

ENTHUSIASM

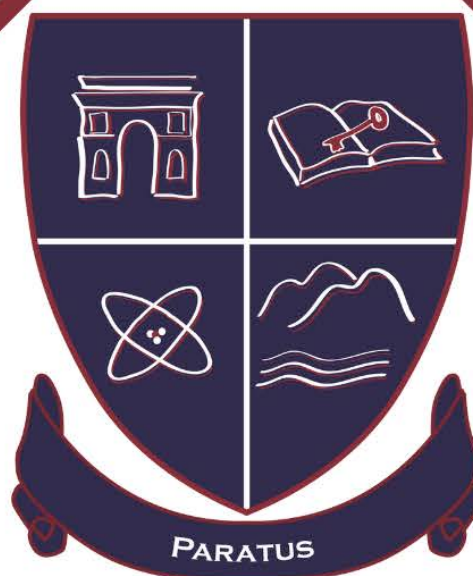
HARD WORK

DISCIPLINE

HONESTY

RESPECT

TRUST



**THE MOUNTAIN
CAMBRIDGE SCHOOL**

Real World Ready

PROSPECTUS 2026

Primary School Grade 4-7



University
of Exeter



CAMBRIDGE
International Education

Cambridge International School

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OUR VISION

To be an advanced-thinking school: delivering world-class education with class averages above 70%, competitive in sports leagues, achieving excellence on national cultural platforms, and developing learners of strong character and integrity

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 Learner matters". We will strive at MCS to ensure a happy Learner 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* on which our school's curriculum is based on are:

1. Academic
2. Personal Development Programme
3. Culture & Sport
4. Environment & community

Academic

'Education for tomorrow's world' - Real world ready

Advantages of Cambridge Primary Syllabus

- **A curriculum for Learners aged 6 – 11**
- **Excellent preparation for secondary education**
- **Tests show progression of your Learner's ability through primary education**
- **Certificate of Achievement for each Learner at the end of Grade 6 in the primary school**
- **Developed by University of Cambridge International Education**

Foundation for secondary education

Cambridge Primary aids identification of a learner's strengths and weaknesses and can be used to support learning and development. It provides learners with excellent preparation so they can progress seamlessly into Cambridge Secondary 1 and beyond.

External benchmark

As an international programme, Cambridge Primary provides teachers with an external benchmark to inform their teaching and easily measure learners' progress over time. It also enables detailed and structured reporting to parents.

International curriculum

Appropriate and relevant internationally, Cambridge Primary has been designed to be culturally sensitive. It includes top quality teaching and assessment resources appropriate for teaching and learning in local and international schools.

Flexibility

Cambridge Primary complements a range of teaching methods and curricula. No part of the programme is compulsory and schools have the freedom to choose the parts that best suit their situation.

Teachers work collaboratively within the classroom and learners are divided into smaller groups in Mathematics & English lessons so that every Learner has maximum exposure to the curriculum.

The curriculum is holistic, covering a wide range of subjects:

Curriculum: Cambridge Primary Programme (Grade 1 – 6) Cambridge Lower Secondary Level (Grade 7)	Subjects situational to the country the Learner resides in:
Cambridge English	Afrikaans
Cambridge Mathematics	Setswana
Cambridge Science	Economics & Management Sciences (Gr 6-7)
Cambridge Physical Education	Social Sciences (History & Geography)
Cambridge Computing & Digital Literacy	Robotics
Cambridge Music	Drama
Cambridge Art & Design	
Cambridge Global Perspectives	

- Co-curricular & Theme based
- Learner-centred / creative teaching strategies
- “Whole brain approach”
- Thinking skills

The Mountain Cambridge School has met all the standards required to be a Cambridge International Examination Centre (Registered Centre ZA 245) and has been awarded international status by the Cambridge International Education. Mountain Cambridge School offers a range of internationally accepted qualifications including Cambridge’s AS Level, IGCSE, Checkpoint, Primary and Lower Secondary Programmes. 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 International 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.

The Primary Programme:

The Primary School Programme aims to extend and enrich the Learners, increasing their critical thinking skills and awareness of the world. This phase ensures self-development and intellectual maturation so that the Learners will be successful at High School and are ready to fulfil their potential in their chosen career paths.

1. Cambridge English

English is taught as an integrated whole, through a thematic approach. The themes are used across the school. The whole-brained approach is adopted throughout, keeping the multicultural environment in mind. A combination of individual and group work is encouraged. Emphasis is on the Learner with the teacher as facilitator. Individual enrichment and extension is advised to keep faster Learners involved and fully extended.

- **Reading Programme**

An extensive library/"cave area" is housed in the English class and the learners are encouraged to choose their own reading book. In addition to this, each Learner has a graded reader which is part of the Oxford Reading Tree reading system. This encourages the love of reading and hones comprehension skills. The Learner moves from level to level.

2. Cambridge Mathematics

The Cambridge Primary Programme covers all aspects of Mathematics: Number and Number Systems, Calculations, Mental Skills, Problem Solving, Organising and Using data, Shape, Space and Measures including patterns and properties of shape, properties of position and movement and measures. Learners are introduced to a variety of concepts through both "hands on" and "abstract" tasks.

3. Cambridge Science

Science forms part of the core subjects in the Primary Phase (Gr 1-7). In following the Cambridge curriculum it serves as a stimulating vehicle for developing basic skills. Learners are encouraged to develop their natural curiosity, ask questions, devise suitable investigations, collect and observe, check and solve problems, record their findings and draw conclusions. The programmes of study include plants and animals, the human body, human influences on the earth, types and uses of materials, seasonal changes, space, forces, magnetism, sound, music and energy. School trips are arranged to be complementary to subject themes.

4. Cambridge Computing & Digital Literacy

At MCS we offer a combination of Cambridge Computing and Digital Literacy, which both explain how computers operate in a range of contexts. Although they are two different subjects, they are complimentary to each other. They can be broadly described as follows:

Computing: Learners develop a technical understanding of computer systems where processes are increasingly undertaken by computer-controlled technology. This includes opportunities for developing programs of their own, using languages such as 'Scratch' and 'Python'.

Digital Literacy: Learners will use computer software safely and responsibly in a range of global contexts. They will also understand how technology is enabling global communities to grow.

The combination of these subjects allows learners to explore the digital and computing world in various ways. An emphasis is placed on group work and class discussions, where every learner is heard. Using 'Thinking Maps' and 'thinking routines' helps focus the discussions and provides a good platform to express ideas and answers.

5. Cambridge Art & Design

Cambridge Primary Art & Design provides a platform for personal expression and encourages learners to embrace every opportunity to pursue their own ideas. Learners will also benefit from regular opportunities for collaboration, sharing ideas and learning from others. They will collaborate with peers to solve problems, share experimentation and celebrate outcomes.

From Grade 4-7 Art & Design projects follow the design process which incorporates research, planning, individual design, crafting or making, as well as presentation of the completed project. Thinking skills such as planning and problem solving are as important as the practical skills such as painting, drawing, woodwork, sewing, and paper craft and are incorporated with aesthetic presentation.

6. Cambridge Global Perspectives

The Curriculum Framework details the key benefits and aims of the programme and provides a comprehensive set of learning objectives detailing what learners should be able to do by the end of each stage. Learning objectives are divided into six main areas called 'strands', which run through every stage. Each strand corresponds to one of the following skills:

- Research
- Analysis
- Evaluation
- Reflection
- Collaboration
- Communication

The skills are taught through a wide range of topics using a personal, local and global perspective. We have designed the learning objectives to promote progression along the Cambridge Pathway.

7. Cambridge Music

The Music Programme at MCS follows the Cambridge Primary Music Curriculum, which assist learners to:

- cultivate a joy of music through participating in meaningful and enjoyable experiences
- develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to think and contribute as musicians
- collaborate with others in purposeful and expressive ways through singing and playing instruments
- nurture individual and collective creativity
- use their growing knowledge to explore and generate music that is unique, valuable and relevant.

The Cambridge approach encourages learners to be responsible, innovative, confident, engaged and reflective.

The Programme also culminates with several in-school concerts and participation in the annual Hartbeespoort Kunstefees. Marimbas, steel pans and recorders have been introduced into the programme so far.

8. Cambridge Physical Education

Cambridge Physical Education is about learning to move and also about moving to learn.

Learners start learning to move by practising the basic movement skills which are the foundation of all physical activities. These include balancing, running, jumping, landing, climbing, hopping and ball skills, Soccer, Netball, Swimming and Athletics.

House Team sports events such as Athletics and Swimming are held annually. Participation from all the learners is encouraged as a way to build team spirit.

Subjects situational to the country the Learner resides in:

9. Afrikaans

Our aim for Afrikaans is to supply each and every Learner with sufficient vocabulary to express themselves clearly and effectively within writing and speaking. We teach vocabulary, language structures and skills such as critical thinking, interpretation and problem solving through the "whole-brain" approach where different thinking styles are addressed and optimum learning therefore takes place. Our reading programme consists of exciting readers for each grade. Learners are also encouraged to take Afrikaans books out to read at home so as to improve their comprehension and interpretation skills. We encourage the learners to have a positive attitude towards Afrikaans as a modern and exceptionally expressive language.

10. Setswana

Language skills of listening, speaking and reading are taught through various activities.

11. Social Sciences

The General Studies Programme including Social Sciences (History and Geography) and is integrated throughout the curriculum by means of specifically planned and prepared activities planned around our themes.

We aim to develop in our learners a life-long desire to learn and explore. This is encouraged through the teaching of exciting lessons, setting challenging projects and extending the learning experience through trips and tours to exhibitions, plays and places of interest. Geographical skills and knowledge are integral to the understanding and appreciation of the environment in which we live. Responsible citizenship is fostered through an appreciation of the inter-dependence of society, nature, water, air, soil, vegetation and even the urban environment. Our learners are taught an appreciation of the sustainable use of the environment in which they live. Skills such as reading and interpreting maps; using symbols, scale, distance and direction; graphical and drawing skills and the translating of mapped information into the written word are taught. Learners study the relationships between people and themselves and their environment from the past to the present and looking forward into the future.

In History our focus is to encourage an open-minded, questioning and critical attitude. Not only will learners understand History, but we hope they will come to value it for the interesting, fun and challenging subject that it is.

12. Economic Management Sciences (EMS) (Grade 6 & 7)

The Economic and Management Sciences Learning Area teaches financial literacy and develops entrepreneurial skills.

- **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. We challenged them to think “outside of the box” and they didn't disappoint us with their creativity and innovative ideas through the Future Founders Fair.

13. Robotics

Our vision is to inspire our learners to participate in Science and Technology by engaging in a learning environment which provides a fun, creative, hands-on experience. We challenge real-world problem solving using Robotics through experiments while building self-esteem and confidence.

The Engineering of using Lego Education products is coupled with Science and Mathematics, which are the driving components in each lesson, providing a strong mechanical foundation for our learners. Drag and Drop Code, Scratch Programming and Python Programming form part of our Technology lessons.

Personal Development Programme (PDP)

As the name suggests this 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.

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 – 12.

The PDP focus areas are:

- Personal well-being
- Personal Skills Development
- Social Development/Citizenship Education
- Physical Development and Movement
- Careers /Career Choices and Business Behaviour – orientation to the world of work
- Leadership Development: Grade 7 Duty Panel members, Classroom monitors & Library monitors
- Entrepreneurial Skills Development & Financial Planning
- Mentorship programme
- Cambridge Music
- Cambridge Physical Education
- Cambridge Global Perspectives
- Solution Seekers Summit

Culture & Sport

The culture & sport curriculum forms an essential part of our school programme. We have allocated sport 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
SEASONAL
Athletics
Swimming
Cricket
Soccer
Netball
Rugby
ALL YEAR
Equestrian
Cross Country
Drum Majorettes (Grade 6 & 7)
Tennis

Cultural Activities	
After School Hours	
SACOPA	Monday
Choir	Tuesday
Chess Club	Thursday
Robotics Club	Thursday
Craft Club (Grade 4 & 5)	Thursday
Rotary EarlyAct Club (Grade 6 & 7)	Thursday
Additional Cultural Activities	
Solution Seekers Summit (Grade 6 & 7)	

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 Drive)

PRIMARY SCHOOL HOURS

MONDAY – FRIDAY: **07:30 – 14:20**

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

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday: 14:20 – 15:00

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)

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)

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)

SCHOOL UNIFORM

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

GRADE 4-7

GIRLS

Summer Uniform	Winter Uniform
MCS skort MCS short-sleeve, badged, white, fitted blouse MCS navy striped anklet	Long-sleeved white shirt (any retailer) MCS tie Skort & Navy stockings ('winter woollies') or MCS Girl's navy trousers MCS tracksuit for sports period & PE
Black school shoes MCS jersey - burgundy with white and navy stripes in the neck plus badge Rain-mac - (optional) to be worn with the formal uniform MCS peak cap - plain navy, badged	

BOYS

Summer Uniform	Winter Uniform
MCS navy shorts MCS short-sleeve open-neck badged white shirt	MCS navy long trousers Long sleeve white shirt & MCS tie MCS tracksuit for sports period & PE
MCS navy anklets Black school shoes MCS pullover Rain-mac (optional) to be worn with the formal uniform MCS peak cap	

PE/SPORTS UNIFORM

GIRLS

Compulsory sports attire

Attire	Description	Sports	Supplier
Multipurpose sport shirt Primary School netball skirt (Grades 1 to 7)	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.
Quantec shorts	Navy shorts with a maroon and navy stripe.	Physical Education and Athletics.	Available from the MCS uniform shop & second-hand shop.

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, Physical Education.	Available from the MCS uniform shop & second-hand shop.
Physical Education/ soccer shorts	Maroon shorts with a navy stripe to match the multipurpose sport.	Soccer, Athletics, Physical Education.	Available from the MCS uniform shop & second-hand shop.

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 during our Personal Development Programme: 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 - 14:30**

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

Items available at any other retailer:

- Navy stockings ('winter woollies')
- Long sleeved white shirt
- 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
Grades 1 – 6	R 89 355	R 29 795	R 9 175
Grade 7	R 93 440	R 31 160	R 9 585

The following discounts apply:

5% Sibling Discount for 2nd Learner and 10% Sibling Discount for 3rd Learner

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
Grades 1 – 6	R 83 100	R 84 890
Grade 7	R 86 860	R 88 770

Additional costs:

Non-Refundable Acceptance Fees

Primary School R 3,500.00 - Once off Per Registration

Annual Payments (Each year)

Pre-Primary - Grade 7: Annual Registration Fee R 1 450

Pre-Primary - Grade 7: Classroom Resource Fee R 1 840

Grade R – Grade 7 - Computer Levy R 1 055

Subtotal: R 4 345

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 Learner in MCS's name and surname

STATIONERY & TEXTBOOKS

Tuition fees do not include the cost of stationery. Textbooks are included in the school fees.

EXAMINATION PROCEDURES

External Cambridge International Examinations are for Grade 6 learners only, in English Mathematics & Science.

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 examinations are at the end of the school year in the beginning of October.

Exam results:

Results are released the following January with a report 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:
 - o 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).
 - o 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.
 - o 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.

POSITIVE REINFORCEMENTS can be awarded to the learners for:

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

House teams

Learners are placed in house teams, namely **Loeries** and **Fish Eagles**.

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 learners and increase house spirit.

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 Learner an opportunity to earn good work certificates at the end of each exam series.

PRIVATE EXTRA MURAL ACTIVITIES

We also provide some private extra mural activities which are paid by the parents directly to the provider:

Reflections Kidz Swim School

Lynette van Rensburg – 082 927 9791

WJ Tennis Academy

Brighton Gunshalu – 078 366 8397

Glitter Global

Nadine Steyn – 083 305 8286

Rugby Skills development

Ju-an Mellet - 071 473 5937

AFTERCARE

Smarties Aftercare, located next to the school, offers delicious cooked meals, supervised homework, playground activities and sports, in a home-from-home environment.

Natliegh 076 701 7072

Juniors 12:15 – 17:30

Seniors 13:30 – 17:30

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.cafeflava>

HEALTHY LUNCH BOXES

These should contain as little processed food as possible with a minimal number of items containing refined sugars, high GIs, colourants and preservatives. Whole wheat bread, fresh fruit, raw vegetables, nuts, raisins, cheese or yoghurt are far healthier options. No fizzy cooldrinks, energy drinks or sport drinks are allowed. Fruit juices should be pure with no added sugar. The best option is to teach your Learner to drink unflavoured pure water.

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 will be 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 Learner 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.

PRIMARY SCHOOL PRAYER

God bless Africa

Guard her Learnerren

Guide her leaders

And give her peace. Amen.

CONTACT INFORMATION

MRS CAROLINA VAN HEERDEN	Executive Head	carolina@themcs.co.za
MR GRANT TAYLOR	Finances	gtaylor@themcs.co.za
MRS ANRIEKE OLIVIER	Head of Primary School	aolivier@themcs.co.za
MR MARC BAILEY	Head of Academics	mbailey@themcs.co.za
MCS SWITCHBOARD	General Enquiries / Main Line	012 004 3758
MRS CHRISTINE SMITH	Reception / Enrolments	063 482 6822 reception@themcs.co.za
MRS MARY-ANNE GUY	Reception	078 392 5857 admin@themcs.co.za
MRS CHANTAL VLOK	Administration	078 933 6486 / chantal@themcs.co.za
MRS ELS BERRINGTON	Bursar	071 021 1725 accounts@themcs.co.za

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 Learners 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