Graeme College

1873 - 2025



INFORMATION FOR

New Learners and Parents

2026



Our VISION To strive for excellence by developing all to their full potential.

Our MISSION The Graeme College mission is:-

- i. to develop every pupil and teacher to the maximum of his/her potential in:
 - scholarship through academic endeavour.
 - character and personality growth
 - to inculcate sound moral and spiritual values
 - to consolidate a positive self-concept and respect for others
 - to promote individually and independence of thought
 - involvement and performance in sport, cultural activities and community service
- ii. to involve pupils, teachers, parents and Old Boys in all school activities.

Our MOTTO "VIRTUTE ET OPERA" - "Through courage and hard work"

CODE OF CONDUCT (extract)

The school code of conduct has been compiled in line with the South African Schools' Act. All decisions regarding discipline are governed by the School's Code of Conduct. The School's Code of Conduct at Graeme College will be used to acknowledge and instill the importance of the following:

- a. Everyone has the right to work and learn without being disrupted by others and a responsibility to create the opportunity for others to work and learn.
- b. Everyone has the right to be treated courteously and respectfully and a responsibility to treat others equally.
- c. Everyone has a right to work in a clean, safe and orderly environment and a responsibility to respect and maintain the facilities and property.
- d. Everyone has the right to feel proud of this school and a responsibility to uphold school spirit by participation in and support of all activities.

A MESSAGE TO PARENTS AND NEW PUPILS

It is indeed a pleasure for me to welcome you to Graeme College and our parent community. All Grade 4 to 11 boys and their parents requested to meet the Headmaster and the Learner Leaders in the school hall at 14h00 on 12 January 2026, for a brief orientation and introduction to the "Graemian way of life". Please note that boys should wear full school uniform for this orientation. Formal school starts at 07h30 on Tuesday 13 January 2025.

The information in this booklet is designed to help you prepare before your arrival at Graeme College. If there is something you, as a parent or learner, are not sure about, do not hesitate to contact me or anyone associated with the school. I encourage all parents to keep in contact with your son and the school by supporting the many activities or functions which take place.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

CALENDAR FOR 2025

| Term 1 | Wednesday 14 January - 27 March 2026 |
|--------|-----------------------------------------|
| Term 2 | Wednesday 8 April - Friday 26 June 2026 |
| Torm 2 | Tuesday 21 July Wednesday 22 September |

Term 3 Tuesday 21 July - Wednesday 23 September 2026
Term 4 Tuesday 6 October - Friday 11 December 2026

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PERIOD TIMES

We operate on a ten-day cycle of six periods per day.

| Monday an | d Friday: | Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday |
|-----------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| Period 1 | 07h30 - 08h30 | Period 1 07h30 – 08h30 |
| Period 2 | 08h30 - 09h20 | Period 2 08h30 – 09h20 |
| Period 3 | 09h20 - 10h10 | Period 3 09h20 - 10h10 |
| | BREAK | BREAK |
| Period 4 | 10h40 - 11h30 | Period 4 10h40 – 11h30 |
| Period 5 | 11h30 - 12h20 | Period 5 11h30 – 12h20 |
| | BREAK | BREAK |
| Period 6 | 12h40 - 13h30 | Period 6 12h40 – 13h30 |
| Assembly | 13h30 - 14h00 | |

N.B. Assembly / Clubs is held every Monday and Friday.

The afternoon extra-curricular programme starts at 14h30.

Within the timetable, Grade 8 - 12s will also have a mentor lesson and Grade 8s and 9s will have a test lesson.

QUARTERLY DIARY

At the start of each new term each boy will receive an "electronic quarterly diary" in which you will find a detailed plan of the term's activities, all his extra-mural practice times, exam/test programme plus other information.

These are provided so that parents can ensure that no family outings etc are arranged which may clash with your son's school commitments. All boys are expected to take part in our extra-mural activities and, while we accept that we cannot satisfy every pupil's desire, our programme is broad enough for the boys to participate in at least one summer and one winter activity – a happy boy is an involved boy.

The school's weekly newsletter will be e-mailed to you at the end of each week detailing activities that have taken place. Please ensure that you provide the school with your correct e-mail address/es.

STAFF

You must make an effort to get to know as many staff members as possible. Below are the names of some:

Headmaster - Mr Kevin Watson

Deputy Headmaster - Mr Gregg van Molendorff

Head of Department (Junior School) - Mr Andrew Swift

Head of Sport - Mr Gregg van Molendorff

Head of Academics Miss Tracy Kenyon Head of Cultural Activities Mr Sylvester Appollis Superintendent at Grant House Mr Michael Pretorius Financial Manager/Bursar Mrs Tessa Steele Ms Busi Stamper Administration Clerk PA to the Headmaster Mrs Cherié Wille Administrative Assistant Miss Zané Viljoen Mr Clint Berriman Estate Manager Maintenance Manager Mr Germiston Mali

HOUSES

Each boy will be allocated to a house once he arrives at Graeme. The houses are:

Wiles - Red Vernal - Black Hutton - Yellow Neilson - Pale Blue

6. UNIFORM

All boys are expected to meet our uniform standards as detailed in the "School Uniform" leaflet included in your package. It is compulsory for all boys in Grades 4 to 12 to wear a blazer to school every Monday and Friday, as well as to all major activities. Please mark all your son's clothing. All clothing or equipment must be looked after by each boy – he must exercise this responsibility.

7. PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

The leadership structure in the school is based on a Portfolio Committee system. This structure is a strong one which assists with the management of the school. In the Junior School a system of monitors assists the staff as well.

8. REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL FOR LEARNERS (RCL)

A learner from each class in Grades 8-12 is elected each year. Together, these boys comprise the RCL.

9. FUNCTIONS

All pupils in the school are expected to attend various functions which may take place after hours. Examples of these events include: the inter-house swimming gala and athletics meeting; inter-house dramatic productions and debates; home rugby fixtures; and prize giving. Attendance at such events is compulsory.

These activities, and others, are all-important ones on our calendar and participation should be seen as part of an attempt to broaden the scope of our educational aims, building school spirit and providing for healthy and enjoyable participation and integration.

10. CONDUCT

"Please" and "thank you" are important words. At Graeme College we stress the "little things" and consider matters of discipline, dress, manners and general conduct to be of utmost importance. We aim to achieve high standards of discipline, with the support of the parent body, and the College has always taken a firm line on matters of discipline and respect. Parents are requested to comply with the School's policy on discipline.

11. ABSENTEEISM

Please inform the school if your son is ill and unable to attend school. A note from you on his return to school is compulsory. Absenteeism, though unavoidable at times, can cause great problems through work missed, especially in the senior grades and especially in such subjects as maths when the logical development of a subject is disrupted. Requests for your son to be absent from school for any other reason must be made in writing to the Headmaster. Attendance at school is compulsory up until the final day of each term.

12. RULES

Attached you will find a summary of the school rules (summary of code of conduct). The school's code of conduct is available from the school. Please get to know these rules, and abide by them, as we need to live in an orderly environment with people who are sensible and who co-operate.

13. SCHOOL FEES

The Admin staff will be at the school to collect school fees for all day boys and boarders as from Friday 9 January 2026. The payment of school fees is compulsory. Please prioritize this expense.

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FEES AND OTHER CHARGES FOR 2026

1. PAYMENT OF SCHOOL FEE

- Full settlement of annual school fees on or before the first day of the school year, or entrance into school.
 Full, up-front payment or settlement in full before 27 February 2026 will entitle a parent to a 5% discount.
- Monthly payments per written request in January (of each year) to the School Bursar [R2 000 on first day of first term and balance in 10 [ten] equal monthly instalments at the start of each month [01 February – 01 November].
- **Defaulters:** Both biological parents / legal guardians are responsible for fees, irrespective of marital status. Non-payment of accounts will be dealt with as per School policy.

| SCHOOL FEE STRUCTURE | Gr 00 | Gr R to 3 | Gr 4 to 7 | Gr 8 to 12 |
|--------------------------------------------------|---------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Annual Fee | R35 251 | R32 871 | R33 345 | R36 680 |
| Payable as: | | | | |
| 1) Initial payment on 1st day of 2026 | R2 000 | R2 000 | R2 000 | R2 000 |
| 2) Balance paid in 10 equal, monthly instalments | R3 325 | R3 087 | R3 135 | R3 468 |
| 3) Gr 00-3 fees include all stationery packs, | | | | |
| book bags, etc. | | | | |

OUTSOURCED CHARGES

Art Fees [Grade 5 - 9] Annual Fee R602
Art Fees [Grades 10 - 12] payable to the Johan Carinus Art Centre R2 349

2. GRANT HOUSE (BOARDING) FEE [Grade 4 – 12]

The boarding fee for all grades is **R70 300 per year**[R17 575 per term payable before the first day of each term]

No boarder may return to Grant House with outstanding fees.

| 3. | AFTER CARE FEES | Full Time (Gr | ade 00 – 6) | R12 888 |
|----|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|---------|
| | | 4 days per week | | R10 435 |
| | | 3 days per week | | R 7829 |
| | | 2 davs per week | | R 5 190 |

4. REGULATIONS APPLYING TO SCHOOL FEES

- In terms of section 40 of SASA, biological parents or legal guardians have a legal obligation to pay school fees. This is a
 statutory debt and must be met by biological parents or legal guardian. The Act does not distinguish between married,
 divorced or single biological parents, nor whether a learner resides with one, both or neither parent. Unless a learner has
 only one living parent, both biological parents' income must be taken into account when an application for exemption
 is considered.
- Guardians replace biological parents <u>only where there has been a legal agreement.</u> Parents of learners who reside with extended family members are still liable for the fees as the biological parent.
- In terms of SASA, a school may demand the payment of the school fees from both or any one of a learner's parents.
- One parent may enrol the learner at Graeme College, and, as per the admission form, we will use that address as "domicillium citandi ex executandi". We will send letters or a summons addressed to both parents to that one address. It is the parent who resides at that address responsibility to pass this information on to the other parent
- In terms of section 41(5)(a) of SASA, biological parents or legal guardians may apply for fee exemption. The School adopts and implements the exemptions regulated as gazetted in October 2006.

BANKING DETAILS

Bank: Standard Bank: Branch: Grahamstown: Branch Code: 050917

Account Name: Graeme College Account No.: 081996551

Reference : Initial, Surname & Grade of Learner

Email proof of payment to: t.steele@graemecollege.co.za

Reference: In order to allocate your payment, please use Initial & Surname of the learner.

Do not use Graeme College or any name other than that of the learner – it is impossible to allocate a

payment without the correct reference name.

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BOARDING MATTERS

1. GENERAL

Please ensure that your son reports to Grant House, in full school uniform, before 17h00 on Monday 12 January 2026. This enables the staff time to sort out a number of administrative responsibilities.

Mrs Tessa Steele, the financial manager, will be at the school to collect the boarding and school fees for all Grant House boys from Friday 9 January 2026. Boys will not be permitted to enter the boarding house unless they are in possession of an entry ticket from the Finance Department.

If boarders bring medication to Grant House, these must be handed in to Mrs Holland/Mrs Manning at the dispensary upon arrival. Boys must provide their own bedding (i.e. pillow and blankets/duvet, etc).

2. INSURANCE

Please see that your son's possessions are adequately insured and marked. We cannot guarantee the safety of valuables. Any monies, spare keys or valuables should be handed in to Mr Pretorius for safe keeping.

3. LEAVE OUT WEEKENDS

It is important for parents to communicate (via email, telephone or in person) with the boarding house superintendent indicating your permission of your son's absence from the Boarding House. This must take place two days in advance, before your son leaves the boarding house.

He must sign out of the boarding house on all occasions.

Grade 4 - 7 boys MAY go home each weekend.

4. LAUNDRY

All items must be clearly marked with labels.

5. MEDICAL FORMS

Due to new government laws regarding pharmacies and scripts for medication, all pharmacies are placing an administration levy on all medication. This can range from R15,00 to R50,00. Regretfully, this places matrons in a difficult position, as we will be unable to administer medication effectively to the boys. All parents are therefore requested to either open a pharmacy account at Clicks or Frontier Pharmacy for their son for this purpose or, alternatively, to pay a refundable R100,00 medical expense cover to Mrs Steele on the first day of the new term.

6. FEES

| | Per Term | Per Year |
|-------------|----------|----------|
| Grant House | R17 575 | R70 300 |

Yours sincerely

K M WATSON HEADMASTER