

November 2025

Dear Parents

ARRANGEMENTS 2026: EXISTING BOARDER PUPILS RETURNING

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome all our existing Boarder pupils and parents back to the St Dominic's College family. We trust that 2026 will continue to bring new developments in the Boarding House, for the benefit of our children.

This letter serves to inform you of the arrangements for the first term and we trust you will find it informative and useful. Please ensure you read it carefully as it contains vital instructions that should not be missed. We have also included additional information with regards to school matters.

BOARDING STAFF

Ms Nicole Stevens is our Head of the Boarding House. Ms Nikita Nunes is the Deputy Head of the Boarding House and Ms Ansua Du Plessis is our Boarding House Matron. They form part of the St Agnes Boarding House staff.

Ms Nicole Stevens is the first and foremost contact person with regards to the welfare of your child. Ms Stevens resides at the Boarding House, so is available to your child before and after school. Please do not hesitate to contact her with any queries regarding your child in the year ahead. Email messages will be answered as swiftly as possible (nstevens@dominic.co.za). Alternatively, her cell phone number is 065 885 7766. If your call is not answered immediately, please leave a message for her to get back to you. You are also welcome to contact Ms Nunes, who also resides at the boarding house via email (nnunes@dominic.co.za) or telephonically on 071 350 0803. Ms Ansua Du Plessis is available on email (aduplessis@dominic.co.za) or cell number 083 279 9950 from 07h00 until 16h00.

TEXTBOOKS

School begins on Wednesday, 14 January 2026. Please ensure that you have purchased your child's textbooks in time for start of term. Attached is a list of textbook requirements for 2026. These textbooks will be available through the following suppliers:

Van Schalk Books Welkom Pick 'n Pay Centre Tel: 087 106 4332

Online from Takealot (<u>www.takealot.co.za</u>)

Online from Loot (<u>www.loot.co.za</u>)

Subject Matter Books.com

When purchasing online, please ensure that the correct ISBN number is used as per the textbook lists. These online providers are available for you to purchase the necessary textbooks at the most affordable prices, at your own convenience. In the Boarding house, your child will be given the opportunity to cover their own books in the first week of school, if they are not able to do so during the holidays, but then parents are requested to send enough covering paper, DC-fix/cellophane and cello tape, as well as labels. Book purchases are parents' responsibility, and the College will not be able to facilitate this. Please ensure this is completed before you arrive, as we cannot be held responsible for purchasing and collecting textbooks.





Deena Naidoo

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STATIONERY

<u>Primary School:</u> If your child is entering the Primary School, please follow the instructions on the attached documentation regarding stationery and workbooks and instructions for covering books.

<u>High School</u> parents, please ensure that you do not purchase everything on the list – check which subjects are applicable to your child and make your purchases accordingly. In the High School, we do not specify writing materials, however, your child should have a basic pencil box together with essential stationery items which will be needed for classwork as well as for projects and posters. *Covering of books*: Any paper can be used to cover the exercise books, with plastic covers and clearly marked with name, grade and subject. Textbooks should preferably be covered with DC fix to prevent wear and tear, and marked with your child's name.

CLOTHING SHOP

The Clothing Shop is situated on the Primary School campus, close to the tennis courts. It is open every week on Mondays and Thursdays from 16h00 to 17h00 and Tuesdays from 14h00-15h00. The last opportunity to purchase clothing before the school holidays will be on **Thursday, 27 November 2025 from 16h00 to 17h00**. Please Note: The Clothing Shop will remain closed for the duration of the holidays.

The Clothing Shop will be open on the following dates for all parents before the start of the new term:

- Monday, 12 January 2026 from 14h00 to 17h00
- > Tuesday, 13 January 2026 from 14h00 to 17h00
- **Wednesday**, 14 January 2026 from 14h00 to 15h00

PAYMENT FOR CLOTHING SHOP ITEMS

The clothing shop is a business that is run independently from the school. Clothing may not be purchased via your school fee account. The clothing shop has a credit card facility for your convenience.

TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS

On the first school day of the year and the last school day of the year, no transport to and from the border post will be provided. For the rest of the year, the following arrangements apply unless otherwise advised: *Going home at the end of a term:*

Lesotho : Transport leaves at 11h00. ETA is 15h00 at **Maseru border post**.

RETURNING TO SCHOOL AT THE BEGINNING OF A TERM

All children must be at the border posts by 10h00 to facilitate time delays. <u>All</u> transport will leave the border posts **strictly** at **12h00** on the day before school opens. <u>Please Note</u> that some parents are not adhering to this and delay the trip. The driver will not wait for latecomers. The driver will not make stops for tuck. Parents are to pack lunches and refreshments for their children for the trip.

Arrangements may vary from term to term and parents will be notified by email from the Head of the Boarding House Ms Nicole Stevens' office, regarding details at the end of every term. Parents are welcome to contact the House Matron, Miss Ansua Du Plessis (ansuaduplessis@dominic.co.za) directly for any queries regarding transport arrangements.

Please book a seat well in advance via email (and please do so by no later than two weeks before the date of departure or date of collection. Failure to book timeously will result in you having to make alternative arrangements. Since we have limited seats, these will be reserved on a "first come, first served" basis. As soon as you reserve a place, your account will be charged. Failure to honour your booking will not result in a refund.

NOTE THE FOLLOWING PLEASE:

Please Note: Boarding and school fees are payable in advance and should be paid in full before the start of Term 1 for 2026. No boarder will be allowed into the Boarding House unless the first term's boarding fee and first month's school fees have been paid. Please bring along proof of payment in case of a query on your account.

MEDICAL CONSENT FORM

The submission of completed Medical Consent Forms and Medicine Dispensing Forms are compulsory. These forms must be updated annually and must be accompanied by a copy of the Main Members ID and a copy of both sides of the Medical Aid Card. Given the challenges that we face in securing quality Medical Care from State Hospitals, it is compulsory that all parents carry Medical Aid or, at the very least, Medical Insurance (Hospital Plan) so as to ensure that should the need arise, suitable Medical Care will be accessible for your child. The Medical Consent Forms and Medicine Dispensing Forms are included in the Boarding House Handbook and Code of Conduct and should be handed in the first day back at the boarding house.

MEDICAL AID: A valid South African Medical Aid cover is compulsory for all boarders.

GRADE 8 ORIENTATION: HIGH SCHOOL

During the second week of school, the Grade 8s will have an Orientation Week, co-ordinated and supervised by the Grade 8 Head. During this time, they will get to know the Grade 12s, who in turn, will teach them all about the "ins and outs" of high school life. The programme is aimed at developing relationships and helping the children to settle into the High School quickly in a friendly and entertaining way.

The orientation programme begins with an orientation day on 14 January 2026 - see schedule below:

> 14 January 2026 : First Day of School. Bring suitcases, all writing books (no

textbooks), etc. to school.

15 January 2026 : Bring notebook & pen only. Wear PE clothes (tracksuit,

golf shirt & shorts with tackies) and bring your

lunchbox/tuck money.

Week of 19-23 January : Orientation week – you will receive instructions during

the first week of school on what to wear etc.

> All others (Gr 9-12) : Pupils will commence with the academic programme

from the first day of school and thus are to bring all textbooks, writing books, stationery and school bags

to school.

COMMUNICATION

Communication is always a matter of priority, so please note the following:

News is distributed via Facebook, Instagram and the weekly news video, called *Naidoo News*, which can be accessed using a link from our Facebook page. Our website is also updated regularly with upcoming events and can be accessed at www.stdominicscollege.com.

BOARDING HOUSE HANDBOOK AND CODE OF CONDUCT

Before being allowed into the Boarding house, all parents and pupils are required to have signed the Code of Conduct. This should be done annually. A printed copy of the Handbook and Code of Conduct will be given to each pupil, and signed forms at the back should be completed and returned on the first day back. A copy will also be emailed to all parents. If you have not received a copy, please let Ms Stevens know.

YOUR CHILD'S WELFARE

The welfare of your child is our priority, and we assure you of our commitment to providing a quality educational experience across all aspects of your child's care at St Dominic's. We look forward to a productive and happy relationship with you for many years.

We look forward to seeing all of you on Tuesday, 13 January 2026, before 16h00, when you settle your children back into the Boarding House.

PLEASE NOTE:

ALL Matric Boarders for 2026 must please be back at the Boarding House on Monday, 12 January 2026 by 15h00, in order to welcome and assist with the New Boarders arrival.

Yours sincerely

Deena Naidoo

EXECUTIVE HEADMASTER