



TIGER KLOOF COMBINED SCHOOL

"Creating new paths in learning, doing and serving"

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A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF TIGER KLOOF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION, INCORPORATING TIGER KLOOF COMBINED SCHOOL

The “Old Tiger Kloof”

The origins of Tiger Kloof can be traced back to the establishment of a school by the London Missionary Society at Moffat Mission on the borders of the Kalahari Desert early in the 19th century. Moffat Mission is in Kuruman, some 200 km west of Vryburg. In 1904, the missionaries moved the school to its present site in order to be close to the railway line that had been constructed from Cape Town through what was then Bechuanaland (now Botswana), to Salisbury, Rhodesia (now Harare, Zimbabwe). From its earliest days, Tiger Kloof was the primary seat of learning for the Batswana people who populate this region and the independent state of Botswana.

Indeed, the entire first cabinet of Botswana consisted of “old Tigers” and two of that country’s ex-Presidents, Sir Seretse Khama and Sir Keitumile Masire, were educated at Tiger Kloof.

Tiger Kloof graduates were widely respected for their ability to communicate, their dignity, their wisdom and their strength of character marked, typically, by a resolute faith. Tiger Kloof produced several influential leaders in the struggle against the apartheid regime, including Ruth Mompati, present mayor of the district. Archbishop Desmond Tutu’s mother was educated at Tiger Kloof.

The London Missionary Society pulled out of Tiger Kloof in the 1950’s after the Bantu Education Act was promulgated. The school continued under the government until the early 1960’s, when it was closed because of the Group Areas Act.

Ownership of the land changed from farmer to farmer and eventually the buildings became derelict and some were razed to the ground. It was closed for nearly 40 years.

Tiger Kloof since 1995

In the early 1990’s, visionaries and passionate people got together to re-open the school. With God’s grace and divine intervention, the school re-opened in 1995.

The “new” Tiger Kloof endeavours to provide a harmonious combination of academic and vocational learning. The achievement of a 100% pass rate in the 2002 matriculation examinations is no mean feat given the lack of educational background of many of its learners.

Tiger Kloof is registered with the Department of Education as a “Public School on Private Property”. The Board of Directors of the Institution and the School Governing Body are the governance structures.

Tiger Kloof is a member of three international associations of schools, the Round Square Association of Schools, G20 and Global Connections. The Round Square values of International understanding, Democracy, Environmental awareness, Adventure training, Leadership Training and Service are interwoven into the general curriculum of Tiger Kloof. These international associations enable Tiger Kloof to provide opportunities for learner and educator exchanges with schools around the world.

The school has a vibrant extra-curricular programme which varies according to seasons and opportunities. The school offer marimbas, soccer, netball, cricket, volleyball, hockey, tennis, basketball, music, drama, debating and public speaking. We have many and varied co-curricular and extra-curricular activities which give learners the opportunity to develop leadership skills.

As members of Round Square we have to practise the six pillars of the philosophy of the organization. The six pillars are based on the word **IDEALS**:

I International Understanding

D Democracy

E Environmental Awareness

A Adventure

L Leadership

S Service

We achieve these goals through various activities which include leadership camps, exchange and international conference programmes, leadership opportunities within the school, democratic structures, several environmental programmes through the history and environmental clubs and farm projects, adventure by getting out of your comfort zone, and promoting servant leadership. Service is of high importance to the Institution and all are strongly encouraged to be involved in several community service projects.

In 2004 the Primary phase started with Grade RR. The school is being phased in and by the year 2011 we phased in the full primary Phase. In 2012 we had our own “home grown” Grade 8’s entering the secondary phase.

The motto is “Creating new paths through learning, serving and doing”. The school strives to create new paths by being innovative in its curriculum. Through its values-based education the school wants to inculcate deep faith in God in all who pass through the institution, so that they may be people of integrity who will be worthy South African and global citizens.

The school website is www.tigerkloof.org/school

Please visit the website for more information.