



SPARK Schools Need-to-Know Guide 2019

Read these notices carefully so that your family is prepared for the 2019 school year!

First Day of School

The first day of school is **Wednesday, 16 January 2019**. Sparks Fly, our daily morning assembly, will begin promptly at 7:45am, and Grade R parents *only* are welcome to view Sparks Fly on Wednesday and remain at our school until scholars are dismissed to their classes at **8am**. At that time, we ask that you say your goodbyes and allow us to transition scholars into their new daily routines.

Mark your calendars now for an exciting opportunity to view Sparks Fly and tour your child's school during our third week of Term 1.

- 28 January- Grades R and 4
- 29 January- Grades 1 and 5
- 30 January- Grades 2 and 6
- 31 January- Grades 3 and 7

Look for more information on social media in January about this special event hosted by your child's school leaders.

Placard Pickup

In order to ensure the safety of our scholars, please note that parents are required to pick up their child's placard, which is used during daily dismissal, before the school year begins.

Placards for returning and newly enrolled students will be available for pick-up 7-11 January 2019 from 9am to 4pm.

When you pick up your child's placard, you will meet your school's office manager or School Operations Manager, learn about our arrival and dismissal procedures, update your contact information, and sign-up for aftercare. **Please note the dates and times for placard pick up, as this is mandatory.**

"Back to School" Open Evenings

We are thrilled to be able to invite all SPARK parents for a series of open evenings to meet our spectacular SPARK educators. **During our "Back to School" evenings, parents will be able to come at any point during the open house to tour their child's classrooms, Learning Lab, and**



general school facilities. Your child's school leaders will be in touch by e-mail to announce the dates of your school's first parents evenings of the new school year.

School Hours

Please note that school hours for all grades levels are as follows for 2019:

Grade R and 1 Regular Days (Tuesday-Friday): 7:45am- 2:30pm

Grade 2 and 3 Regular Days (Tuesday-Friday): 7:45am- 3:00pm

Grade 4-7 Regular Days (Tuesday-Friday): 7:45am-3:30pm

Minimum Days (Mondays and Report Card Conferences) 7:45am- 1:00pm

Minimum Days are indicated on the attached instructional calendar with an underlined date.

Aftercare, Holiday Care, and Extracurricular Activities

Aftercare until 5:30pm five days a week (Monday-Friday) during the school terms will cost R6600 per year, which is payable over 12 months at R550 per month. Aftercare until 5:30pm on Mondays only (our weekly "minimum day") will cost R3120, which is payable over 12 months at R260 per month.

All families that wish to enrol in aftercare for 2019 will be able to do so when picking up their placards from 7-11 January 2019.

Please note that a full list of the extracurricular activities offered in 2019 will be available in January 2019 from your child's school.

Holiday care is not provided at our schools during term break. Please make note of term break dates on the instructional calendar to ensure that you have arranged care for your child in advance.

Stationery

The annual fee for stationery for 2019 is **R550**, which will be invoiced through the e-mail address you have supplied in January 2019. **This fee covers all stationery required at school, and no additional stationery should be purchased or sent with scholars.**

Please ensure that your child has sufficient stationery at home to complete daily homework.



Uniform

The uniform may only be purchased from our approved uniform suppliers. No uniform items may be homemade, and the SPARK Schools logo and badge may not be copied or used for the purpose of creating homemade uniform items.

The summer uniform will include a navy blue golf shirt with school badge, a navy blue peak cap or floppy hat with school badge, khaki shorts or skirt, white socks, and white takkies. Scholars should carry a backpack that does NOT have wheels, but has sufficient space for a homework folder, water bottle, and lunch box.

Social Media and Website

Keep up-to-date with SPARK news and spread the SPARK love to family and friends by liking us on Facebook and following us on Twitter (@SPARKSchools)!

All school locations and contact information are posted on www.sparkschools.co.za.