



Creston College



# Creston College Boarding School

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*#Learners2Leaders*

## INTRODUCTION

The Creston College boarding establishment stays true to our strong belief in the value of family. We offer weekly or termly boarding and our dedicated staff members ensure that our boarders receive all the care and attention necessary to make them feel right at home. We also offer temporary boarding, where parents may be away for the week and have no responsible adult at home to care for their child or children. Learners who are members of our sports teams, and where there is sport being played on Saturdays, may stay over – see further details in this booklet.

Small numbers ensure maximum individual attention and a vibrant home-like environment. Our boarders' rooms are spacious, modern and inviting and delicious, wholesome meals are served in our dining hall. Specific provision is made for study time – complete with access to computers and the Internet to ensure that our learners excel in their studies.

## WELCOME

Welcome and thank you for considering boarding at Creston College. We look forward to a long and happy association. This is our community and we strive to make it vibrant and inclusive. The boarding facility provides a welcoming home with freshly cooked meals, organised social activities, relaxing times and supervised prep to Creston College learners from the age of 13.

At Creston College boarding school you will discover the strong connections that result from living in a boarding school environment. Boarding creates bonds – many of which last into tertiary studies and beyond. At Creston College we believe that boarding should complement, not replace family life and that is why we ensure that we have open lines of communication with the families at all times. One of the attributes of being at Creston College boarding school, is the independence and responsibility that comes with being away from home and knowing that the learners are becoming experts at solving their own problems and making decisions.

It is important to acknowledge that learners in boarding don't just have to manage their own affairs, they also learn how to live and deal with other people. They are challenged to develop their interpersonal skills through a wide range of activities. Therefore, in order to achieve this, at Creston College boarding school we believe in holistic education. While in boarding the learners are equipped with much-needed skills that will help them navigate life. Each child is expected to develop the necessary skills and attitudes for effective communal living. This includes taking responsibility for his or her personal hygiene, maintaining a clean, orderly living space and becoming aware of the impact of their behaviour on others. They are assisted in this process by the boarding staff. The boarding house staff also support children who are struggling with homesickness and help them to develop positive coping mechanisms.

Every learner at Creston College is valued and we strive to ensure that he or she is comfortable during their stay. We have learners at Creston College with various backgrounds which provide a diverse mix and allow the learners to make friends with a wide range of people.

Our boarding environment contains a strong system of care and Christian values (ethics and morals) underpin our boarding philosophy.

Please remember, we are always available through email and on the other end of a phone.

## ATTRACTIONS AND OFFERINGS

1. Palm Kloof Equestrian Estate (livery and riding lessons) | Contact: Jenny on 082 573 0393
2. CemAir (more information below) | Contact: 086 123 6247 or info@cemair.co.za
3. Dezzi Raceway | Contact: info@dezzi.co.za
4. Driving ranges and golf clubs
5. Shopping, movies or eating out at Shelly Centre (once a week)

## DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS

Creston College is approximately two hours' drive from King Shaka International Airport. For flights to Johannesburg and George, CemAir (situated at Margate Airport) offers daily flights – see their flight schedules.

There are direct flights to Durban's King Shaka International Airport from Dubai, Gaborone, Botswana, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Lusaka, Zambia, Maputo, Mozambique, Windhoek, Namibia and Mauritius.

There are also numerous flights from Johannesburg to Durban every day.

By prior arrangement, Creston College transports boarders to and from the airport. The cost will be billed to parents' accounts.

## A UNIQUE BOARDING EXPERIENCE

Creston College provides a unique boarding offering, with flexible boarding arrangements catering to the needs of the modern family.

Weekly boarding provides, for most of our boarders, an ideal mix of quality family time and structured educational time. Full boarding is provided for families who require this.

Boarding has many benefits for learners, providing a structured environment where the learners benefit academically, whilst enjoying the social and personal development associated with friendships and involvement in sports and cultural activities.

Boarding helps learners develop self-discipline, maturity, independence and social skills; skills vital for achieving their full potential in life.

Day learners can be integrated into the boarding experience as much as possible, participating in house activities, dining with their housemates and even sleeping over at the boarding facility (dependent on space availability) when they would like to take advantage of sharing in the camaraderie on the night before a big event.

Boarders are allowed to go home every weekend of the year, with only two exceptions. Boarders who do go home for the weekend may spend Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings at home, as boarders are given the choice of returning to boarding school on either Sunday evening or Monday morning. Because of Saturday sports commitments, those who regularly go home for the weekend may spend Friday night at boarding school. In short, we offer a great deal of flexibility where weekends are concerned.

But what of the termly boarders? Will they be lonely and bored over the weekends? The answer is 'no'. Every Saturday of the school year includes a full set of sports fixtures and many learners will be busy with sport from early morning until early evening. This means

that weekends only consist of Sundays. Those who stay in boarding over the weekend are offered: youth activities on a Friday evening, outings on Sundays, and trips to the Southcoast Mall or Shelly Centre on Sundays. We have a number of churches of all denominations in close proximity to Creston College and by prior arrangement, learners can be transported to and from morning services at these places of worship. All school sports facilities (netball courts, mini-AstroTurf hockey surface, cricket fields) are available to boarders on a Sunday. Boarders can make arrangements with the KA Fitness Centre on the school premises to attend the gym – at own cost. There is also a swimming pool at the boarding establishment and, with prior permission, boarders may use the pool over the weekends.

## WHY CHOOSE CRESTON COLLEGE BOARDING SCHOOL?

- Creston College boarding school is equipped to accommodate girls and boys
- We offer town visits once a week and on Saturdays – managed by the boarding school matron, with permission from parents
- Weekend activities organised by staff on duty
- Two boarders per room with an en suite bathroom
- Delicious, healthy meals prepared by our independent caterers
- Laundry and housekeeping services
- Weekly or full-time boarding available
- Free Wi-Fi and DStv premium
- Use of sporting facilities and the KA Fitness Centre

**Monthly  
boarding  
fee: R5 000**

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Where is the nearest medical facility?

Shelly Beach Hospital, Port Shepstone Provincial Hospital and Hibiscus Private Hospital are all just 10 minutes away.

### How do leave arrangements and visits work?

Parents contact the boarder parents directly in order to arrange leave/visitations. If anybody else is collecting a child, written consent from a parent or guardian is required. We encourage parents and families to support their children in various activities at school. CemAir has daily flights between Margate Airport and OR Tambo.

### Is theft an issue and how is it dealt with?

We do provide the necessary measures and structures to ensure the safekeeping of personal and valuable items. In the event of a theft occurring, the incident is dealt with immediately and effectively.

### Who monitors my child's progress?

Creston College staff monitor academic progress and the boarding parents will monitor homework, study periods and the emotional well-being of the learners.

### Will my child make friends easily?

We encourage learners to interact with one another and learners quickly bond and form close, life-long friendships.

### **Do boys and girls have separate facilities?**

Yes, boarders are accommodated in separate facilities that include their bedrooms, ablutions and study areas. Boarders do, however dine together. As a co-ed school we encourage a healthy and positive interaction between boys and girls.

### **What is your response to bullying?**

Bullying is not tolerated and is taken very seriously and will be dealt with by the boarder parents.

### **What happens if my child is homesick?**

Our aim is to help every learner feel safe, secure and at home. A caring network of staff and learner support enables boarders to settle in to their new environment.

### **How do boarders occupy themselves over weekends?**

We have regular sporting fixtures over weekends and learners can utilise the school facilities. Transport to and from church, the beach and other organised activities will be catered for.

### **What kind of food is served to the boarders?**

A well-balanced diet prepared by the catering staff includes breakfast, lunch and dinner (with tea/coffee/juice). Takeaway lunch can also be arranged should learners take part in extramural activities.

### **How do parents communicate with their child?**

Learners are allowed cellphones and they can communicate with their parents during free time. If a learner does not have a cellphone, parents can call or email the boarding school to communicate with staff and their children.

## **INFORMATION FOR INTERNATIONAL LEARNERS**

### **Preparing to study at Creston College**

Studying in another country is an exciting prospect and good preparation means you will be able to enjoy the experience.

Understanding that the regulations are important and early application will ensure that your child's starting date is not delayed. The following are some of the important documents you will need:

1. Acceptance letter from Creston College
2. Study permit (these permits must be applied for and obtained from the country of residence)
3. South African medical cover (requirement of Creston College and the entry conditions for study in South Africa)
4. A valid passport
5. Return flight tickets

### **Important**

Electronic and certified copies of all travel documents and study visas must be made to ensure that studies are not interrupted when documents need to be renewed.

(Further details may be applicable dependent on the country of origin.)

## Travelling to Creston College

Creston College is well situated on the KwaZulu-Natal South Coast.

### Flight options:

1. There are direct flights between Margate Airport and Johannesburg.
2. There are direct flights to Durban – parents and returning learners may prefer to fly to and from King Shaka International Airport.

### Airport transits:

Travel plans need to be communicated timeously with the boarding secretary so that airport transits can be arranged timeously.

### Important

When booking flights, please check the term dates.

## EXEAT WEEKENDS

Should there be a mid-term break, boarders are able to either return home or spend time with family, who may wish to visit. Where learners are not able to travel home, Creston College will assist to arrange alternative activities over the weekend.

### Accommodation and activities while in South Africa

Speak to us and we will recommend accommodation and nearby places to visit. We are ideally situated to provide access to the Drakensberg, the exquisite Wild Coast, Oribi Gorge and Lake Eland Game Reserve, as well our beautiful coastline with exceptional beaches.

## OUR VISION

Our vision for the boarding establishment is to keep it a disciplined, enjoyable, exciting and happy environment for all who stay there. We promote and encourage self-respect, discipline, honesty and respect for others amongst all our learners. Our aim is to make a positive difference in each one of our learner's lives. We encourage our learners to decorate their rooms as they wish in order for it to feel more homely. Our staff work very hard to form bonds with the learners so they feel comfortable to chat about anything to their boarding school moms or dads.







**Creston College**

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