



## Information Frequently Required

### What is the Sun Valley Group of Schools?

The Sun Valley Group of Schools comprises of Sunbird Pre-Primary, Sun Valley Primary and Silvermine Academy, The High School. The primary school is a *public* school and pre-primary and high schools are part of Silvermine Academy which is a *private* company.

### Sun Valley Primary School

Sun Valley Primary (Grade 1 to 7) is an ex-Model C school. We have 4 streams per grade, a maximum of 32 children per class.

- **Fees**  
See Funding Brochure.
- **School times**  
08:00 - 14:00 everyday except Tuesday when closing time is 13:00.
- **Parent involvement**  
We tap into the wealth of expertise and energy of our parents through:
  - Room Parent Programme
  - Fundraising and support team (FAST)
  - Board of Governors.
- Assembly takes place every Tuesday at 08:30, alternating between Foundation Phase (Gr 1–3) and InterSen (4–7). Each grade has a turn to do a short presentation, sport items, etc and parents invited to attend.

### Silvermine Academy

Silvermine Academy is the business behind Sun Valley Primary School. It is a non-profit, Section 21 company and encompasses the following:

#### Sunbird Pre-Primary

There is one Grade 0 class and 2 Grade R classes of 25 learners each. By 2011 we will have phased out the Grade 0 class in favour of 3 Grade R classes.

- **Fees**  
See Fee Structure (E2)
- **School times**  
08:30–13:00 everyday except Tuesday when closing time is 12:30.

#### Silvermine Academy - The High School

The High School opened its doors in January 2005. We follow Independent Examination Board curriculum which is internationally acknowledged. We have one class per grade with an average of 25 students per grade.

- **Fees**  
These comprise of:
  - Admin Fee on enrolment
  - Development Fee which is payable after the interviews to secure a place
  - Annual Tuition and
  - Annual Equipment FeeSee Fee Structure (E2) for details
- **School times**  
07:45– 14:30 every day except Tuesday when closing time is 12:45
- **Subject choice**  
There are 9 learning areas for Grades 8 and 9.  
Subject pathways for Grade 10 onwards are discussed at the interviews.

## **Sport Academy**

The Sport Academy opened its doors in January 2008 and caters for the dedicated sportsman and woman and includes holiday clinics and national and international tours. Silvermine Academy: The High School students have to participate in one sport in the Sport Academy per season. The fee is covered by the School Fees.

See the SMA Sport brochure for details.

## **Music Academy**

We offer tuition on a wide range of instruments to all age groups. See the Music Academy brochure for details.

## **Home Base**

We are proud of our after school care facility which caters for the pre-schoolers and primary school children in two separate venues. The pre-schoolers are given lunch at midday as well as a fruit and juice snack. The primary school learners are given sandwiches, fruit and juice and the opportunity to do their homework under supervision.

- **Times**

The staff are on duty from 07:30 to receive the pre-schoolers.

The Home Base staff for the primary school learners are on duty from end of school until 18:00 Monday to Friday during the term.

Home Base is open during the school holidays for all children from 07:00 to 18:00 Monday to Friday and offer holiday activities.

Home Base closes for a three week period during the December/January holidays.

- **Fees**

See Fee Structure (E2) brochure.

## **Boutique**

The Variform for SVPS and Silvermine Academy: The High School is available from our Boutique. The Boutique is open Monday to Friday between 07:45 and 16:00 during the school term. We also stock good second-hand clothing. See Variform brochure for price details.

## **Birdie Num Nums**

Our canteen/restaurant opened its doors 2008 and caters for school functions as well as offering healthy lunches and snacks for staff and children.

- Lunches can be pre-ordered per term at discount prices.
- Healthy snacks are available to buy daily at break or after school and before sport.
- Orders can be placed by parents for the Special of the Day to take home for supper.

## **GAP Programme**

We offer a GAP Programme for students studying to become teachers. This entails enrolment at UNISA for the degree courses and practical teaching at Sunbird and Sun Valley Primary four days a week.

Request a GAP brochure for details.

## **How old is Sun Valley Primary?**

In 2010, Sun Valley Primary will be 33 years old. Over the past 32 years our school has grown to become one of the leading learning organisations in our country. We continue to pioneer new and exciting teaching and learning systems and programmes in order to achieve our Vision. Our children leave our school, well equipped, goal-orientated and able to interact effectively with others.

We can guarantee that your child will receive an excellent education during their sojourn at our Group of Schools—Sunbird Pre-Primary, Sun Valley Primary and Silvermine Academy: The High School. The teachers will always be well trained, highly competent and capable. We continually make use of our results to determine our effectiveness and these results are based on multiple indicators.

## **What is the Enrolment Policy?**

The enrolment process for Grade R, 1 and 8 starts at the beginning of the year before the learner/student will start school.

The enrolment process for Grades 2 to 7, 9 to 12 takes place during the 4th Term of the year before, or as required during the year.

The selection of learners is determined by:

- ◇ our point system (Gr1-7 only)
- ◇ an interview conducted by the Senior Deputy-Principal
- ◇ payment of the Confirmation Fee. This fee is non-refundable, non-transferable and secures the learner's place. It then covers the cost of the teaching and learning equipment for the year. This **must**

**be paid before** the learner can start school in the case of children joining the schools during the school year.

The High School requires:

- ◇ the Admin Fee paid at enrolment.
- ◇ a Development Fee be paid as confirmation and **must be paid to secure placement and before** the student starts school.

- ***What are the Enrolment Requirements?***

We accept children for Grade R the year they turn 6 and for Grade 1 the year they turn 7.

The following documents are required with the Enrolment Form which must be completed correctly and signed by both parents/caregivers who are responsible for school fees:

- ◇ learner's birth certificate
- ◇ latest school/pre-school report
- ◇ both parents' ID documents
- ◇ proof of residency (e.g. utility bill)

The enrolment **will not be processed** if the enrolment form has not been filled in correctly, has not been signed and all the requested documents are not included.

- ***How can we view the school and learn more about the Sun Valley Group of Schools?***

We host Expo Days once a term (Term 1, 2 and 3) every year. Contact Reception or watch the website for details. Please check out website regularly. It is updated on weekly.

- ***Can I request a specific teacher for my child?***

Unfortunately, this is not possible. We do our best to place children in the class best suited to their needs and personalities, but we are often restricted to place availability and do not change classes once they have been allocated.

## **What facilities does the Sun Valley Group of Schools offer?**

We are proud to offer the following first class facilities:

- ◇ Swimming pool - 25m Olympic pool
- ◇ Library - 14 000 books available, a budget of R30 000 per annum
- ◇ IT Centre - 34 computers, internet, colour printing
- ◇ Art Centre - mixed medium, kiln
- ◇ Drama/Music - we produce a musical every year, alternating between the Foundation Phase, the InterSen Phase and the High School
- ◇ Sport fields - catering for hockey, soccer, netball, cricket, tennis and rugby
- ◇ Walking Circuit - unique, 1km in length with activity stops along the route for sit-ups, leg stretches, pull-ups, etc.

## **How good is the security?**

The field gate on Coracle Road is unlocked and manned by a staff member from 07:00 every morning so children can access the school field and Birdie Num Nums. The gate on the Foundation Phase side (Corvette Road) is unlocked at 07:30. Both gates are locked at 08:00 and the only access to Sun Valley Primary is through the Foyer in Brigantine Ave. SVPS and the High School children who arrive after 08:00 will have their diaries marked in the Late Comers column.

Each grade has a specific collection point at the end of the day. Teachers are on duty at these points for 20 minutes after the end of the school day. Children who have not been collect at the end of the 20-minute period are taken to Home Base and parents will need to collect them from there.

Access to Sunbird Pre-Primary School is controlled from the Sunbird Reception Office in Coracle Road.

- ***What traffic control is in place around the schools?***

Parents are requested to drive anti-clockwise around the school to drop their children off in the mornings and collect them after school. Coracle and Corvette Roads should be regarded drop-and-go zones between drop-off and collection times.

## **Is there Good Communication between Schools and Parents?**

SVPS and The High School have homework diaries issued every term which are a direct communication between parent and teacher. The diaries contain a wealth of information on school policy regarding uniform, discipline, sending money to school, etc.

A weekly Newsletter is published for Grade R-Grade 7. Grade 8-12 students receive the weekly E-mine by email.

## **What about fundraising?**

To offer and maintain the facilities we have requires active fundraising. We have a ***Fundraising and Support Team*** (FAST), comprising of parents and headed by a staff member, which organises various fundraising events. We encourage our parents to purchase a FAST card at an annual cost per child and offers discounts and incentives to all the fundraising events.

# What Motivates our Schools' Policies?

## *Vision*

A confident, creative team-player, who is goal orientated and radiates the Sun Valley Group of Schools' core values within any culturally diverse learning community.

## *Mission Statement*

*Forward with excellence as we build a better tomorrow, today!*

Sun Valley Group of Schools provides an integrated and co-operative learning environment within the framework of a Christian value system.

At our schools, the child is nurtured and encouraged to develop and master relevant Skills, Concepts and Attitudes. This will lead to a responsible, caring and self-motivated person capable of contributing to and upholding a society in which all are considered equal.

### **This will be achieved by:**

- ◇ developing a positive self-value in each child.
- ◇ encouraging and recognising each child's special gifts and attributes.
- ◇ inculcating caring attitudes and actions towards others.
- ◇ encouraging family involvement in school activities.
- ◇ attracting, developing and retaining staff of the highest quality.

Notwithstanding the Christian ethos of our school, provision will be made for each child to develop freely his/her own spiritual values.

## **Policy Document**

Please take note of our Policy Document. It is available on our website ([www.sunvalleygroup.co.za](http://www.sunvalleygroup.co.za)) or you may purchase a printed copy from Reception.

This is a GREAT school. Great parents, great teachers and great kids. Together we experience SUCCESS. We look forward to sharing this experience with you.