



EST. 1863

**#not  
justa  
school**

# **Maritzburg College**

## **A superior quality education**

We are frequently asked about the education systems used in high schools. The following points highlight the differences between the National Senior Certificate (NSC) and the Independent Examination Board (IEB) exams.

Maritzburg College believes that in order to direct potential, we must focus on equipping each and every boy to strive for excellence in their particular sphere of endeavour. Our world-class academic, sporting and cultural programmes, our dedicated staff and excellent facilities allow us to do just this.

We believe that by creating an environment in which a strong sense of tradition is upheld by our core values of honour, integrity, courage, self-discipline, commitment and respect, our boys have every opportunity to grow and thrive.

Our boarding houses provide a progressive, homely environment for our boys, combining a supportive spirit and staff with many of the traditional virtues that have seen the school flourish for over a century and a half.

Boarders and day-scholars alike are fiercely loyal to the school and proudly call themselves College boys, long after they matriculate.

**Academically, Maritzburg College is one of the leading boys' schools, both in the province and nationally. Consistent with the school's ethos of striving for excellence, a high academic standard is nurtured and maintained. We also hold our own internationally, having produced a Fulbright Scholar and several Rhodes Scholars.**

- The overall academic staff:pupil ratio of 1:13 ensures that small class sizes are maintained, and are on a par with private schools.
- Our highly qualified, experienced and motivated teaching body of 104 teachers includes subject specialists renowned for their ability to stretch our boys beyond the confines of the curriculum, and to encourage critical thinking and debate.
- In the 153 years we have been teaching boys, we have grown to understand the specific needs of boys at school – we firmly believe that boys learn best in a boys - only setting and incorporate this understanding by creating a structured learning environment that includes carefully managed class sizes and lesson times, continuous testing in each subject and teaching strategies that help keep boys engaged, interested and motivated.
- We offer 21 subjects up to Grade 12 – apart from the wide choice this offers our boys, we are also able to accommodate a very flexible choice in terms of combinations of elective subjects. Our academic staff, in partnership with our boys and their parents, strive to encourage boys to take subjects best suited to them as individuals and their long term aspirations, and then to achieve the best possible results.
- Our pupils enter and excel in Maths, Science, English, Afrikaans and General Knowledge Olympiads, as well as many other challenges such as the National Science Expo and Civil Engineering competitions.
- Many special projects are undertaken to extend conceptual knowledge and assist pupils in gaining practical skills that will benefit them way beyond their school years – examples include the JSE Schools' Investment Challenge, and the "F1 in Schools" (racing car design) competition. In these ways, our top boys are extended to achieve way beyond the requirements of the curriculum, and the natural competitive inclination of boys is harnessed to achieve top results.
- Boys who need more academic assistance are helped firstly by being placed in smaller classes and secondly by receiving extra tuition from remedial teachers in key subjects, typically English, Afrikaans, Physical Science and Maths. This intervention is further supported by free extra lessons, and one-on-one sessions with peer tutors.
- Grade 11 and 12 pupils are tutored in academic writing in order to assist with the different requirements and standards expected at tertiary institutions.
- An international organisation, Elevate Education, provides seminars to boys on study and exam techniques that have been proven internationally to assist boys in maximising their chances in obtaining the best possible results.
- Our in-house career guidance counsellor also assists our senior boys with their subject choices in order to plan appropriately for their tertiary education options.
- Given this preparation, our boys cope extremely well with the academic demands of the subjects they choose to study. In this regard, we focus on three key aspects:
  - The self-discipline required for working and studying independently and collaboratively;
  - the skills required for critical engagement in more complex issues; and
  - the ability to organise oneself and balance one's activities to ensure that one's studies receive the attention they require through time management skills.

# The Result?

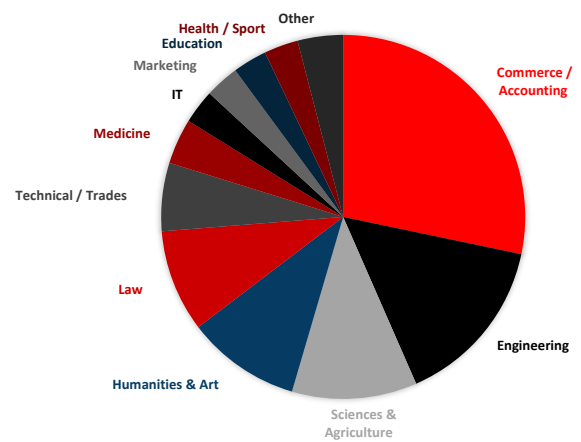
- **100% Grade 12 pass rate.**
- **Over 90% of our boys achieve a Bachelor degree pass (university entrance) – in 2017, this was 97.3%.**
- **In 2017, 2 boys received 8 distinctions, 5 boys received 7 distinctions, and a total of 479 distinctions were earned in total**
- **The 2017 Dux, with an overall aggregate of 95% and 100% for Physical Science, was the top pupil in our district and second in KZN.**



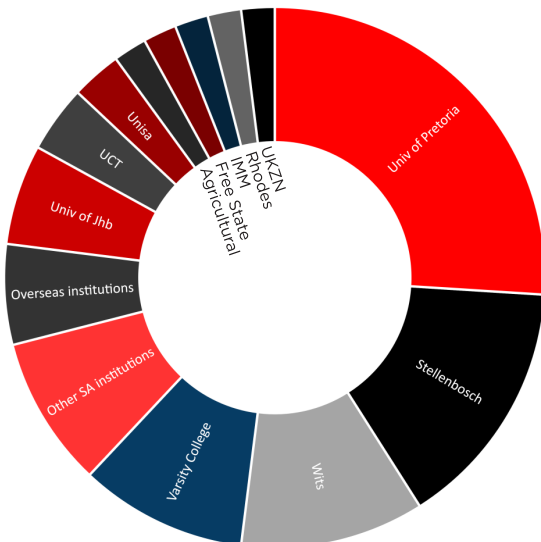
Apart from the high percentage of boys who qualify to study at university, we also place considerable value on which institutions our boys choose to attend, and what fields of study they take on.

79% of the 2017 class were accepted into their first choice of tertiary institution – as shown below, the range of educational institutions chosen reflects a wide diversity of interests. College boys cope very well with the challenges of first year university – feedback from universities indicates that this is primarily due to College boys’ sound academic preparation, but importantly also because of their strong sense of self-discipline and ability to manage their time in juggling academic studies with sport and other interests that provide the balance so important at this stage in their lives.

CHOSEN AREAS OF TERTIARY STUDY



CHOICES OF TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS



## In Conclusion

It is clear that in well-resourced and professionally run state schools, the quality of the certificate obtained is indisputable. Maritzburg College guarantees a very high standard of education, and we pride ourselves on preparing our boys with a solid academic foundation for university entrance. In addition, our boys’ self-confidence prepares them well for university life and beyond.

# Subjects on offer at Maritzburg College

## Compulsory Subjects:

- English
- Afrikaans or isiZulu
- Mathematics or Mathematical Literacy
- Life Orientation

## Elective Subjects: (minimum of 3):

- History
- Geography
- Agricultural Science
- Life Science
- Physical Science
- Engineering Graphics and Design
- Accountancy
- Economics
- Business Studies
- CAT (Computer Application Technology)
- AP Maths
- Dramatic Arts
- Music
- Visual Art
- Accounting
- IT

Academically able boys may select more than 3 of the electives should they wish to.

## Key Facts – NSC/IEB

- Both NSC and IEB schools fall under the supervision of the national education authority called Umalusi which keeps watch over the curricula in both state and private schools in South Africa.
- Both the IEB and NSC are accredited by Umalusi as examining bodies. This ensures that the standards set are of an acceptable level, and are consistent across the two systems.
- Both systems complete the same core curriculum, known currently as the Curriculum Assessment Policy Statement (CAPS). So, while the style of a particular examination may vary from one examining committee to another, the content being examined is the same.
- Every successful candidate, therefore, does not get an “IEB” or “NSC” certificate, but is in fact certified by Umalusi, the national body.
- There is no preference shown by university officials to matriculants from either state or IEB schools. Every Grade 12 pupil who qualifies for university entrance has an Admission Point Score (APS), calculated by the respective university, based on their results, and this, together with the National Benchmark Test (NBT) result, ultimately determines university entrance.
- Not all universities apply the same weighting to the NBT, however this emphasizes that the final results are important, not whether you attended a state or private school.

