

# <u>General Guidelines</u>

## Our school in brief

- Artistic Minds Academy is an inclusive education institution for early childhood development which specializes in the provision of Special education for children with learning disabilities and developmental delays.
- Our aim is to provide quality education and a well rounded programme to prepare your child for their future.
- While academics are important, we also feel that much emphasis should be put on language skills, social skills, physical development, emotional development and self expression.

# <u>Curriculum</u>

- We offer a 3 year curriculum for Preschool which starts from 3 years of age.
- The 'Playgroup' is our Day care / nursery programme which caters for children from 6 months to 2 years. We use a Learn through Play approach and focus on language, social and emotional development. We also potty train at this age.
- The first year is for children turning 3 years before end June or 4 after June in the current year.
- The second year is for children turning 4 before end June or turning 5 after June in that year.
- The Reception programme is for children turning 5 years before end June or turning 6 after June.
- The Standard One class is for children turning 6 before end June or 7 after June in that year.
- Our Special Needs Academy is aimed at providing early intervention and equipping children with the necessary basic education skills at a decelerated pace and where possible, preparing children for an all inclusive educational institute. As such, our Special needs Academy considers the childs mental age rather than chronological age.
- We individually tailor our special needs curriculum in order to meet each child's needs.
- We work with various specialists eg speech therapist and occupational therapists in trying to meet the needs of the children. Therapy costs are not included in the fees however, the school facilitates for such therapists to see the children in school where possible.
- Swimming is offered through Mai's Aquatic Centre in Block 7 and is an optional extra activity that is paid in addition to school fees.





 Other extra curriculum activities offered include: Music & Dance, Active Games, Art & Crafts, Setswana Games and Storytime / Movies.

#### **Daily Routine**

- We operate Monday to Friday from 7am till 5pm.
- Our medium of instruction is English and parents are encouraged to use English language at home to reinforce language development.
- Our main school programme runs from 8am till 1pm and children can be collected from 1pm if they are not on a full day program. We serve lunch at 1pm daily.
- Children are requested to bring a healthy packed snack for each tea break and this could be a sandwich, fruit, yoghurt, juice, etc. We discourage unhealthy foods like fizzy drinks, sweets, chocolates, deep fat-fried foods, etc
- We request that you pack an extra change of clothes, a school hat and a bottle of water daily. We also ask parents to help us cultivate the habit of drinking plenty of water at home due to the local climate.
- Each term we require a bottle of handwash, wet wipes, a box of tissues, some moisturizer, sanitizer, an apron and a sheet or blanket for nap time (baby class).
- All items brought to school must be clearly labeled with the child's name.
- We encourage parents to keep any sick child at home to avoid further contamination especially in cases of sore throats, flu, mumps, coughs etc.
- We will only administer medication where meds are accompanied by doctors instructions and administration does not interfere with the child's ability to learn.

## <u>Uniforms</u>

- Our Preschool school uniform consists of a sky blue golf shirt, a navy blue hat and these can be worn with navy blue shorts / trousers / skirt or jeans and comfortable shoes / takkies. Our uniform sizes start from 3 - 4 years.
- In winter we have navy blue school tracksuits and children may wear beanies , jackets, gloves etc to ensure they are warm enough.
- Uniforms are compulsory and all items should be clearly marked with the childs' names.

## <u>Communication</u>

- The school uses Whatsapp for individual and group notifications, email for finance related comms and communication books for daily parent-teacher communication.
- Please ensure that you check your childs communication book daily for notices and also feel free to also engage the teacher in the same manner

We thank you for trusting us with your childs' future and look forward to working with you.

