

3 February 2020

CURRO
Helderwyk

NEWS LETTER

Dear Parents / Guardians

CURRO Helderwyk **AVIATION SCHOOL OPEN DAY**

On the 25th January 2020, a rainy Saturday morning, history was made. Over 100 people attended the CURRO Helderwyk Aviation School Open Day at Brakpan Airfield, the home of Airborne Aviation whom we have partnered with. History was made, because this is the first such initiative amongst all the CURRO School – more than 140 of them! History was made because we are the only full partnership in South Africa between a school and an a flight school – other schools offer aviation programmes but only in the way that some schools allow private coaches to come and coach a sport or tutor students.

They say ‘fortune favours the brave’. Well, we are stepping out into a brave new world driven by two fundamental questions. The first is an educational question; “How can we provide learners with practical opportunities to apply their theoretical knowledge?” The second question was an economic question: “How do we ensure that we open up a diverse range of employment opportunities for our learners at CURRO Helderwyk?”

The CURRO Helderwyk Aviation School is one of our answers to these two questions. An exciting answer that would not have been possible without Airborne Aviation and its owner, Sam Berriman. They have more than 60 years of experience in training pilots, we are fortunate to have them as partners.



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#Learners2Leaders

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I also want to thank Peter Haskins our Chief Liaison Officer for our Aviation Programme – without him none of this would have happened. It is Peter’s social capital within the aviation fraternity, his passion to see young people fulfill their potential that has drawn him to pour many hours of his time and energy into getting this partnership off the ground.

CURRO Helderwyk is fortunate to have someone like Peter willing to volunteer his time and expertise.

I want to also acknowledge Mrs Sonja Van Aswegen, Head of the High School, and Mr Andrew Chikochi, the Teacher-in-Charge of the Aviation School for some of the foundational work they have put in and the many hours they will still put in to ensure its success over the years to come.

What is the CURRO Helderwyk Aviation School?

Through a partnership with Airborne Aviation (based at Brakpan Airfields), as of 2020 we will be offering our Grade 10 and 11 learners the opportunity of obtaining their Private Pilot’s License (PPL) by the time they are 17. Once they turn 18, they will also have the opportunity to accumulate flight hours towards their Commercial Pilots License (CPL), which they will be able to complete in their post-matric year.

Why an Aviation School?

According to Boeing’s 2019 report on the trends in the world aviation industry, air travel is growing at such a rapid pace in Africa that over the next 10-15 years the industry will require **27 000 pilots, 29 000 engineers** and **30 000 cabin crew**. This indicates significant growth and job prospects. This is good for your children.

Worldwide, the opportunities are even greater. In the 2018 Pilot and Technicians Outlook, Boeing has projected a demand for **790 000 new pilots** over the next 20 years. The demand for **maintenance engineers is projected at 622 000** and **commercial cabin crew will require an additional 858 000 people**.

But it's not just the commercial aviation sector that will have increasing demands for staff, collectively the business aviation and civil helicopter sectors will also need an additional **155 000 pilots, 132 000 technicians** and **32 000 new cabin crew** to support the growth in business aviation.

What does the Grade 9 General Aviation Programme entail?

Purpose: The purpose of the General Programme is to help our learners to think more broadly around the career prospects in the aviation industry. Most people only think of piloting when there are in fact many career pathways to follow in this industry.

Aviation is an enormous industry and as a result has a requirement for a huge spread of skills. From the front to the rear of an aircraft and from the ground up to its cruise altitude, there are people, skills and jobs that are the 'wind beneath the wings' of the industry as it were and include maintenance technicians, ground handlers, loadmasters, despatchers, meteorologists, check-in, passenger handling, cabin crew, traffic controllers, administration and catering to name just some of them.

Grade 9 learners will be exposed to professionals in these various fields who will give them in-depth exposure to the particular career within the aviation industry.

Commencement: This Programme will commence on the 28th February and run once a month on a Friday after school from 13h30 – 15h30.

Duration: Consists of 10 x 2-hour sessions. Learners will receive a roster of dates and times once they have signed up.

Registration Process: Registration forms can be collected from Mr Chikochi or he can be emailed at the address listed below in Contact Details.

What is the PPL and what does it entail?

Purpose: PPL stands for Private Pilot's License. Learners must be 16 years old to start their PPL and must be 17 years old when they complete their PPL. This is a rigorous programme and involves 156 hours of lectures and testing, 50 hours in a flight simulator and 45 hours of flying.

Commencement: Will start in June 2020 and end in May 2021.

Duration: A total of 251 hours that will be spread over 12 months.

Registration Process: Registration forms can be collected from Mr Chikochi or he can be emailed at the address listed below in Contact Details.

Contact Details:

Teacher-In-Charge: Mr Andrew Chickochi

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Yours in education,
Mr. R. Hellenberg
Executive Head



