

ENTHUSIASM

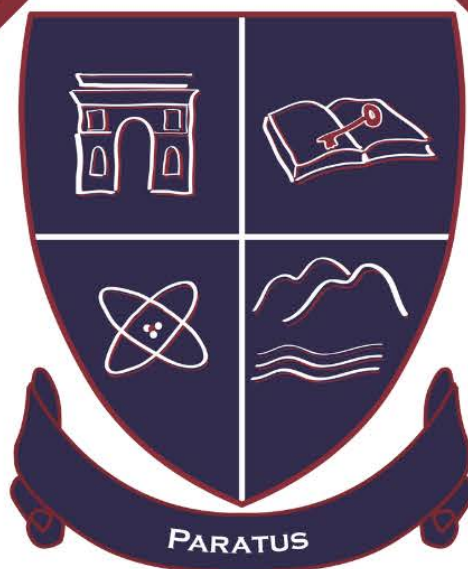
HARD WORK

DISCIPLINE

HONESTY

RESPECT

TRUST



**THE MOUNTAIN
CAMBRIDGE SCHOOL**

Real World Ready

PROSPECTUS 2026

High School
LSL - AS / A Level



University
of Exeter



CAMBRIDGE
International Education

Cambridge International School

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OUR 2030 VISION

To achieve 100% Matric exemptions by delivering world-class, thought-based education.

OUR MISSION

We are a world-class school, passionate about teaching and learning in a caring, nurturing, and thinking environment with a Christian ethos. We want to equip our learners to be “*Real World Ready*”.

- Participating learners will strive to leave Mountain Cambridge School as confident, effective, well-mannered, articulate, educated and enthusiastic citizens of the world who will contribute positively to society.
- Mountain Cambridge School will provide a range of programmes and facilities for intellectual, physical, moral and social development of our learners, assisting them in becoming balanced young adults.
- Mountain Cambridge School will foster a safe, pleasant, intimate yet dynamic learning environment where every learner will feel at home. It will be a school with which the educators, learners and parents will be proud to be part of and associated with. We strongly believe in a successful partnership between the school and the home.
- Mountain Cambridge School will give all our learners an equal opportunity to realise their potential through individual goal setting that is obtainable and realistic. We will ensure that all learners are challenged and supported.
- The Cambridge curriculum provides a wide range of academic and vocational subjects to account for differing abilities, making Cambridge suitable for all learners.
- The Cambridge curriculum will enable our learners to gain an internationally recognised qualification and will produce independent thinkers who are also autonomous learners.
- Our dedicated and passionate educators will ensure that the highest standard of education is provided.
- Using the thinking and learner centred approach, Mountain Cambridge School will attempt to ensure that:
 - o Objectives are covered in less time with greater retention
 - o Thought processes are represented similarly throughout the curricula
 - o The MCS will promote integrated thinking and interdisciplinary learning
 - o The MCS teachers can easily gauge learner knowledge prior to a specific lesson
 - o The MCS learner performance can be tracked accurately over time
 - o The MCS learners gain effective tools to use across their academic and working careers
 - o The MCS will equip our learners with lifelong thinking tools
 - o The MCS will equip our learners with effective study methods

OUR SCHOOL MOTTO

Our school motto, “*Real World Ready*” is based upon 6 core values: hard work, honesty, respect, discipline, trust and enthusiasm.

These values serve as a compass pointing out what it means to be true to oneself. Honouring these values will guide our learners in fulfilling their goals.

CHARACTERISTICS OF MOUNTAIN CAMBRIDGE SCHOOL

Our learners will state proudly that they went after their dreams, sought out and nourished robust, life-giving relationships and fulfilled their purpose in their own unique way. Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes once said: “Too many people die with the music still in them”. We encourage our learners “*to sing their own special song, dance their own special dance*”. Above all, Mountain Cambridge School is a happy place; a place where “every child matters”. We will strive at MCS to ensure a happy child through:

- High standards & stated expectations
- Passionate, nurturing & inclusive school
- Cambridge Curriculum: Internationally recognised qualification & benchmarking
- Small learning communities
- “Whole-brain”/creative teaching strategies
- Thinking skills
- Analytical & creative thinking : Thinking skills and -tools.
- Positive Behaviour Support
- Providing a bully-free zone
- Disciplined but relaxed environment which is conducive to learning
- Reading programmes
- Mentorship programmes
- Leadership programmes
- Partnerships with our parents as our stakeholders
- On-going professional development
- Sport and culture development
- Community service
- Eco Programme

MCS THINKING ETHOS

"I like friends who have independent minds because they tend to make you see problems from all angles."

"Everyone can rise above their circumstances and achieve success if they are dedicated to and passionate about what they do."

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." – Nelson Mandela

We have embarked on an exciting journey during which we aim to explicitly develop our Thinking Skills as a whole school community.

As an accredited Thinking School, we are inspired to maximise our learning by implementing thinking tools such as the 'Thinking Maps', 'Edward de Bono's Thinking Hats', 'the Revised Blooms Taxonomy', 'Active Learning Routines' and Dr Carol Dweck's 'Growth Mindset' approach. We also utilise various 'Harvard Thinking Strategies' in our classes as well as creating a disposition for intelligent thinking with the 'Habits of Mind'. Our learners are actively involved in lessons, which allows them to develop the skill of applying their knowledge from as early as the Pre-Primary and the Foundation Phase.

The philosophy behind our MCS 'Thinking School' encompasses foci on inclusivity, differentiation, and academic superiority, all within a dynamic "Thinking School" environment. The learners are encouraged to develop skills in all areas of their education: academic, social, emotional, sport, cultural and spiritual – while maintaining their individuality and developing their personal strengths.

MCS READING PROGRAMME

Numerous studies have highlighted the positive correlation between reading proficiency and academic achievement across all subjects. By honing their reading skills, learners will be better equipped to excel in other academic areas. Exposure to more texts of different genres allows our learners to build upon their vocabulary and viewpoints, granting better understanding in class and examinations.

Due to the vast importance of regular, daily reading, MCS has a dedicated reading programme for all learners. The goal of the reading programme is to provide at least an hour of personal reading during the school week. We request that every learner brings a reading book to school every day. This allows the learners to read when their work is done in class or during the scheduled reading times. Our reading programme is designed not only to enhance literacy skills but also to foster a lifelong passion for learning and exploration.

SOLUTION SEEKERS SUMMIT

The Solution Seekers Summit (SSS) is a prestigious, innovation-driven tournament that inspires schools to tackle real-world challenges through creativity, teamwork, and a spirit of purpose.

Rooted in the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the competition empowers learners to explore opportunities that address some of the most pressing issues facing our world and local communities.

ESTEAM PROGRAMME

ESTEAM is an acronym for Entrepreneurship, Science, Technology & Robotics, Engineering, Art and Maths. The countries that have focused on ESTEAM have produced top engineers, designers, computer scientists, creators of software and biomedical experts to name a few.

The International Cambridge curriculum for Sciences, Mathematics and Technology is considered to be one of the best in the world. MCS has increased collaboration between these subject areas as an integrated approach to ensure that we challenge our learners to develop new ways of thinking and encourage our learners to think more broadly about real-world problems. Our learning programme ensures that we do more critical problem-solving projects to express our learners' 'creative thinking through design and fabrication. It supports our underlying philosophy at our school of: I do – I understand. MCS also includes Entrepreneurship (Business & Accounting) into this teaching programme as it is abundantly clear that to flourish in the new world, an entrepreneurial spirit is vital.

At MCS, the vision for ESTEAM applies to all learning from pre-preparatory ages to school leaving since innovation, solution finding, critical and analytical thinking and entrepreneurship are key to being relevant in this fast-changing world. Every learner embarks on this inspirational project-based learning programme in the pursuit of knowledge and the mastery of critical 21st-century skills.

CURRICULUM

The *educational cornerstones* that our school's curriculum is based on are:

- Academics
- Personal Development Programme
- Culture & Sport
- Environment & Community
- Entrepreneurial Skills

Academics

'Education for tomorrow's world' - Real World Ready

The Mountain Cambridge School has met all the standards required to be a Cambridge International Education (Registered Centre ZA 245) and has been awarded International status by University of Cambridge. Mountain Cambridge School offers a range of internationally accepted qualifications including Cambridge's A Level, AS Level, IGCSE Level and Secondary 1 Level.

Cambridge is the world's largest provider of international qualifications for 14-19 year olds. The Cambridge International Curriculum is designed to teach learners how to learn and to go on learning. Our role goes beyond helping learners achieve good results, and beyond giving learners passports for progression to university or employment. We give our learners a curriculum that will bring lifelong success in tomorrow's world.

Cambridge qualifications are welcomed at the world's leading universities – Cambridge, Harvard, Yale, Oxford and Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Cambridge qualifications are recognised locally by the South African Matriculation Board for entrance into South African Universities. In order to comply with the requirements for Matric Exemption certain subject groupings are required. We will guide our learners in their subject choices to ensure compliance with the Matriculation Board's requirements should they intend going on to University.

Cambridge Lower Secondary Level (LSL)

LSL builds on the primary stage, and develops learners' knowledge and skills.

The Cambridge subjects offered are:

- Cambridge Mathematics;
- Cambridge English;
- Cambridge Science (which includes Biology, Chemistry and Physics)
- Cambridge Computing & Digital Literacy
- Cambridge Music
- Cambridge Art & Design

Other subjects offered on this level are:

Afrikaans 2nd Language, History & Geography, Economic and Management Sciences (EMS), and the learners will write internal exams in these subjects.
Life Orientation.

At the end of Grade 8/Form 1 learners will write Cambridge Checkpoint exams in the following 3 major subjects: English, Mathematics and Science, set and marked by Cambridge, providing detailed diagnostic information on learners' strengths and weaknesses, before learners move onto the IGCSE Level.

International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE)

A wide range of subjects are available and these are grouped into 5 curriculum areas:

<i>Cambridge Languages</i>	<i>Cambridge Humanities and Social Sciences</i>	<i>Cambridge Sciences</i>	<i>Cambridge Mathematics</i>	<i>Cambridge Creative, Technical and Vocational</i>
English 1st language Afrikaans 2nd language French Foreign – depending on demand IsiZulu Foreign - depending on demand Portuguese Foreign - depending on demand	Geography	Biology Physics Chemistry	Core Mathematics Extended Mathematics	Accounting Art & Design Business Computer Science

IGCSE qualifications provide a solid foundation for higher level courses such as A and AS Levels, as well as excellent preparation for employment. IGCSE has been designed to equip learners with the skills needed for immediate employment. A minimum requirement for a South African Matriculation Certificate is: 5 IGCSE + 2 AS subjects. Learners need 6 or 7 subjects selected from the 5 IGCSE curriculum areas. The subjects selected must include two different languages from GROUP 1 and one subject from each of GROUPS 3, 4 & 5. The other subjects can be taken from any of the 5 subject groups.

Advanced Subsidiary (AS) and Advanced (A) Level

A wide range of subjects are available and these are grouped into 5 curriculum areas:

<i>Cambridge Languages</i>	<i>Cambridge Humanities and Social Sciences</i>	<i>Cambridge Sciences</i>	<i>Cambridge Mathematics</i>	<i>Cambridge Creative, Technical and Vocational</i>
English language Afrikaans French Foreign – depending on demand Portuguese Foreign - depending on demand	Geography - depending on demand	Biology Physics Chemistry	AS Mathematics A level Mathematics	Accounting Art & Design Business Computer Science

The minimum USAf (Universities South Africa) requirements for Matriculation Exemption are: to pass 4 AS level subjects and 1 IGCSE subject (but we recommend that our learners take at least 5 AS level subjects). Cambridge International A/AS Level opens a world of opportunities – helping learners secure places at all the major universities, or proving their achievements to future employers.

Personal Development Programme (PDP) / Life Orientation

As the name suggests it is an interdisciplinary learning area that orientates learners to engage in a personal development journey towards life – life with all of its tests and contests - to prepare our learners to be Real World Ready.

The PDP is concerned with developing knowledge about the self and skills that will enable young people to engage socially, to be responsible citizens, and to live healthy and productive lives. It is also about adopting a positive attitude towards physical activities, fitness and recreation. Our school supports the *“Healthy body, Healthy mind”* philosophy.

We want to prepare our learners to be morally responsible, law-abiding participants in our multifaceted country. These include opportunities to engage in the development and practice of a variety of life skills, to solve problems, to make informed decisions and choices and to take appropriate actions to live meaningfully and successfully in a rapidly changing society.

The PDP programme, which is cost inclusive, is compulsory for all our learners from Grade 4 – AS. For the Form 1-5 it is offered as a non-examination subject.

The focus areas are:

- Personal well-being
- Personal Skills Development
- Social Development/Citizenship Education
- Physical Development and Movement
- Career Choices and Business Behaviour – orientation to the world of work
- Leadership Development: Prefects, Duty Panel, Class monitors, Lab monitors, Sport Captains, Heads of houses, Library monitors
- Entrepreneurial Skills Development & Financial Planning
- Mentorship programmes (LSL & AS2) + (AS2 & High School Teachers)
- Presidents Award
- Interact Club
- Solution Seekers Summit
- Peer Promoters (SANBS)

Culture & Sport

The culture & sport curriculum forms an essential part of our school programme. We have allocated cultural periods each week that will form part of our Personal Development Programme. We want to create a platform for all our learners to enable them to express themselves in a creative way using different genres.

The sporting mission of MCS is to provide coaching and sporting/practice facilities for the learners to enable them to play as true sportspersons in “the spirit of the game”. Sports periods form part of the normal school timetable.

Music for body-brain integration:

IGCSE 1 and IGCSE 2 attend “Music for Body-Brain Integration” sessions in the music class once a week. Topics covered include: the importance of breath and sound in stress-release, developing whole-brain learning through brain-integration movement and sound, and the important effect of your own thoughts on your attitude and self-acceptance.

Sport & Culture

Learners are required to participate in at least **one** cultural activity and in at least **one** summer and **one** winter sport. These co-curricular / extra mural activities, which are also **cost inclusive**, are:

Cultural Activities					
Term 1		Term 2		Term 3	
During School Hours					
Marimba Band*	Monday	Marimba Band*	Monday	Marimba Band*	Monday
Interact Club	Tuesday	Interact Club	Tuesday	Interact Club	Tuesday
Youth	Thursday	Youth	Thursday	Youth	Thursday
After School Hours					
SACOPA*	Monday	SACOPA*	Monday	SACOPA *	Monday
Choir	Thursday	Choir	Thursday	Choir	Thursday
Photography	Thursday	Science/Bridge Building	Thursday	Photography	Thursday
Writers Circle	Thursday	Chess *	Thursday	Writers Circle	Thursday
Chess *	Thursday	Marimba Band *	Thursday	Chess *	Thursday
Marimba Band *	Thursday	Drama	Thursday	Marimba Band *	Thursday
Robotics (LSL)*	Thursday	Robotics (LSL)*	Thursday	Robotics (LSL)*	Thursday
* Year-Round Clubs					
Additional Cultural Activities					
Olympiads: English, Mathematics, Accounting & Business and Physics Olympiads Debating & Public Speaking School Drama Production or House Plays Solution Seekers Summit					

Sports	
SUMMER	WINTER
Athletics	Soccer
Swimming	Netball
Cricket	7s Rugby
	Archery (additional)
ALL YEAR	
Basketball	
Equestrian	
Swimming	
Cross Country	
Drum Majorettes	
Hiking on Saturdays (additional)	

Environment & Community

The learners' involvement in community and environmental projects are an essential part of our school curriculum. Our school's motto for our outreach arm is: *"Be the change you want to see in the world"*.

Our aim is to lead by example, to serve others, to respect other cultures and to contribute positively to society. We will be involved in reading schemes, numeracy and literacy training, art workshops and skills development.

Environment awareness

As an Eco School, we care about doing our part to advance the "green" movement. By using products that are environmentally friendly, we can lead by example and make our learners aware, from a practical view, how it is enforced.

We have also introduced a formal recycling initiative into our school environment from the Executive Head's office to the classrooms. Each learner, as part of a team, will have a turn to categorise and dispose of our clean recyclable litter. We will educate the school staff and learners on which items of litter can be recycled and hope that the ideas will filter into your homes too, among others.

Community Outreach

- Social responsibility & investment.
- Establishment of an educational trust.
- Partners with the Mountain Cambridge School's support of Ennis Thabong Primary, Lesedi House, CANSA, Hartbeespoort Animal Welfare Society, Ten Rooms School, Purple Pinkie Project for Polio Awareness, Dare to go Bare, Meerhof School and Skeerpoort Primary school.
- MCS Care Packages project
- Jars of Hope
- SANBS (Blood Drives)

Entrepreneurial Skills

MCS Entrepreneurial skills enable the learners to think creatively and to be more innovative. This supports and aligns with the MCS Thinking Philosophy.

The LSL "Future Founder's Fair" enables the learners to problem solve and be creative thinkers of the future.

In 2025 our learners each received 1 recyclable item from a set list, to repurpose into something that the teachers and senior High School learners would be willing to invest in.

We challenged them to think "outside of the box" and they didn't disappoint us with their creativity and innovative ideas.

President's Award

The President's Award for Youth Empowerment is the official Duke of Edinburgh International Award in South Africa. It is an internationally recognised programme which exists to provide young people with the opportunity to develop their character, discover their purpose and determine their future to contribute to building a better South Africa for all.

Candidates work towards the award through developing their skills, serving their communities and improving their physical health, among other outcomes.

Cambridge is a keen advocate of the award in their schools, given the opportunities for personal growth and development offered tie in so well with the ideal Cambridge candidate.

Interact club

Interact clubs bring together young people ages 12-18 to develop leadership skills while discovering the power of Service Above Self.

Interactors are Rotary-sponsored service clubs and connect with leaders in your community and around the world to:

- Take action to make a difference in your school and community
- Discover new cultures and promote international understanding
- Become a leader in your school and community
- Have fun and make new friends from around the world

SCHOOL HOURS

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY:	07:30 – 15:20
TUESDAY	07:30 – 14:20
FRIDAY:	07:30 – 14:20 (except AS 1 and AS 2 learners)

Teachers' Consultation hours: (when not involved in extra mural activities)

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday:	15:20 – 16:00
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2026 MCS CALENDAR

Term 1

Start:	Wednesday 14 January
Close:	Friday 10 April (11:00 closing time)
Half Term	Close: Thursday 19 February (12:00 closing time) Return: Tuesday 24 February

Public Holidays:	Friday 3 April (Good Friday) Monday 6 April (Family Day)
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Term 2

Start:	Wednesday 6 May
Close:	Friday 7 August (11:00 closing time)
Half Term:	Close: Friday 26 June (normal closing time) Return: Monday 6 July

Public Holidays:	Tuesday 16 June (Youth Day)
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Term 3

Start:	Wednesday 9 September
Close:	Friday 4 December (11:00 closing time)
Half Term:	Close: Thursday 22 October (12:00 closing time) Return: Tuesday 27 October

Public Holiday:	Thursday 24 September (Heritage Day)
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SCHOOL UNIFORM

The school uniform is compulsory and the proper school uniform must be worn at all times.

LSL – A Levels (FORM 1 -6)

The formal school uniform (i.e., school tie & blazer) is compulsory during assemblies every Friday and also, for school outings and all school events attended by students.

Girls:	Boys:
• Summer: White short-sleeve school shirt, school skirt, white short socks, black school shoes, school blazer, school pullover. School rain-mac available.	• Summer: White short-sleeve shirt, long / short navy pants, navy socks, black lace-up school shoes, school blazer, school pullover. School rain-mac available.
• Winter: White long sleeve school shirt, school skirt and navy lycra stockings, or long navy pants, black school shoes, school tie, school jersey, school blazer, school pullover, school scarf. School rain-mac available.	• Winter: White long-sleeve shirt, long navy pants, black lace-up school shoes, navy socks, school tie, school jersey, school blazer, school pullover, school scarf. School rain-mac available.

SPORTS UNIFORM

GIRLS

Compulsory sports attire

Attire	Description	Sports	Supplier
Multipurpose sport shirt	V-neck, sleeveless, sublimated MCS sport shirt (maroon and navy).	Primary School Netball, Athletics, Physical Education.	Available from the MCS uniform shop & second-hand shop.
High School Netball dress	Netball dresses	High School Netball.	Available from a private supplier.
Quantec shorts	Navy shorts with a maroon and navy stripe.	Athletics.	Available from the MCS uniform shop & second-hand shop.
MCS Basketball Kit	MCS Prolite navy blue soccer vest with red pattern sublimation and white stripes, Prolite navy blue soccer shorts with white crest.	HS Basketball	Available from School Emporium

Optional sports attire

Attire	Description	Sports	Supplier
Athletics shorts	Navy athletics' shorts.	Athletics (Formal events).	Available from the MCS uniform shop & second-hand shop.
Long-sleeve shirt	Navy long sleeve shirt	To be worn under multipurpose shirt for sport days	Any retailer.

BOYS

Compulsory sports attire

Attire	Description	Sports	Supplier
Multipurpose sport shirt	V-neck, sleeved, sublimated MCS sport shirt (maroon and navy).	Soccer, Athletics	Available from the MCS uniform shop & second-hand shop.
Soccer Kit	MCS Prolite navy blue soccer shirt with white sublimation, Prolite navy blue soccer shorts with maroon sublimation.	HS Soccer	Available from School Emporium
MCS Basketball Kit	MCS Prolite navy blue soccer vest with red pattern sublimation and white stripes, Prolite navy blue soccer shorts with white crest.	HS Basketball	Available from School Emporium
MCS Rugby Kit	MCS Rugby jersey, navy blue, maroon with white crest, black rugby shorts	HS Rugby	Available from School Emporium (MCS Rugby jersey) Any retailer (Black rugby shorts)

Optional sports attire

Attire	Description	Sports	Supplier
Athletics shorts	Navy athletics' shorts.	Athletics (Formal events).	Available from the MCS uniform shop & second-hand shop.
Athletics shirt	Sleeveless, round-neck navy and maroon shirt.	Athletics (Formal events).	Available from the MCS uniform shop & second-hand shop.
Long-sleeve shirt	Navy long-sleeve shirt	To be worn under a multipurpose shirt for sport days	Any retailer.

Other items:

- School bags, tog bags, cooler bag (optional)
- MCS beanies and MCS scarves (with coloured stripes) and navy gloves

The boy's and girl's sport uniform is compulsory for all sporting activities: navy school track suit, school t-shirt, school shorts, navy swimming costume ("Jammer" style for boys).

School Stockist

McCullagh & Bothwell is an official uniform supplier of MCS school uniforms on a consignment basis, and Susan Ackerman is appointed by McCullagh & Bothwell as their selling agent, at the MCS Uniform Shop, a premise provided by the school.

The MCS Uniform Shop will be open during the following days on the school grounds.

- Every Monday from 09:00- 12:00,
- Every Wednesday from 12:00 – 14:00

***Credit cards are welcome.**

Susan Ackerman – 083 758 0455

MCS Second-hand Uniform shop

The school also have a second-hand uniform shop.
Available by appointment.

Susanna Zoelner 083 260 3963

School Emporium

Selected sport uniforms are available at School Emporium

Shop 5, Harties Mall, Beethoven Road
Hartbeespoort

012 111 0630

Items available at any other retailer:

- Navy stockings ('winter woollies')
- Long sleeved white shirt
- High School Boys Navy Pants
- Long sleeve shirt (sport)
- Navy swimming costume
- School bags, tog bags, cooler bag (optional)

SCHOOL FEES 2026

LEVEL	ANNUALLY	TERMLY x 3 Jan/May/Sept	MONTHLY x 10 Jan - Oct
LSL (Grade 8)	R 98 295	R 32 760	R 10 085
IGCSE (Grade 9 & 10)	R 109 625	R 36 550	R 11 250
AS (Grade 11 & 12)			

The following discounts apply:

- 5% Sibling Discount for 2nd child and 10% Sibling Discount for 3rd child*
- 7% Discount if Fees are paid annually in advance before 30th November*
- 5% Discount if Fees are paid annually in advance before 31st January*

LEVEL	7% Discount Before 30 th November	5% Discount Before 31 st January
LSL (Grade 8)	R 91 415	R 93 380
IGCSE (Grade 9 & 10)	R 101 950	R 104 145
AS (Grade 11 & 12)		

Additional costs:

Non-Refundable Acceptance Fees

High School R 5 000.00 - Once off per Registration

Please note:

School fees are compulsory and are payable strictly in advance. The following methods of payment are available:

- Annual tuition fees paid in full by the end of November for the following year: discounted by 7%
- Annual tuition fees paid in full on the 31st January: discounted by 5%
- Monthly tuition fees: due and payable on the first of every month over a 10 month period (Jan – Oct).
- Termly tuition fees: due and payable on the first day of January, May and September.
- **A full term's notice, in writing, or the equivalent fee in lieu thereof is required prior to the withdrawal of a pupil.**
- All tours, school excursions and theatre outings are payable when advised of the event.
- **The above School Fees EXCLUDE Cambridge external exams, some text books, stationery packs and private extra-murals. (The Cambridge External Exam Fees are quoted in £'s and are payable on exam registration at the rate of exchange.)**

BANK DETAILS

Account Holder: The Mountain Cottage School
Account Number: 1469021153
Bank: Nedbank Brits
Branch Code: 187646
NB! Proof of payment to: accounts@themcs.co.za
Reference on Payment: **Oldest child in MCS's name and surname**

STATIONERY & TEXTBOOKS

Tuition fees do not include the cost of IGCSE and AS/A level textbooks and stationery. At the beginning of the year the prescribed textbooks will be available from the Bursar's Office. Learners will receive stationery lists for their subjects and will be responsible for the purchasing themselves.

EXAMINATION PROCEDURES

External Cambridge International Examination Fees:

Examination fees are not included under tuition fees and are paid separately at time of entry for exams. Fees are subject to changes according to the exchange rate at time of entry. Exam fees are payable from August to September for the November session. Penalty fees apply for late entries.

Exam procedures:

Question papers are sent from Cambridge and learners' scripts are returned to Cambridge for marking, ensuring a continuous high standard of education. Our main examinations are at the end of the school year in October to November.

A mid-year exam session is offered by Cambridge in May/June and AS/IGCSE learners wishing to upgrade results from previous examinations may re-write subjects in this session.

Exam results:

May/June results are available in August and end of the year results in mid-January of the following year. Certificates are issued by Cambridge.

CODE OF CONDUCT

This is the framework which guides the children of our school to behave in a positive manner. It creates a culture of learning and teaching through a discipline system that protects all the learners' right to effective education, their right to human dignity and their right to security.

MCS has compiled this code in co-operation with the learners, teachers and parents. It will be updated regularly. The Code of Conduct is based on Section 8 of the SA Schools Act (84) of 1996. School discipline has two main goals: (1) ensure the safety of staff and learners, and (2) create an environment conducive to learning.

A MCS learner is expected to uphold the values of the school and to represent our school in the most responsible way possible.

The ethos of The Mountain Cambridge School is one of nurturing and support so that each child can be the best that he/she can be. MCS aims to guide and develop children so that they are ready to contribute effectively to their world in the future. Education is not only the responsibility of the teachers, but also of the learners and parents.

The values taught and upheld by MCS are many but MCS focusses on: tolerance, independence, friendliness, helpfulness, responsibility, self-discipline and promptness. Our school motto, "*Real World Ready*" is based upon 6 core values: hard work, honesty, respect, discipline, trust and enthusiasm. These values serve as a compass pointing out what it means to be true to oneself.

Honouring these values will guide our learners in fulfilling their goals. Each child is expected to complete his/her work to the best of his/her ability and to complete all work with enthusiasm and pride.

OBJECTIVES:

The Code of Conduct is a key step in fulfilling our Board of Director's and stakeholders' commitment to make our school safe by promoting respect, responsibility and civility. Learners, teachers, staff and parents have the right to be safe, and feel safe, in their school community.

With this Code we are setting clear, consistent standards of behaviour that will help accomplish this goal. Our school's behaviour policy is based on our school's values and our aim is to promote behaviour improvement as a means of improving learning and teaching.

Our aim with these rules is to help our learners learn self-control, respect for themselves and have respect for others, and to learn this very important lesson: "Self-discipline controls my consequences". We want our learners to take pride in themselves, their behaviour and their school by always setting a good example. We want to create a disciplined but relaxed environment which is conducive to learning.

School uniform

- The school uniform is compulsory, and the proper school uniform must be worn at all times and to school functions, unless stated otherwise.
- Learners' uniforms should look neat and learners should always be groomed and well-presented.
- When wearing a school uniform in a public area, the complete and correct uniform must be worn.
- The formal school uniform is compulsory during assemblies every Friday.
- Track-suit tops and windbreakers may not be worn with the formal school uniform.
- The school drimac will be allowed during winter and rainy days.
- Boys' pants shall be worn securely at the waist; no abdomen skin or underwear is to be exposed. No skinny or tight-fitting pants are allowed.
- Boys' shirts are always to be kept tucked in.
- Girls' skirts/skorts are not to be shorter than 10 cm above the knee.
- Girls' summer shirts (fitted shirts) are not allowed to be tucked in.
- All learners participating in approved school activities are expected to comply with the required dress code and personal appearance regulations of the activity in which they are participating.

Hair and appearance

Girls:

- Girls' hair has to be neat, clean and well-groomed.
- All styles should be conservative, neat and in keeping with a school uniform.
- No hair gel, dyeing, bleaching, highlighting, colouring, colour washing, colour rinsing or shaving of hair in any way is allowed.
- If hair is long enough to be tied back, i.e. touching the collar, it must be tied back neatly in a ponytail, no lower than the nape of the neck, with a white, navy blue or maroon/burgundy elastic.
- No fashion items (like crocodile, banana or other fancy clips) are allowed.
- All hair must be off the face and not be in the eyes. Fringes must be neat and kept out of the face line.
- All hair elastics, ribbons and alic bands must be in the school colours (white, navy blue, maroon/burgundy).
- Only braids matching the original natural colour of the hair are allowed. MCS will allow transparent beads in the braids in moderation (no coloured beads).
- No crocheted hairbands are allowed. Hair bands, which may have a maximum width of 5cm, may not be worn to cover any part of the ears.
- Hair buns must be tight with no loose hair and have to be worn in the neck, and not on top of the head. The hair may not cover the elastic.
- No dreadlocks are allowed.
- No make-up will be allowed.
- Visible pierced jewellery shall be limited to one piercing per earlobe. Only small plain sleepers **or** stud earrings may be worn, no diamonds, pearls or coloured studs.

Boys

- Hair must be cut to an acceptable and uniform length and must always be neat and clean.
- Hairstyles must be conservative by nature, and there should not be a significant difference in the length of the sides and the top of the head. No Mohawks, patterns, dreadlocks, braids or definite step is allowed.
- Hair should not bunch at the back of the head or above the ears but must be shaped and evenly graded. Hair from any part of the head may not cover any part of the ear. Hair must be clear of the collar and may not terminate in a point.

- Fringes must be neat and kept out of the face line. Hair must be above the eyebrows, even when combed forward.
- A haircut is required monthly or when new growth at the top has resulted in the top hair length exceeding 6.5cm (5cm maximum top length when cut plus monthly growth of 1.5cm) or infringes on any of the general hair guidelines as stipulated by the code of conduct.
- No hair products such as gel and/or dyes are permitted, and no unusual styles will be permitted. Boys may not perm or straighten their hair.
- A boy told to cut his hair has two days to do so.
- Boys are not allowed to have any visible piercings and may not wear earrings in any school context.
- Boys will be clean-shaven when wearing the school uniform or representing the school. No moustaches or stubble is permitted, and sideburns may not reach longer than halfway down the ear. No lines may be shaved or cut into the hair or eyebrows.

General appearance for boys and girls

- Nails are to be clean, short and neat at all times. Clear nail polish may be worn, for girls only.
- No jewellery, including rings, chains and bracelets, except watches, may be worn.
- Decorations, symbols, mottos, or designs imprinted or attached to the body or clothing, which are offensive to good taste or the maintenance of decorum, or which advertise tobacco, alcohol, drugs, or which identify the learners as members of secret anti-social groups or gangs, shall not be worn to school or school functions.
- Hair regulations are in force for the full calendar year and will not be relaxed towards the end of term or during exams.

Religious and Health Accommodation

Where a bona fide religious belief or health need of a learner conflicts with the school dress code, reasonable accommodation shall be provided. Any learner desiring accommodation shall notify the Principal in writing of the requested accommodation and the factual basis for the request. Approved coverings worn as part of a learner's bona fide religious practices or beliefs shall not be prohibited under this policy.

The Principal, or designee, shall determine the appropriateness of dress and appearance. The Principal, or designee, will decide if a learner's appearance meets school and community standards. The Principal's decision on the appropriateness of dress is final.

Suitcases:

- A strong, partitioned suitcase, clearly marked with the name
- No wheely bags allowed, our school embraces a "wheely-free" environment.
- No graffiti is allowed on the bag
- Lockers are assigned to all Grade 4 to Grade 7 learners.

Cell phones/Tablets or any other electronic equipment:

- No cell phones will be allowed during school hours: 06:30 to 16:00.
- Learners are encouraged to not bring their cell phones to school. Any communication with their parents will be through the school's front office.
- Cell phones must be switched off during school time and can only be used after school. If seen or detected during school hours, the cell phone will be confiscated for two weeks.
- If learners bring cell phones to school, then it is with the understanding that MCS will not be held responsible for any loss, damage or theft thereof, including confiscated cell phones.
- It is on the onus of the learner to take responsibility for the safekeeping of his/her cell phone at all times.
- Events & school dances: no cell phones needed.

Policy on late comers/punctuality/truancy and signing out

- School starts promptly at 07:30. All learners must be in their register classrooms or line-ups by **07:25** for announcements and registration.
- Late comers must report to the Administration Office to receive an **Entry Slip** (if the reason is valid) or a **Late Slip**.
- Three late slips will result in a **Friday** detention.
- Truancy from a class or from school is a serious offence. Repeated truancy may lead to suspension.
- If a learner feels ill during school hours they have to report to the LEAP Centre (parents will be contacted if deemed necessary).
- If an appointment is scheduled during school hours (which should be avoided) a note or email from parents must be handed into the Administration Office from where an early departure slip will be issued.
- Any child collected from school before the end of a school day can only leave if a parent has signed the Admin Exit register at our Admin offices and **has asked for permission 24 hours prior via email or telephonically from the Principal for the early departure.**
- The procedure for a learner to leave school during the day is:
 - If a learner feels ill during school, they have to report to the Administration Office, after they received prior permission from their teacher, (parents will be contacted if deemed necessary).
 - If an appointment is scheduled during school hours (which should be avoided) a note or email from parents must be handed into the Administration Office from where an early departure slip will be issued.
 - Any child collected from school before the end of a school day can only leave if a parent has signed the Admin Exit register at our Admin offices and has asked in advanced permission via email or telephonically from the Principal for the early departure.
- If absent during an examination or standardised test, a valid medical certificate must be produced.
- Access to examination rooms will not be allowed a half an hour after commencement of exams.
- A learner absent/to be absent from school must follow proper communication channels ahead of time where appropriate/possible.

Substance abuse and prohibited items

- Possession of, dealing in or using alcohol or drugs/stimulants i.e. Red bull, Monster, is strictly prohibited.
- A ZERO TOLERANCE policy on banned substances will be adhered to.
- Possession of pornographic material is prohibited.
- Possession of or smoking cigarettes or vaping is prohibited.
- No weapons of any kind may be brought to school (i.e. guns, knives).
- The Principal & staff will bear responsibility and will do everything in her/his power to ensure that MCS remains a drug free zone.
- Suitable education, guidance and monitoring programmes will be conducted at MCS.
- Appropriate actions will be taken in cases of infringements of this policy.
- The best interests of the school as a whole will be considered paramount.

Testing for Banned / Illegal Substances

Mountain Cambridge High School will remain a drug free zone. A ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY WILL BE ADHERED TO.

- The Principal has the right to search any learner, in accordance with the prescriptions of the Government Gazette, Notice 776 of 1998.

- Parent/Guardian acceptance of the Terms of Admission of The Mountain Cambridge School provides prior permission to the Principal to arrange random drug tests at his/her discretion.
- If any further investigation is required the school will render its fullest support and assistance to the SAPS.

MOTOR VEHICLE POLICY:

Only AS 2 learners, who are in possession of a valid driver's license and a letter of consent from their parents, may approach the Principal to request permission to drive on the grounds.

- Once permission has been granted, cars may only be parked on the Church grounds.
- Note the speed limit; one may not exceed 20 km/hour.
- This privilege may be withdrawn at any time if there is abuse of these rules.
- Vehicles are parked at own risk. The school is not responsible for any damage or theft caused to vehicles parked on our grounds.

Motorbikes

Only learners, who are in possession of a valid motorbike's license and a letter of consent from their parents, may approach the Principal to request permission to drive in the grounds.

- Once permission has been granted, motorbikes may only be parked on the Church grounds.
- Note the speed limit; one may not exceed 20 km/hour.
- This privilege may be withdrawn at any time if there is abuse of these rules.
- Motorbikes are parked at own risk. The school is not responsible for any damage or theft caused to motorbikes parked on our grounds.
- Obey traffic rules – do not drive alongside each other.

POSITIVE REINFORCEMENTS can be awarded to the learners for:

- good values and positive attitudes;
- sportsmanship;
- recycling efforts;
- cultural activities;
- community service;
- academic effort.

1. House teams

The house teams, ***Darwin, Maxwell and Newton***, are named after famous scientists who were Cambridge University learners.

Points are awarded to the house teams for acts of individual and group goodwill deeds including community work and school service. A competition is generated each term to inspire the children and increase house spirit.

2. Good work certificates

- These should be issued as a reward for a concerted and positive work ethic.
- Good work certificates will be issued at the educator's discretion.
- The educator shall consciously seek to allow every child an opportunity to earn good work certificates at the end of each exam series.

CAFÉ FLAVA – LEARNER CAFÉ

Café Flava provides a variety of healthy food choices which are nourishing, well-presented and fresh. The delivery of such remains a priority for the School and forms part of our school's "*healthy body, healthy mind*" philosophy. Café Flava provides healthy, home-style meals daily for the learners, in addition to the standard snacks and refreshments on offer.

Hours: 8:00 to 15:30 Monday to Friday

Meal orders may be placed in advance and special dietary needs can be catered for.

Café Flava App:

<https://apps.apple.com/ph/app/cafe-flava/id6498711809>

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.fiveloyalty.cafejava>

SAFETY AND SECURITY

The school gates will be closed from 8:15 to 13:15 daily, with access gained by ringing the bell.

The school is under CCTV surveillance and security guards are on duty.

TRANSPORT

MCS makes use of a number of private bus transport providers. This privatisation means that learners are being transported in larger, safer buses. These drivers provide a service in the local suburbs.

All bus users should be respectful to their drivers and obey the rules of the bus. As this is a private service to assist parents all bus fees must be paid monthly in advance directly to the bus drivers. Casual trips can also be arranged with the drivers. Every learner who uses this service must sign a bus indemnity form.

MCS School Bus Service

Due to the increased interest in our school, we are excited to announce the launch of our brand-new, convenient MCS bus service transporting learners to and from The Mountain Cambridge School from January 2026. We will introduce convenient pick-up and drop-off points that will be at strategically placed points at:

- The Islands Spar
- The Coves
- Leloko
- Damdoryn Spar

Seats are limited, and we wouldn't want your child to miss out on this fantastic opportunity. To reserve a spot on our bus service, simply reach out to our school administration, Christine, at 063 482 6822 or email reception@themcs.co.za as well as to get more information with regards to the bus fees, bus routes as well as the bus application forms. This service will be strictly for MCS enrolled learners only.

THE MOUNTAIN CAMBRIDGE

HIGH SCHOOL PRAYER

Almighty God,

May our school be welcoming

May our school be encouraging,

Let friendship flourish here,

Let learning fill our day,

Give us the strength to do our best,

Give us the hope to carry on,

Be our guide in all that we do.

Amen

Unified in uniqueness

When asked why MCS? Three words replay in my mind,
Unity in diversity

Unity being described as the state of forming a complete and harmonious whole.
Diversity being the art of think independently despite being together .

The linking word being art, the strokes which are embedded on canvas within us.
Maroon, white and navy blue.

Navy blue symbolising trust and stability.
That's not only found in our students and teachers but the very soil this school
was built on.

Maroon, the colour of passion, love and energy that's not only found in the
physics class but resonates in the walls of every room.

And lastly white
The colour which contains all the colours of spectrum,
Showing despite me and you being different when put together in abundance we
produce a blinding force.

-Ashley Chitekedza
Matric Learner 2023

CONTACT INFORMATION

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