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# LAS VEGAS JUNIOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

## PROSPECTUS

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**Las Vegas Junior Primary School**  
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Umlazi J section  
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**Las Vegas Junior Primary School**  
Section J343  
Bhasini Road  
Umlazi  
Durban  
4031

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you for choosing Las Vegas, the choice of school for your child is a very important one.

We hope that you find the information within this prospectus helpful.

All the staff at Las Vegas JPS bring great commitment and professionalism to their job of teaching and caring for children. We look forward to working in partnership with you and hope that you and your child will be very happy.

Please contact us if we can be of further help in any way.

Yours faithfully,

*M. Maling*

Marcia Maling  
Head teacher

*M.R Mkhize*

Dr M.R Mkhize  
School Founder & Principal

*Our **vision statement** condenses our aspirations into a few words.*

*You will see it displayed around the school, reflected in the contents of this document, and put into practice in the school's work.*

*"Dedicated to excellence"*

## Our AIMS AND VALUES

At Las Vegas JPS, we aim to:

- develop every child's potential
- nurture a life-long love of learning
- create an exciting environment
- encourage independent thinking
- provide opportunities that challenge
- prepare every child to make a difference
- ensure self esteem and confidence are high
- share hopes and encourage optimism and self-belief
- provide opportunities to reflect on life and learning
- ensure everyone has a voice and an opportunity to be heard
- encourage good health and well-being for all

We value:

- tolerance, equality of opportunity and empathy
- individuality
- respect for others and their values
- a partnership with parents and carers
- an understanding of rights and responsibilities within the school, community and beyond
- the opportunity to learn from others, whatever their creed, colour or culture
- Following school rules and the rules of the country



*"Dedicated to excellence"*

### A very warm welcome to Las Vegas Junior Primary School!

We are passionate about offering children an exciting, stimulating and rich curriculum, based on real reasons for learning. We hope that you will share with us, the belief that every child should have the opportunity to meet their potential and develop the academic, creative, social and spiritual skills that will enable them to fulfil a happy and prosperous life.

Our school enables pupils from the age of 3 -9 to meet the challenges of an education that will prepare them for life in the 21st century. We use a wide range of styles and resources to excite, motivate and challenge our young people to succeed.

'The interesting and well planned curriculum engages pupils successfully in learning. It makes a particularly effective contribution to pupils' personal development, especially through the extensive range of enrichment activities such as leadership development camps and excursions'



We aim to give every child, whatever their background or their circumstances, the support they need to:

- be healthy
- stay safe
- enjoy and achieve through learning
- make a positive contribution to society
- achieve economic well-being

We have many excellent resources, which include a well resourced library, a computer lab, small classes for Interactive learning and more focused attention as well as many extra mural activities such as Ballet lessons, Speech and drama Club, Swimming and Martial Arts.

We are a school that serves our community with pride. Please take the time to visit our school facebook page see just how exciting Las Vegas Junior Primary School is!

*'The school is a harmonious community to which all pupils feel a strong sense of belonging. This caring school takes effective steps to ensure the safety and well-being of all its pupils.'*

## The Early Childhood Development & Foundation Phase Education

*'Good partnerships in the Early Years with parents and carers and effective induction arrangements help children to feel happy and secure and to settle quickly. There is a happy buzz in the classrooms as children are busily engaged in activities, either on their own or with others.'*

At Las Vegas ECD Centre, we provide a wonderfully stimulating, supportive and happy learning environment for our children. Our children learn through play and engage in adult-led and child-initiated activities. All children have opportunities to explore and investigate, developing their social, communicative, problem solving and creative skills both indoors and outside.

Every child is valued and we take pride in knowing our children well, taking time to observe how they play and planning activities with a secure understanding of each individual child's needs and interests.

We care about children's 'Early Years' education and know that getting it right is crucial in providing the building blocks for their future. We believe it is essential that children obtain the key essentials that will support them throughout their time in education. We are committed to maximising this stage by providing a skilled team and a child-centred curriculum that puts structured play at the heart of all we do.

*'Well-planned play, both indoors and outdoors, is a key way in which young children learn with enjoyment and challenge. Children do not make a distinction between 'play' and 'work' and neither should adults'*

The ECD Centre classes follow the Unlimited Child Curriculum for the 3 years' group to Pre-Grade R /Grade RR class. The Grade R class follow the Government Stipulated Caps Curriculum, the Smart Kids Maths and English Text books as well as Activity books specially focused on teaching English to non-English speaking children.

Our Grade 1 – 3 classes follow the Caps curriculum and use the Spot On Maths and English HL textbooks. Shutter's Top Class is used to guide our Life Skills Class and IsiZulu Soqobo for our IsiZulu AL class. We ensure that reading and the proper understanding of English is taught by supplementing our English classes with the Developing Language skills workbook and the Ladybird reading series.

We invite parents/carers to meet with teachers as often as possible and we have termly academic outlines provided to parents.





## **SCHOOL UNIFORM**

All our school uniform is sold exclusively at School Wear Centre in Clairwood.

Address: 511 S Coast Rd, Clairwood, Durban, 4052

Phone: [031 465 7890](tel:0314657890)

### **3 Years – Grade R**



#### **Girls**

##### **Daily School Uniform**

- Green Golf Shirt with School Badge
- Navy Active Shorts
- Black Takkies
- Black Anklets Socks
- Navy Jersey with School Badge

##### **School Tracksuit**

- Navy and green School Tracksuit with Badge

##### **Swimming Kit**

- Black Swimming Costume
- Swimming goggles

#### **Boys**

##### **Daily School Uniform**

- Green Golf Shirt with School Badge
- Navy Active Shorts
- Black Takkies
- Black Anklets Socks
- Navy Jersey with School Badge

##### **School Tracksuit**

- Navy and Green School Tracksuit with Badge

##### **Swimming Kit**

- Black Swimming Briefs
- Swimming Goggles

### Grade 1 – Grade 3



#### Girls

##### Daily School Uniform

- Green and White Check Dress with White Pocket and Embroidered School Badge
- White School Socks
- Black School Shoes

##### School Sports Kit

- Green Golf Shirt with School Badge
- Navy Active Shorts
- Black Takkies
- Black Anklets Socks
- Black Swimming Costume and Swimming Cap

##### Tracksuit

- Navy and Green School Track Suite with Badge
- Black Takkies
- Black Anklets Socks

#### Boys

##### Daily School Uniform

- White Soft Collar Shirt with School Badge
- Short Grey Pants (Summer)
- Long Grey Pants (Winter)
- Grey Socks
- Black School Shoes

##### School Sports Kit

- Green Golf Shirt with School badge
- Navy active shorts
- Black Takkies
- Black Anklets socks
- Black Swimming briefs

##### Tracksuit

- Navy and Green School Track Suite with Badge
- Black Takkies
- Black Anklets Socks



## LOST PROPERTY

We do not have a central lost property box. We do however encourage parents to label their children's clothes, especially jerseys and tracksuits. If your child does lose an item, please talk to their class teacher as soon as possible.

## OUR SCHOOL DAY

### *ECD Group – 3 years to Grade R*

- ✓ Reception – 7.30am – 8.00am
- ✓ Assembly – 8.00am – 8.05am
- ✓ Breakfast – 8.05am – 8.30am
- ✓ Morning learning session - 8.30am – 9.30am
- ✓ Snack time – 9.30am – 10.00am
- ✓ Structured play time – 10.00am – 10.30am
- ✓ Afternoon learning session – 10.30 am – 11.30am
- ✓ Nap time - 11.30am – 12.30pm (Excludes Grade R)
- ✓ Lunch – 12.30pm – 1.00pm
- ✓ Last session of learning – 1.00pm – 2.00pm
- ✓ Packing up – 2.00pm – 2.30pm

### *Foundation Phase – Grade 1 - Grade 3*

- ✓ Reception – 7.30am – 8.00am
- ✓ Assembly – 8.00am – 8.05am
- ✓ Breakfast – 8.05am – 8.30am
- ✓ Morning learning session - 8.30am – 11.00am
- ✓ Structured play time – 11.00am – 11.30am
- ✓ Afternoon learning session – 11.30 am – 1.30pm
- ✓ Lunch – 1.30pm – 2.00pm
- ✓ Homework and Packing up – 2.00pm – 2.30pm

A member of staff is on each playground from 7.30am and a teacher is on the playground at the end of every day as the pupils leave school. The head teacher is often on either playground before and after the school day.

## ATTENDANCE AND ABSENCE

We are required to set a target for overall absence and for learner groups whose absence exceeds a given threshold (e.g. 'persistent absentees' with 20% or more absence). If a child's attendance falls below 90%, parents will be contacted if there is no prior notification or reasonable justification for this.

If for any reason your child is unwell, please contact the school to let us know as soon as possible. If we do not hear from you, we will telephone/text you that morning to find out why your child is absent. On their return, please write a brief note explaining the reason for their absence, and any details the class teacher may need to know.

## THE CURRICULUM



### Early Childhood Development (3 Years to Grade R)

At Las Vegas ECD Centre, we provide a wonderfully stimulating, supportive and happy learning environment for our children. We encourage learning through play and engage in adult-led and child-initiated activities, all of which are focused on achieving set milestones and outcomes. All children have opportunities to explore and investigate and developing their social, communicative, problem solving and creative skills both indoors and outside.

Every child is valued and we take pride in knowing our children well, taking time to observe how they play and planning activities with a secure understanding of each individual child's needs and interests.

We care about children's 'Early Years' education and know that getting it right is crucial in providing the building blocks for their future. We believe it is essential that children obtain firm grounding and key essentials that will support them throughout their education phases. We are committed to maximising this stage by providing a skilled team and a child-centred curriculum that puts structured play at the heart of all we do.

The ECD Centre classes follow the GROW Curriculum for the 3 years' group to Pre-Grade R /Grade RR class. The Grade R class follow the Government Stipulated Caps Curriculum used in conjunction with the GROW curriculum as well as Number Sense (Mental Maths) Text books. We also use phonics activity books which are specially focused on teaching English to non-English speaking children.

### Foundation Phase (Grade 1 -3)

At Las Vegas JPS we deliver the full National Curriculum. It is our aim that every child develops their full potential and the curriculum is delivered with these aims in mind. Our planning ensures that pupils have a wide range of experiences that inform, excite and prepare them for the next stage of their schooling and provides a foundation for life-long learning. Curriculum Outlines are sent home each term, informing parents of the work their child will be doing and explaining how you can help.

We teach the following subjects:

- English (Reading, Writing and Speaking and Listening)
- IsiZulu (Reading, Writing and Speaking and Listening)
- Mathematics
- Life Orientation
- Computer literacy

The following is taught as part of the English and Life Orientation lesson. This is because at foundation phase level they are not taught as individual lessons.

- Science & Technology
- History
- Geography
- Art & Design



**2018 TERM DATES**

Term	School Starts	School Ends	No. of Weeks	No. of Days
1	17 January	28 March	11	51
2	10 April	22 June	11	54
3	17 July	28 September	11	54
4	9 October	12 December	10	47

**COLLECTIVE WORSHIP**

*This includes Prayer during assembly, before meals and worships rhymes during learning.*

The aim of collective worship is:

- to enable children to consider spiritual, moral and social issues
- to enable children to explore their own beliefs
- to encourage participation and response;
- to develop an understanding of the worship of God
- to develop a sense of awe and wonder

**BUILDING LEARNING POWER AND THE 4R'S for LEARNING**

We believe that children learn best when they understand how to learn! We develop children's learning power to make learning more relevant and help them move from passive learners to active and independent learners.



#### THE 4'R'S FOR LEARNING:

**RESILIENCE** – our children are engaged in learning through:  
being absorbed, 'having a go', persevering and managing distractions

**RESOURCEFULLNESS** – our children learn in different ways through:  
questioning, making links, using their imagination, reasoning and making good use of what's around them

**REFLECTIVENESS** – our children use a variety of strategies for learning through:  
Planning, revising, summarising and reviewing

**RECIPROCITY** – our children learn through  
balancing self-reliance and sociability, collaborating, listening, empathising and modelling

#### SCHOOL LEADERSHIP CAMPS

Leadership camps are a unique way of building independence and self-esteem. School camps ethos focuses on developing emotional and social benefits of education. Learning and teaching strategies are used to raise self-esteem, develop confidence, independence and language and communication skills in a natural environment.

We run the camps at different nature resorts around KZN for children from the age of 4. The children take part in a range of activities, including identification of flora and fauna, problem-solving, games and swimming, obstacle courses, adventure activities and spiritual awareness, bush craft, kayaking and many bush veld activities.





## HOME LEARNING & HOME WORK

We believe that children benefit from home learning. We also believe that this should be offered in a way that doesn't cause stress or difficulties at home. As a result, we have devised a homework policy where children in the Grade R – Grade 3 classes are sent homework on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Parents are expected to be actively involved in their child's learning by assisting and signing homework books.

Teachers are very aware that some pupils find homework very difficult, so we ensure that every parent has the class teachers mobile number and can contact her during reasonable hours for assistance. Subjects such as reading, multiplication tables and spelling are areas that homes can support at all times. If you have any questions as how to best support your child, your son or daughters class teacher will be able to help. Hearing your child read and encouraging them to practise their multiplication tables, are also important ways in which you can help your child with their learning.

## EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We are committed to creating un-limited opportunities for all our pupils. We provide a wealth of extra-curricular activities for children of all ages before and during the school day. We offer a diverse range that makes the most of our excellent resources and staff knowledge and expertise.

The following is provided by the school at a minimal cost to the parents;

- Speech and drama club
- Ballet
- Karate/Martial arts
- Swimming lessons





## **REPORTING TO PARENTS**

At the end of each academic term & year, each child will bring home a written report. This will include information about the progress made and targets for the future. Parents are offered three consultation meetings throughout the year to discuss their child's progress in each subject

## **PARENTAL HELP - EVERYONE HAS A SKILL!**

We are very keen to encourage parents into school. Whatever your strengths, teachers are very grateful for help and children can only benefit from the additional support. We invite groups of parents into school every term, which are known as Parent Meetings, where we discuss various school issues.

## **ACCIDENTS IN SCHOOL**

Accidents unfortunately happen in school from time to time. In the event of your child having an accident, you will be contacted and medical attention will be sought. Several of our staff are trained in first-aid. Details of any accidents are sent home with the child. In cases of serious accidents requiring medical/hospital treatment we will transport your child via school transport or ambulance to the nearest hospital as instructed by the parent at the parent's expense.

## **BEHAVIOUR / DISCIPLINE POLICY**

Behaviour of pupils at Las Vegas is very good and is often commented on by visitors. Children have many opportunities to play together and develop friendships. Our Behaviour and Discipline Policies are regularly reviewed and are based on praise and reward systems as well as clear sanctions. Sometimes children misbehave. If this happens, we ensure you are informed and if appropriate, asked to meet with the teacher, or a more senior member of staff. Our aim is to keep you informed so that, together, we can support your child in improving their behaviour. We also have a daily behavioural assessment sheet which is analysed monthly, if any troubling behaviour is picked up we request a meeting with the parents to ensure that we work together to correct all troubling behaviour.

## **CONTACTS**

The office is open daily from 8am to 2.30pm. At tea time and lunchtimes, our school office is left unattended however you can reach our secretary on her mobile phone.

It is important that the school has a telephone number where you can be contacted during the school day in the case of an emergency, and the name and telephone number of your child's doctor. If there is any change in this information, please notify the school office immediately.

**Telephone:** 031 908 2738

**Fax:** 031 908 2738

**Mobile:** 081 581 3521

**Email:** [lasvegasjps@gmail.com](mailto:lasvegasjps@gmail.com)

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/lasvegasjps/>

**Class Teacher:** Learner Message Book