachers available for personalised or group assistance. Our College subjects encompass a diverse range, accommodating various interests and academic preferences:

English, Afrikaans, IsiXhosa, Mathematics, Mathematical Literacy, Physical Sciences, Life Sciences, Geography, History, Tourism, Business Studies, Accounting, Drama, Visual Arts, Music, Information Technology, Computer Applications Technology, Further Studies English, Further Studies Mathematics and Life Orientation.



**UNLOCKING ARTISTIC BRILLIANCE:
FINE ART, DRAMA, AND MUSIC**

Education in the arts aids pupils in skills needed in the workplace beyond their school years. Amongst other things, it teaches flexibility, problem-solving and communication capabilities, creativity, innovation and the will to strive for excellence.

We are fortunate to be able to offer 3 of the 4 branches of artistic studies, namely Fine Art, Drama and Music, as matriculation subjects.

Music is an integral part of our IEB curriculum throughout a pupil's schooling career. Whether it is class music, appreciation lessons, individual instrumental tutoring (additional costs involved), ensemble playing, music technology and production, or advanced theory, harmony and critical analysis classes, the benefits are infinite.

We actively support international benchmarking, and our pupils showcase their talents nationally in various eisteddfods, festivals, online concerts, and public showcases.

**ROBOTICS AND INNOVATION HUB:
PREPARING PUPILS FOR THE FUTURE
OF TECHNOLOGY**

The College Innovation & Technology Centre is a dynamic space dedicated to equipping pupils for a world shaped by the

Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR). Our state-of-the-art facility integrates the latest 4IR technologies, providing pupils with hands-on experience in collaborative robotics, coding, 3D printing, artificial intelligence, drone flying and more.

Complementing our IT, CAT, and Computer Literacy programmes, the Tech Centre fosters the development of 21st-century skills, including problem-solving and computational thinking.

**WOODRIDGE SPORTS:
ACHIEVING RESULTS THROUGH
EXCEPTIONAL SPORTSMANSHIP**

Our sports programme embraces diversity, accommodating various interests and abilities to cultivate a sense of belonging. Supported by an onsite Biokineticist, those aiming for excellence can enhance their skills through sports strength and conditioning sessions and rehabilitation.

Woodridge sport teams are renowned for their competitiveness, excelling in local competitions and proudly representing the College at national festivals. Our pupils are recognised for prioritising the game over personal gain, consistently delivering performances that surpass expectations.

Sports offered include Cricket (boys & girls), Rugby, Netball, Water Polo, Hockey, Athletics, Tennis, CrossFit, Squash, Outdoor Education and Equestrian Pursuits (additional costs involved).



The school also has a Surf Lifesaving Club. It celebrated its 50th year of existence in 2023 and is the only school-based surf lifesaving club in the world. Members currently perform voluntary duties in Cape St Francis every Sunday during the summer terms. The club competes at the highest level at national and international championships.

**NURTURING GROWTH &
STRENGTH OF CHARACTER
THROUGH OUTDOOR EDUCATION**

Outdoor activities are integral to our educational philosophy. Our pupils experience mental and physical challenges that foster resourcefulness, teamwork, and leadership through experiential learning. From survival skills to adventure racing, Outdoor Education (OE) is offered, allowing pupils to participate in activities that align with their interests, abilities, and schedules.

THE WAY: An enriching 21-day expedition for Grade 10 pupils (additional costs involved), covering 360km by foot, canoe, and bicycle. It's not a race but a reflective journey from the scenic Baviaans mountains to the school bell. Amidst breathtaking sunsets and clear, starry nights, Grade 10 pupils get a taste of life at its unspoiled best.

This unique 21-day rite of passage is tailor-made for 16-year-olds, promoting growth in MIND, BODY, and SPIRIT.

Purposefully disconnecting from technology, it encourages connections with the outdoors, self-discovery, and peer relationships.

The goal is to instil confidence, fortify resilience, and foster independence in young individuals, providing them with a valuable head start into their senior school years and life beyond school.



FACILITIES THAT MAKE US MORE THAN A SCHOOL

Our awe-inspiring 365-acre estate accommodates many sporting and outdoor activities. In addition to the traditional facilities such as classrooms, playgrounds, libraries, sports facilities and halls, we boast several unique attractions, surpassing the conventional elements of a typical school:

- Nature reserve with a wooden deck (lovely fishing spot)
- Chapel, a historic structure built in the 1960s and initially used as the first school hall
- Sanatorium
- Six boarding residences
- Canoes and trailers for epic paddling adventures;
- Archery range
- Extensive 8km trail network ideal for hiking, mountain biking, and trail-running (with secure bike storage)
- Outdoor classrooms nestled in nature
- Well-equipped Equestrian Centre
- Advanced obstacle challenge course
- School Rocks, an awesome abseiling rock formation down the valley.
- Natural pools in the Van Stadens River Gorge for refreshing swims and kloofing; & so much more...



WOODRIDGE
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