

### Prospectus







# **INTRODUCTION**

eterhouse is a group of schools - Peterhouse Boys, Peterhouse Girls and Springvale House Preparatory School; the Group is widely regarded as Zimbabwe's top independent school and one of the premier independent schools in Southern Headmistresses' Conference Africa.

The Peterhouse Group is led by the Rector who also has responsibility on a day-to-day basis for Peterhouse Boys. Peterhouse Girls and Springvale House have their own Heads both of whom report to the Rector.

The Rector and the Heads of

Peterhouse Girls and Springvale House are all members of the Conference of Heads of Independent Schools in Zimbabwe (CHISZ) and the Rector is also a member of The Headmasters' and (HMC) which represents the top 350 independent schools in the UK and across the globe.

Peterhouse Boys, founded in 1955, caters for approximately 500 boys from Form 1 to VIth Form, all of whom are fullboarders; Peterhouse Girls, founded in 1987. caters for 450 girls from Form 1 to VIth Form, the vast majority of whom are

full-boarders; and Springvale House, re-opened in 1985, caters for 220 boys and girls, a mix of weekly-boarders and dayscholars from Grade 1 to Grade 7.

The three schools occupy two magnificent estates on either side of the main road between Harare and Mutare just outside Marondera and share two conservation areas. Calderwood Park and Gosho Park.

At Peterhouse, we prepare pupils for life beyond school in such a way that they are able to make a positive and lasting difference.

### Values and Aims

The Peterhouse Group unashamedly champions a core set of values - loyalty, decency, honesty, humility, service, self-sacrifice and respect all based upon the Anglican tradition of the Christian faith.

The specific aims of the Peterhouse Group are:

• to develop and promote an atmosphere in which learning and personal development can prosper unhindered and in which pupils are able to develop a sense of their own identity and worth:

• to ensure that pupils are happy and that standards of health and pastoral care are as good as they can be:

• to ensure that pupils leave Peterhouse with the best possible academic qualifications;

• to enable pupils to develop their potential not only in the classroom but in all other respects (leadership, sport, outdoor pursuits, music, drama, art and culture) depending on their aptitudes and interests:

• to promote high standards of personal appearance, dress, good manners and selfdiscipline: and

• to prepare pupils for life beyond school in such a way that they are able to make a positive and lasting difference.

The overall aim for the Peterhouse Group is to be the best that independent schooling in Zimbabwe can offer and to have a renowned and international reputation for excellence.

We develop and promote an atmosphere where learning and personal development can prosper.













eterhouse has a proud heritage and a long standing and well-deserved reputation for producing young men and young women of the highest calibre - it is a school with great traditions; nevertheless, a Peterhouse education is very much focused on the future and not on the past – pupils are prepared for life/work in the modern era i.e. the 21st century.

This preparation is based upon developing 6 core competencies (the 6 Cs):

These six core competencies are regarded as being essential to success in the rapidly changing and highly innovative modern work place.

# **A 21ST CENTURY EDUCATION**

# ACADEMICS





eterhouse is renowned for offering an outstanding breadth of education but above all else academic pursuits receive priority. The academic curriculum itself is as flexible as possible, particularly at IGCSE and A level, which gives pupils every opportunity to achieve success in their public examinations. All three schools in the Peterhouse Group follow an academic curriculum, which is based on the Cambridge International Exams (CIE) system.

The Group operates a *diamond system* i.e. pupils are taught coeducationally at Springvale House and at A level and in single sex groups in forms 1 to 4 - a system which has considerable merit/ strength.

At all levels highly effective curriculum support is available for those in need and there are specific programmes to stretch academically gifted pupils. Setting/streaming occurs whenever possible. Class sizes are typically 25 at Springvale House (ideal for a co-ed junior school), 20-25 in forms 1 and 2, 15 to 20 at IGCSE level and 10 to 15 at A level. At senior school level pupils benefit from a well-structured academic tutorial system.

Pupils receive high quality teaching based in well-equipped classrooms all of which have modern IT facilities (interactive whiteboards / projectors etc.). The Megahey Centre, a state of the art Learning Resource Centre, with first class IT and other facilities, offers pupils a unique modern environment for academic pursuit/ study.

It is often the case that pupils participate in educational trips from junior school expeditions to RIFA in the Zambezi Valley to senior school tours of the WW1 battlefield sites in France/Belgium, there are many opportunities for hands on experience.

### Above all else, academic pursuits recieve priority.





### **SPORT**

port is, and always has been, a very important part of life within the Peterhouse Group. For all ages there is a vibrant sports' programme; pupils have every opportunity to play sport on a regular basis and many participate at provincial and national level. Facilities for sports are outstanding - in particular there are excellent and extensive playing fields and the Group has a culture/ ethos which promotes sport.

Recent improvements to the sporting infrastructure have included the establishment of a Centre of Excellence for cricket, a complex of tennis courts and a superb new playing field and pavilion at Springvale House.

All three schools have competitive fixture lists against other leading independent schools and even at infant level there is a specialised

programme designed to nurture talent from an early age.

In addition to the more traditional sports of rugby, hockey, cricket, football etc. pupils are able to participate in less 'mainstream' sports including triathlon, mountain biking, water polo, rowing, archery, orienteering and golf.

The Peterhouse Group has its own Equestrian Centre, which includes stables, dressage arenas, show jumping facilities and a cross country course. Many pupils livery their own horses on a term by term basis.

#### We have programmes designed to nurture talent from an early age.







## **CULTURAL ACTIVITES**





Music and drama are both very high profile. School plays are performed on an annual basis usually in the 550 seated Fieldsend Hall and the Peterhouse Group has a particularly impressive record in the Eisteddfod held in Harare on an annual basis where both individual and groups of musicians regularly win prizes for outstanding performance. There are extensive facilities for music in all three schools.

At Springvale House all pupils are involved in a play

on an annual basis from the traditional Nativity play at infant level to junior and senior plays higher up the school.

#### Success in cultural activities is given the recognition it deserves.





### LEADERSHIP TRAINING & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT



eadership training and development forms an integral part of an education within the Peterhouse Group. From the earliest age at Springvale House through to the VIth form, pupils are given the opportunity to take on positions of leadership/responsibility and benefit from well-structured leadership training programmes.

At senior school level the Group's *Infinity Programme* integrates leadership and personal development, life skills and academic tutoring into a holistic programme designed to ensure that pupils leave the school as well rounded, self-confident young men and women.

The Peterhouse Group is a registered authority for the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award; pupils are strongly encouraged to participate in this internationally renowned scheme and frequently reach the standards required to achieve their bronze, silver or gold award.

Pupils are given the opportunity to take on positions of leadership and responsibility.







### PASTORAL CARE

he welfare and happiness of pupils, particularly in a boarding school environment is of fundamental importance and is taken very seriously. All three schools within the Peterhouse Group have their own health centre which is staffed at all times by fully qualified nurses; residential staff live on site, some in boarding houses, and the three working kitchens are fully provided with new and modern equipment, thus ensuring that pupils are well fed.

At senior school level pupils in the lower year groups are housed in dormitory style accommodation to facilitate their greater need for socialisation whereas more senior pupils have single or double bedsits with built in areas for study and homework.

At Springvale House our youngest boarders in Grades 1 and 2 are accommodated in a separate Infants' Block and are looked after by a House Mother - a cosy home from home set up. Pupils in Grades 3 and above are accommodated in bright and comfortable dormitories and are also closely cared for by resident house staff.

Both Peterhouse Boys and Peterhouse Girls schools have a junior house for pupils in Form 1 (D Block). At Peterhouse Boys houses are otherwise arranged 'vertically' for pupils from Form 2 to VIth form whereas at Peterhouse Girls they are arranged 'horizontally' by year group.

Although Peterhouse Boys and Peterhouse Girls occupy their own campuses pupils across all age groups from both schools meet regularly to socialise and they also come together to participate in a variety of sports and cultural activities.



All pupils are able to visit home on a regular basis either on Fixture Free or Floating Weekends and parents are always welcome to visit the School and, in particular, are encouraged to support sporting and cultural events whenever possible.

Pupils who live a long distance from school (e.g. in Zambia or Mozambique) are given additional time off to facilitate their travel and the school lays on transport to Harare International Airport and also to a variety of destinations around Zimbabwe.

The welfare and happiness of pupils is of fundamental importance.

## **CONSERVATION** & COMMUNITY





upils within the Peterhouse Group are enormously privileged and they are encouraged to 'do their bit' both for the environment and also for the wider community in which they live.

Conservation clubs such as recycling and tree planting operate on a regular basis either in school or more often in one of two parks owned by the Peterhouse Group which are on site. (Pupils also visit some of the great conservation sites across Zimbabwe including RIFA in the Zambezi valley).

Community action also takes place on a regular basis; from support for the local primary school St Francis (paired reading etc.) to the excellent work done by the Leo and Interact Clubs, pupils at all levels are encouraged to help those less fortunate than themselves; they find the work they do in this respect enormously rewarding.

#### **Pupils are encouraged** to 'do their bit' for the enviroment and community in which they live.



### PARKS





he Peterhouse Group is fortunate to own two large parkland areas, Gosho Park and Calderwood Park, each of which is approximately 350ha in size.

Gosho Park (adjacent to Peterhouse Girls and Springvale House), which is an area of pristine Brachystegia woodland with streams, grasslands and rocky outcrops is essentially a large conservation area. The park has approximately 120 animals including giraffe; zebra; kudu; eland; sable, blesbok, waterbuck; wildebeest; bushbuck; duiker; klipspringer and steenbuck together with over 200 different species of birds.

Calderwood Park (adjacent to Peterhouse Boys), which is an area of managed bush land, is essentially a large recreational area. The park does have some game but its purpose is to

enable pupils to spend time at leisure (fishing, walking, mountain biking etc.) in a natural environment close to the school.

#### The Group owns two large parkland areas, both approximately 350ha in size.





### LEARNER HUNTER/GUIDES

n addition to A levels The Peterhouse Group of Schools offers a course that readies senior pupils for their Learner Hunter/Guides' exam set by the National Parks' Authority.

For pupils who are interested in a career in wildlife, this is a unique opportunity to receive a good grounding in this field whilst still at school. Many field trips (e.g. Mana Pools, RIFA Conservation Education Camp in Chirundu, Save Valley, Nyakasanga camp, Imire Game Park) are organised each year as part of the course to reinforce what pupils learn in the classroom and to enable pupils to experience the biodiversity of Zimbabwe. The course is essentially as practical as possible and covers a wide variety of topics including fishing, roadside mechanics, identification of flora and fauna and basic geology.

#### This is a unique opportunity to receive a good grounding in this field whilst still at school.

pplications and admissions are handled by the Front Office at each school. Prospective parents of pupils are encouraged to write, e-mail or phone the school direct for more information or to explore the Peterhouse website.

A nominal registration fee is required as well as a copy of the applicant's Birth Certificate, most recent school report and passport sized photo which should be submitted together with the application form itself. Open Days for Grade 1 are organised for pupils in the final year of pre-school.

Open Days for Form 1 (D Block) are organised for pupils in Grade 6 at Junior School; it is strongly advised that application forms are completed and returned before the end of the applicant's Grade 6 year.

Applicants who choose Peterhouse as the school of their 'First Choice' write the Common Entrance Examination (set by



#### PETERHOUSE BOYS

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#### SPRINGVALE HOUSE

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85.km Peg Harare/Mutare Road, Marondera, Zimbabwe.

# ENTRANCE

CHISZ) on the first Saturday in July of their Grade 7 year. Admission is dependent upon performance in the entrance examination; consideration is also given to the applicant's junior school, their Head's recommendation, whether he/ she has siblings within the Peterhouse Group and whether he/she is the son/daughter of a Petrean.

#### PETERHOUSE GIRLS

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