



# Heartbeat

Issue 2 – June 2016

## Independent Schools' Newsletter

Welcome to the second edition of **Heartbeat** . . .  
the newsletter for independent schools.

### Focus on...

Ms Zodwa Modimakwane is the Executive Manager: Quality Assurance and Monitoring at Umalusi in Pretoria. She previously held the position of Manager: Quality Assurance of Assessments (Vocational Education and Training Sector) at Umalusi. In her most recent position, Ms Modimakwane was the Director: Assessment Management at the Western Cape Education Department, responsible for ensuring the credibility of the Annual National Assessments, Senior Certificate, National Senior Certificate and General Education and Training Certificate assessments and examinations. Ms Modimakwane re-joined Umalusi on 2 March 2015 as Executive Manager: Quality Assurance and Monitoring, responsible for providing strategic leadership and direction to operations for quality assurance and monitoring.



Her experience is enhanced by her Bachelor of Social Sciences degree and HDE (PG) from Rhodes University; Bachelor of Education (Hons) degree, and Master's degree in Educational Management from the University of Port Elizabeth.

### INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS SUB-UNIT UPDATE:

1. **A reviewed accreditation process** has been implemented as from 01 April 2016. All new applications received as at that date will follow the new accreditation process. Schools which started the process prior to 01 April 2016, but did not pay the amounts due, their applications have been rejected on the system and credit notes issued for the amounts which had previously been invoiced. To get back into the process, these schools must log back in to their profiles using the same username and password created previously, and resubmit the letter of intent to apply for accreditation.

The changes which have taken place since 1 April 2016 include the following:

- **Payment will be made per step** of the accreditation process and no longer in two tranches. This means that payment for each step will be payable before the next step can take place, and no step will be executed before the amount invoiced for has been paid.
  - **All applicants must attend a compulsory Quality Promotion meeting** prior to completing their self-evaluation report. These workshops are meant to ensure that applicants are fully aware of the evidence required for the self-evaluation and all information pertaining to the preparation for the site visit. Attendance of these meetings will be by invitation. Only the applicants who have submitted their letter of intent to apply for accreditation and whose letter of intent has been accepted, will be invited.
  - If the evidence required for the self-evaluation is not satisfactorily submitted, the **self-evaluation** report will be returned to the applicant to rework and resubmit with the correct evidence. Only two resubmissions will be allowed. If there is no improvement, the entire submission will be rejected. The applicant will then be required to make a new application and pay for the new application from the beginning of the process. Applicants will be liable for all the costs pertaining to evaluation of each resubmission.
  - A **site visit** will only take place once the applicant has satisfactorily submitted the required evidence for the self-evaluation report and the requisite site visit fee is paid. Applicants who request a delay of the site visit will retain the status of "unaccredited" until such time as they are found to be compliant with the self-evaluation process.
  - More details can be found in the "Introductory Letter for Independent Schools" which is available when you log into your school's profile on the website.
2. **"Red" and "Green" status**  
In order to be reported to the provincial department of education or the Accredited Private Assessment bodies as being compliant with the requirements of Umalusi for 2017 (a "green" colour coding), a school must have been through the accreditation process and received an outcome of 7 years' accreditation or 1 year provisional accreditation by 31 October 2016, or have made considerable progress in the process (that is, at least successfully submitted the self-evaluation report) **by 31 October 2016**. Confirmed schools which were required to submit the self-evaluation report or monitoring report and have not done so by that date, and schools with 7 years' accreditation and were required to submit a monitoring report but have not done so **by 31 October 2016**, will be reported as not compliant for 2017 (a "red" colour coding).

The policy for the quality assurance and monitoring of independent schools and private assessment bodies, promulgated by the Minister of Basic Education on 29 October 2012, outlines 4 criteria for the accreditation of independent schools, namely school ethos; leadership, management and communication; teaching and learning; and school results. Against each of these criteria is a number of indicators against which a school's compliance with the criteria are measured. The core criteria which a school must meet in order to be granted accreditation are the following:

#### CRITERION 1: SCHOOL ETHOS

1. The vision and mission of the school are educationally sound.
2. There is no unfair discrimination towards learners.

#### CRITERION 2: LEADERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION

1. The Head of the school has a professional teaching qualification and current registration with the South African Council for Educators (SACE).
2. There is a governance structure in place, which ensures accountability in the school and provides strategic direction.
3. The school is financially viable.
4. The school received an unqualified audit report for the most recent financial year end (other than the qualification regarding recording of donations).
5. There is a valid, current Health and Safety Certificate (not older than 2 years) for the school and hostel.
6. The school has suitable, safe and sufficient facilities to discharge proper education as envisaged in the school's vision and mission statement.

#### CRITERION 3: TEACHING AND LEARNING

1. Teacher Qualifications and SACE registration:
  - a. **For 7 years' accreditation:** At least 80% of teachers hold a completed professional teaching qualification and have current registration with the South African Council for Educators (SACE).
  - b. **For 1 year provisional accreditation:** Between 75% and 79% of teachers hold a completed professional teaching qualification and have current registration with SACE.
2. The school demonstrates capacity in the development and management of learning programmes in line with the minimum outcomes of the Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statements (CAPS).
3. The school demonstrates the capacity to administer assessment at the required standard.
4. Learners are given support and feedback.

#### CRITERION 4: SCHOOL RESULTS

The school's results are above the national average.

### Congratulations to the following schools which were granted 7 years' accreditation in January to April 2015.

Name of School	Province	Grades accredited to offer
Abbots College - Johannesburg South	GP	Grades 10 - 12
Applewood Primary school	WC	Grades 1 - 7
Brescia House Ursuline Convent	GP	Grades 1 - 12
Crawford College Pretoria	GP	Grades 1 - 12
Curro Hazeldean High School	GP	Grades 8 - 12
Curro Hazeldean Private School	GP	Grades 1 - 7
Doxa Deo Xanadu Primary School	GP	Grades 1 - 7
Harvest Christian School	GP	Grades 1 - 7
Heron Bridge College	GP	Grades 1 - 12
Herzlia Constantia Primary School	WC	Grades 1 - 6
Herzlia Highlands Primary School	WC	Grades 1 - 6
Herzlia Weizman Primary School	KZN	Grades 1 - 6
Ihsaan Boys College	KZN	Grades 8 - 12
Kingsway Christian School	GP	Grades 1 - 12
Maritzburg Muslim School for Girls	KZN	Grades 8 - 12
Mayfair Convent Primary School	GP	Grades 1 - 7
Micklefield Primary School	WC	Grades 1 - 7
PEPPS-Motheong Primary School	GP	Grades 1 - 7
Redhill School	GP	Grades 1 - 12
Saint Catherine's School - Empangeni	KZN	Grades 1 - 12
Somerset College	WC	Grades 1 - 12
St Catherine's Convent School - Florida	GP	Grades 1 - 12
St George's Grammar School	WC	Grades 1 - 12
St Mary's Diocesan School for Girls - Pretoria	GP	Grades 1 - 12
St Monica's Diocesan School	EC	Grades 1 - 12
United Herzlia Schools	WC	Grades 7 - 12
Vela School	EC	Grades 1 - 12
Woodhill College	GP	Grades 1 - 12

*you did it!*  
**Congratulations**