



# GLORIA BOTHA SCHOOL

*For children with intellectual disabilities*



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## History

The school was founded by a few enterprising parents in 1990 in the Helderberg Basin. The school in the Strand started as a satellite school of the Cheré Botha Centre in Bellville. It was founded by Mrs Gloria Botha whose daughter, Cheré was born with Down syndrome. Even though Cheré died at an early age, the centre developed as the mother school of a few other schools in the Boland and other areas. After the school became supported by the Government, the name changed to Gloria Botha School.

## Admission requirements

All children with developmental and intellectual delays that would benefit from the programme the school offers can apply. This does unfortunately not include physical disabilities. It is required that the child will undergo an evaluation by a psychologist. It is also required that the parents will have an interview with a member of the management so that they can be informed of the financial implications. Children may attend school from the age of 4 years (must be potty-trained) until the end of the year in which they turn 18.

## Curriculum

We follow the curriculum of The Western Cape Education Department's partially. This includes gross motor development, cognitive development, speech, social and self-help-skills. We focus especially on the following: Language (reading, writing and comprehension), Maths (basic calculations), Life Skills, Baking, Music, Art and Physical development.

All learners are evaluated in June and November. Reports are sent home and parents can make an appointment with the relative teacher to discuss the learner's progress.

## Extra mural activities

The following extra mural activities are available at no additional costs during school hours for different groups: horse riding, ball play, bowls and athletics. Computer classes and netball skills are available at an additional cost during school hours. Occupational and speech therapy can be arranged at an additional cost.

## Finances

The Gloria Botha School is a private school and therefore it is very important that the school fees are paid promptly by debit order. The monthly fee for 2020 is **R1 980** and is payable for **11 months** of the year. There will be a yearly inflation related increase. If the school fees are not paid, the school has the right to refuse the child entry to the school grounds. The school have fundraising events during the year for example a dance at the Strand Town hall and a Golf day. Because the school is small, it's every parent's duty to be active in all fundraising events to ensure the survival of the school.

## **Management of the school**

The school is managed by a governing body that includes a chairperson, a treasurer, additional members and a school representative. The Governing Body is chosen once a year in the third term at the Annual General Meeting

## **School uniform**

School uniforms are available from Sandra Smith: 083 450 4584 or 021-853 3853.

Winter: school tracksuit, red golf shirt with long sleeves and 'tekkies'

Summer: Quantex dark blue shorts, red short sleeved golf shirt, sandals, 'tekkies' or barefoot

Please ensure that all school clothes are marked. The school does not take any responsibility for unmarked clothes.

## **School hours**

Monday to Thursday : 08:00 – 13:00

Friday: 08:00 – 12:00

There is a teacher on duty from 7:15 and the gate closes at 8:00. The school does not offer aftercare facilities or transport to and from school. Learners must please be at school on time and be fetched punctually.

They have break for 30 minutes in which time they can buy sweets from the tuck shop.

The school closes at 10:00 on the last day of each term and learners do not have to wear school uniform that day.

The school follows the calendar of the Western Cape Education Department.

## **Tuckshop**

The tuck shop is open daily. The main purpose of the tuck shop is to give learners the opportunity to develop monetary skills. Prices range from R2 to R14.

## **Fridays: Chef-day**

Each learner gets the opportunity to 'sell' food on a Friday. We kindly request that you send food and not sweets, because most learners don't bring food on a Friday. Examples of food: hotdogs, sandwiches and pies. Each learner in the class pays R8 for the food. This money is part of the class fund and will be used at the end of the year to spoil the kids. The class teacher will let you know at the beginning of each term who is responsible for the food on a Friday

## **Message book**

Each learner gets a message book in which messages between the home and the school can be written. All newsletters will also be in this book. This book is the link between the teacher and the parent and must be read and signed daily.

## Documentation

Copies of the following documents must be handed in with the application forms:

- Learner's clinic card
- Learner's birth certificate
- Parent's identity documents
- Psychological reports
- Reports from previous school



*All persons with intellectual disabilities are unique. They experience the same emotions as others. As with all children, given the correct teaching, love and support, intellectually disabled children can develop into self sufficient individuals with various degrees of supervision. The staff at Gloria Botha School wants to develop each child's potential to the best of our ability and turn them into happy productive citizens of our country.*

***"The Lord gave me life  
To live and embrace  
I'll do it as you do  
But at my own pace!"***