

FAITH COMPASSION COURAGE



EPWORTH

Independent High School for Girls

Faith Compassion Courage

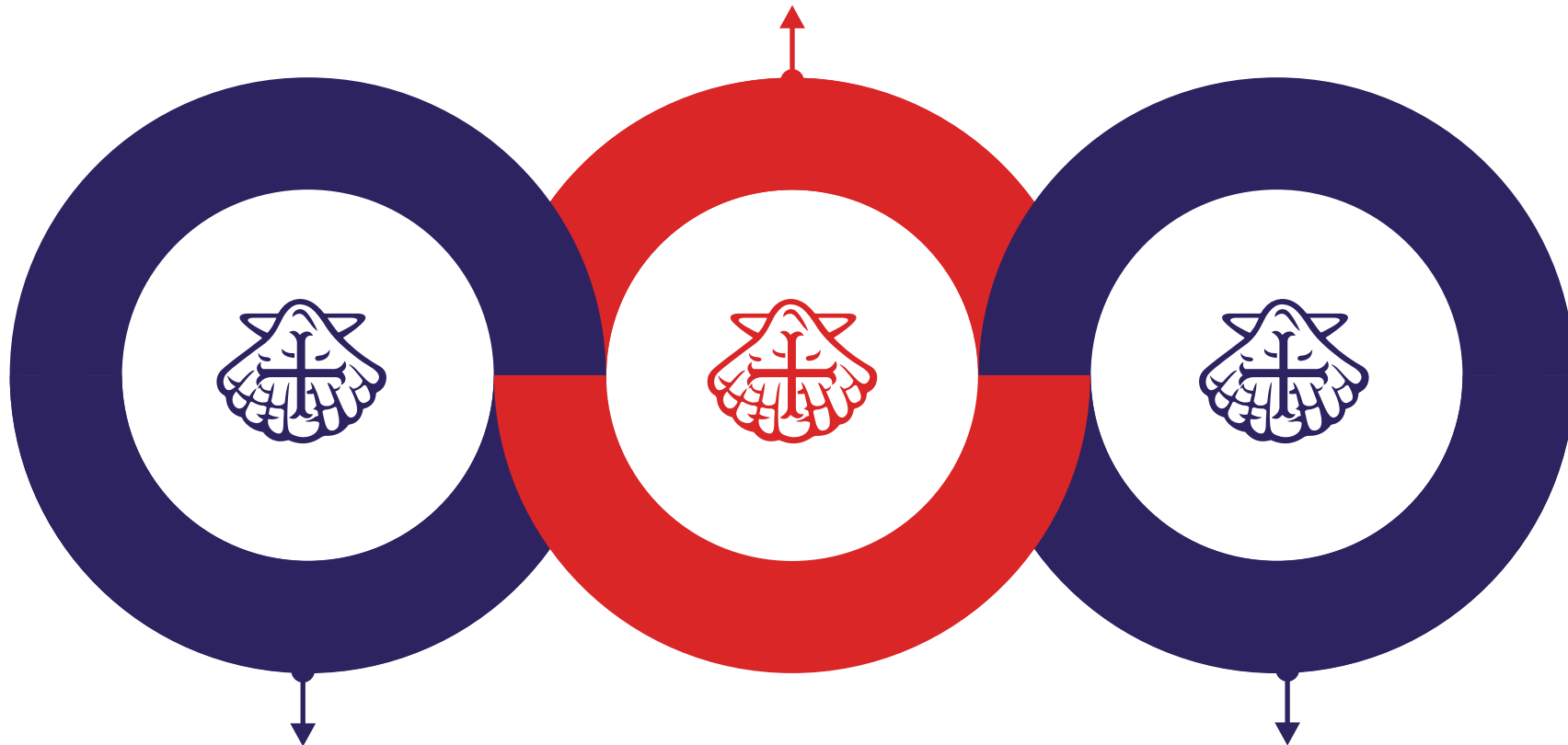
– The Epworth motto –



The qualities
of **Fida (Faith)**,
Humana (Compassion)
and **Fortis (Courage)**
anchor the value system
of Epworth School.

Our vision

Faith, Compassion and Courage.



Our mission

We keep Faith in God, have Compassion for others
and fill our hearts with Courage.

Our values

We keep faith in God, ourselves and others.
We serve all with compassion and respect.
We take the courageous option.
We nurture hope.
Our integrity is above reproach.
Our lifestyle cares for and sustains the social and natural environment.
Our commitment to Epworth is fuelled by fellowship and passion.
We pursue excellence through self-discipline.

About us

351
Girls



183
Boarders



2-25
Pupils
per class



100%

Pass rate in
Grade 12 IEB NSC
examinations



100%

Matric
Exemption
(Bachelor
Degree) in
2023, 2024
and 2025

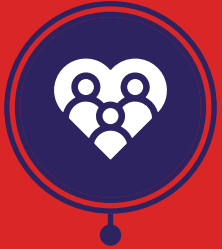


3

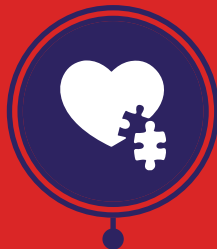
Classes
per grade



Why Epworth?



Epworth School is deeply aware of its **RESPONSIBILITY TOWARDS CHILDREN AND PARENTS** as a leading girls' school.



At Epworth, we follow a **PRAGMATIC APPROACH** to navigate complex contemporary challenges facing young people in South Africa.



Epworth is a **LEADER IN INNOVATIVE TEACHING METHODOLOGIES** without sacrificing the immediacy of teaching in the strive towards academic success.



At Epworth, we follow the **IEB SYLLABUS** because it encourages the development of critical-thinking skills.



We place a premium on **OUT-OF-THE-CLASSROOM LEARNING** to help prepare young women for the challenges of the real world.

Epworth is
#ThePlace2BU

Introduction

Epworth High School for Girls is one of South Africa's leading and most sought-after independent schools. It provides an inclusive, real-world education for boarders and day scholars from Grades 8 to 12.

The school is set in scenic 15-hectare grounds on the outskirts of Pietermaritzburg, KwaZulu-Natal. Its Art Deco-style buildings are interspersed in park-like surroundings with expansive lawns and large trees, giving the campus a generous, spacious atmosphere.

We are a Christian school, grounded in the Methodist tradition, that dates back to 1898. Our powerful school motto, *Fida Humana Fortis* (Faith Compassion Courage) is infused in daily school life.

Epworth is recognised for its friendly, down-to-earth and family-oriented ethos. We strive to create a sense of belonging and believe in a participatory approach to all our activities. Through our nurturing environment, we instil a quest for personal excellence. Our aim is for each pupil to achieve her unique potential and to excel in her area of individuality.

At Epworth, we grow leadership potential, develop resilience and instil confidence to prepare our pupils for a world of uncertainty, change, hope and opportunity.



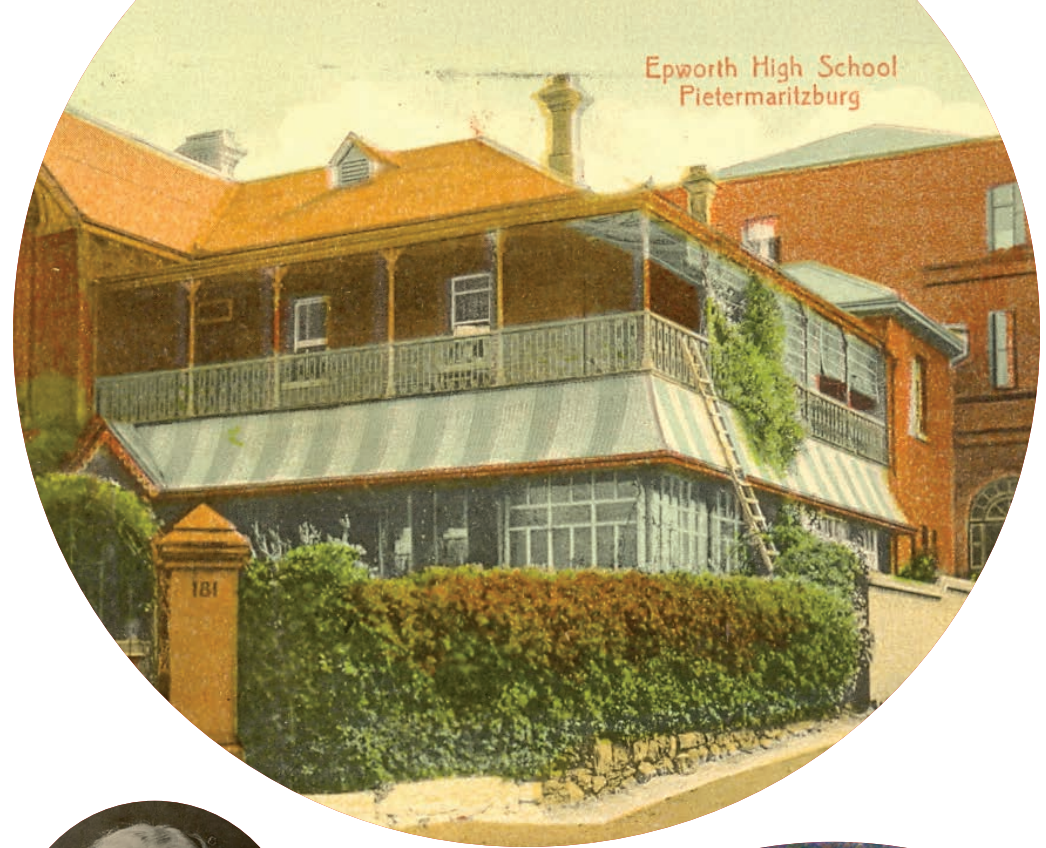
A brief history

Epworth was founded in 1898 by two pioneering women, Miss Emily Lowe and Miss Emma Mason. It was named after the town of Epworth in Lincolnshire (UK), the birthplace of John and Charles Wesley, two brothers who developed Methodism. The original school was housed in the centre of Pietermaritzburg and moved to its present location in 1941.

For the first 21 years Epworth operated as a private venture. In 1919 it was transferred to the Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of South Africa, which then appointed a management council. This arrangement continued until 1982 when it was taken over by an independent trust, ensuring that the school maintained its Methodist ethos.

Throughout its history, Epworth has been a transformational space. It made brave decisions, engaged in leading-edge thinking and embraced diversity. In 1979 Epworth was one of the first schools in the country to admit black pupils and in 1980, it recorded the highest number of non-white pupils of all the provinces' private schools.

Today, as we look to the future, we remember the words of Nelson Mandela: ***"The ways in which we achieve our goals are bound by context, changing with circumstances even while remaining steadfast in our commitment to our vision."***



Miss Emily Lowe



Miss Emma Mason



Academics



Academics take centre stage, focusing on critical thinking, problem-solving, creativity, self-expression and inquiry. Our outstanding programme comprises an extensive range of relevant subjects, accommodating pupils with wide-ranging abilities and interests. We strive to nurture each pupil, regardless of her aptitude, to the maximum of her intellectual capacity and skills.

Highly dedicated and competent teachers, who are passionate about education and the development of character, complement our academic curriculum which is examination driven. Each grade is divided into three classes with between 22 and 25 pupils per class.

“We are encouraged to test our limits and go beyond our abilities as we strive to maintain an even higher academic standard.”
Grade 9 pupil



TECHNOLOGY

Pupils have access to state-of-the art facilities and technology is integrated into the teaching day. We believe the use of electronic devices and digital platforms are critical in teaching and learning but that their use should be integrated with balance in mind.





GRADE 12 QUALIFICATION

Epworth pupils write the Independent Examinations Board (IEB) National Senior Certificate examinations in Grade 12, consistently achieving 100% pass rate. Every year, we also exceed the IEB percentage for entrance into university and celebrate pupils who achieve subject results in the top one percent of all IEB candidates.



ACADEMIC SUPPORT

A structured academic support programme, which operates outside of school time, provides our pupils with every opportunity to achieve to the best of their ability. It stretches the top pupils and offers support to those requiring additional assistance. A peer-tutoring programme for mathematics runs in the school day during prep time and allows time for senior pupils to assist with tutoring junior pupils.



CAREER GUIDANCE

The school counsellor offers career guidance through personal counselling. Comprehensive career information is on offer, enabling pupils to investigate their chosen career and keep up to date on tertiary institutions and bursaries. Pupils are given the opportunity to attend talks by outside speakers relating to tertiary institutions and career options.



BENCHMARKING

In order to track academic progress and to ensure we keep abreast of standards and developments, our pupils participate in regular national and international benchmark tests. We also encourage and facilitate annual participation in various olympiads and competitions.



Sport



Epworth has a proud and long-standing reputation for sporting excellence. We achieve success across a wide range of sports disciplines. Every year, we celebrate teams and individuals who succeed at regional, national and international level.

Our sports programmes cater equally for beginners, intermediate and advanced athletes. We provide a solid foundation in fundamental sports skills and gradually build on these to maximise the potential of each pupil.

“ *The holistic approach has made her a confident individual in class and on the sports field.* ”
Grade 12 parent



BALANCE

Balance is key to our sports programmes: balance between developing physical skills, mental skills and enjoyment of the sport; balance between the pressure to win and the challenge of healthy competition; balance between growth as a member of a team and growth as an individual sportswoman; and balance between academic and sports commitments.





REINFORCING KEY LIFE SKILLS

Our diverse sporting choices provide positive opportunities that reinforce key life skills and values such as resilience, discipline, teamwork and sportsmanship. In our team sports, we focus on fielding multiple teams so that pupils of differing abilities have the opportunity to play and benefit from competitive sport.



SPORTS STAFF

We have a core of experienced and highly qualified sports staff, complemented by coaches who are specialists in their disciplines. An in-house physiotherapist assists with training and rehabilitation programmes.



SPORTS ACTIVITIES

Epworth offers the following sports: basketball, body conditioning, canoeing, cross country, diving, hockey (indoor and outdoor), netball (action netball, Fast5 netball), soccer, social running, squash, swimming, tennis and water polo. Athletics and canoe polo are offered on a user-paid basis.

A high-performance programme (Metafit and strength and conditioning) caters for Epworth's elite sportswomen who are interested in improving their performance, maximising their athletic potential and avoiding injury.

Adventure sport forms a key component of our sports programme and we offer trips and excursions that centre around activities such as kayaking, hiking, mountain biking and trail running.



SPORTS FACILITIES

Our top-class, modern facilities include six all-weather tennis courts, two hockey/cricket/rugby/soccer fields, five netball courts, four glass-backed squash courts, an artificial hockey surface, a 10-lane, 25m swimming pool and springboard diving facility (a 3m board and a 1m board), a heated 6-lane training swimming pool, a full cross-country course, a fully equipped gym, two multi-purpose indoor centres with basketball, indoor hockey, netball and tennis courts and access to a nearby facility for canoeing.



Performing Arts



The Performing Arts are an indispensable part of a well-rounded education and Epworth recognises the powerful role they play educationally in nurturing creativity, critical thinking, self-understanding and an appreciation of different cultures.

Music, dance and drama feature prominently at Epworth and every pupil has the opportunity to explore her creative potential through one of these art forms, which are housed within a top-class performing arts centre.

“It certainly offers a well-rounded education and scope for a student to excel academically, culturally, and in the arts.”
Grade 12 pupil



PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

The centre is a purpose-built structure of connecting spaces that nurture creativity and expression. It includes a renovated school hall that accommodates theatre productions and a magnificent double-volume dance and drama studio with a sprung floor. In addition, there is a well-insulated percussion room and an auditorium for chamber concerts that also serves as rehearsal space for choirs, ensembles and drama performances. A music studio is on the upper level along with 10 sizable music rooms for teaching and instrumental practice. Modern classrooms and offices complement the performance spaces, providing an ideal environment for teaching and learning.





MUSIC

Music is one of the major growth areas of the school. It is offered as a subject from Grades 8 to 12 and provides pupils with the opportunity to look at history through an artistic lens whilst exploring creativity and self-expression. Unique to Epworth is a Grade 8 and 9 instrumental programme. All Grade 8 and 9 pupils, regardless of their musical background, have the choice to learn to play either the piano, violin, clarinet, or to receive vocal training. This initiative makes learning music accessible to all our pupils as a valuable and enriching life skill.

Our music department has two choirs, a string ensemble and three marimba bands. These groups perform regularly and provide a valuable group-performance platform for our instrumentalists and singers. Our high-profile public performances position Epworth prominently on the local music map. Individual and group music lessons are offered with specialist vocal and instrumental teachers. Annually, we prepare and enter our music pupils for the ABRSM and Trinity practical and theory examinations.



DANCE

Dance is an integral part of performing arts at Epworth. The school boasts a junior and senior dance company, where young talent is nurtured, a LiveArt Street Crew Company as well as an elite LiveArt Dance Company. Auditions for the LiveArt Dance Companies are open to all pupils. Ballet and contemporary dance classes are offered in the afternoons at an extra cost.



DRAMA

Theatre productions – in the form of a musical or conventional play – are part of the school's annual calendar of events. We stage a major production each year, along with our annual House Plays, providing pupils with multiple opportunities to perform and develop their skills. In addition our Theatre Performance Laboratory offers a focused space for pupils to extend and refine their stage craft, with pathways to participate in Trinity College London examinations in musical theatre, acting and speech and drama. Dramatic arts also form part of the Grades 8 and 9 curriculum as well as the Grade 12 subject package.



Spiritual Life



Epworth is a Christian school that infuses spirituality into daily school life. Although we have a strong Methodist ethos, our pupils represent many different denominations. We welcome pupils of all faiths.

A full-time chaplain leads and oversees our spiritual programme, ensuring activities are relevant and appealing to young people. Our beautiful chapel is fittingly located in the heart of the campus and is the site for weekly chapel services and assemblies, as well as concerts and school gatherings.

We believe it is important for each pupil to explore her own spiritual journey, in her own way. We provide on-going support for this journey through activities that centre around worship, study, community and service.

“*Epworth is a safe environment that focuses on growing each individual spiritually, academically and physically. There is a culture of sisterhood and inclusivity.*”
Grade 12 pupil





STUDENT CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

Our Student Christian Association (SCA), which meets weekly, is a safe space for Christian pupils to worship together, receive teaching, have discussions, pray for and support one another. It further enables Christians from all grades to get to know each other better. At least once a term, we engage with SCAs from other boys' and girls' schools.



CELL (Connect. Encourage. Listen. Love) GROUPS

Weekly cell groups, comprising six to eight pupils, which focus on fellowship and Bible study, meet during our clubs slots and are led by senior pupils. They aim to support and develop spiritual growth in a fun, non-judgemental and relaxed atmosphere.



CONFIRMATION

Confirmation classes take place during the second and third terms and culminate in our confirmation service in the third term. At this service, there is also an opportunity for pupils to be baptised.



CHAPEL

In addition to weekly chapel services, attended by all pupils, boarders' chapel is held on Sunday evenings. Boarders also have an opportunity to worship at local congregations on the weekends. Within the spiritual life of the school are girls also have the opportunity to join the Prayer Ministry Team, the Unity Group and the Worship Team.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community engagement is embedded in the culture of Epworth. Throughout the year, pupils engage in various charitable projects on and off the campus, which benefit and enrich the lives of others. We host awareness and civvies days where funds are raised and donated to our partner organisations. Not only do these activities provide a service to others, but they also enable our pupils to acquire new skills, gain different experiences and become aware of those less fortunate than themselves.



Boarding



Epworth offers a home away from home to weekly, termly and overnight boarders in Grades 7 to 12. It provides opportunities for pupils to fully immerse themselves in the life of the school and to become independent and self-assured young women.

We believe that happiness in boarding is key to growth and success in all areas: academic, sporting, cultural, spiritual and emotional. We aim to create an environment in which everyone feels safe, happy and heard... an environment where pupils learn to live with others and where mutual trust and respect are cultivated.

“ *We get along and share a sense of connectedness, friendship and understanding.* ”
Grade 12 pupil



BOARDING HOUSES

Boarders are accommodated in four different boarding houses that feature comfortable double or single rooms, spacious bathroom facilities and leisure areas for relaxation. They are cared for on a daily basis by four live-in housemothers and twelve boarder mistresses (usually senior university students). Prefects are also allocated rooms in each house and Grade 12 mentors are strategically placed to look after the junior grades. A head of boarding, who is also an academic staff member, oversees the boarding programme.





BIG SISTER PROGRAMME

The Grade 8s and 12s participate in the Big Sister programme, whereby each Grade 8 boarder is assigned a specific Grade 12 boarder who acts as her “big sister” for her Grade 8 year, providing guidance and support.



OUTINGS AND EXCURSIONS

Standard outings, such as visits to the mall, Youth on Friday night, and spectating at other school’s sports events take place every weekend. Boarders also attend socials, festivals, talks and activities hosted by other schools. Longer trips to places such as Durban and the Midlands are organised on a regular basis. Pupils have access to all the school’s sports facilities over weekends.



TRANSPORT

We offer our boarders a variety of transport options:

Weekly Transport: On Monday mornings, we provide transport from Ballito, Mount Edgecombe, Durban, Winston Park, Hillcrest, Nottingham Road and Howick/Tweedie to Epworth. This service returns to these areas on Friday afternoons.

Special Transport: Additionally, transport to Pietermaritzburg and King Shaka airports can be arranged for boarders when needed.

Daily Transport: We also offer our day girls daily transport to and from Athlone Circle and Hilton.



Beyond the classroom

Epworth is about so much more than just classroom-based learning. We strive to provide our pupils with real-world experiences that will set them up for life beyond school. Throughout the year, workshops, experts in residence, guest speakers, excursions and our international exchange programme add depth and provide opportunities for further learning and growth.



A weekly **clubs session**, whereby one lesson a week is reserved for a non-academic subject such as photography, chess and debating, broadens pupils' skills.



Epworth Out Loud is our in-house pupil publication that provides pupils from all grades with the opportunity to hone their journalistic skills by writing and submitting articles.



At Epworth, **debating** comes closest to being an academic sport and is part of the fabric of the school. It is viewed as a crucial skill set that has academic, social and personal benefits. Teams of pupils participate in regional debating leagues, in which the school's track record is renowned. Epworth has produced several national debaters who have represented South Africa and have competed overseas.



Epworth participates in **The President's Award**, which is the South African version of the Duke of Edinburgh Award from Britain. It provides young people with a balanced, non-competitive framework for self-development. It comprises three levels: bronze, silver, gold and each level has four components. Pupils receive certificates and badges for each level completed.



We have formal pupil international **exchange programmes** with Loretto School and Gordonstoun School in Scotland, and St Edwards School In England. All Grade 10 pupils are eligible to apply for this unique experience. Epworth is affiliated to Rotary International, which offers a youth exchange programme.



Epworth-on-the-Move is a pupil enrichment programme that takes place in the third term when the Grade 12s are writing their trial examinations. For a week, each grade participates in out-of-the classroom activities on and off campus.



Earth Active and **Interact** are two active groups on campus that provide opportunities for community engagement, social responsibility and environmental-focused activities.



The Grade 10 **Vogue Programme** comprises a community outreach initiative and a social aspect in the form of a ball, for which funds are raised. Prior to the ball, the Epworth Grade 10s engage in dancing lessons with the Grade 11 Maritzburg College boarders who then accompany them to the event, along with their parents.



Wellness



Wellness at Epworth, which focuses on pupils' emotional, social, spiritual and psychological well-being, is the essential foundation on which learning takes place. Research shows that pupils with good mental and emotional health are likely to achieve better academically and are more equipped to deal with life's challenges.



PASTORAL SUPPORT

Our pastoral care team comprises our Head, Deputy Head, Chaplains, Counsellor, Head of Boarding, and our school sanitorium sister. They meet on a weekly basis to ensure that our pupils' pastoral needs are being met, sensitively and discreetly. In addition, each grade has assigned tutors to small groups of pupils, which are overseen by a head of grade who closely monitors the grade as a whole.

Our registered counsellor offers personal, individual and group counselling to those who experience difficulties in their home, personal and school lives. We operate a pupil mentoring programme whereby every Grade 8 pupil is assigned to a Grade 12 mentor who helps her adjust to school life and acts as a bridge of friendship between the older and younger pupils. In turn, staff members act as mentors to the Grade 12s in their final year of school.



SANITORIUM

The health of our pupils is of utmost importance. We have a well-resourced sanitorium that is run by two qualified nursing sisters who are on duty 24 hours a day.



CATERING

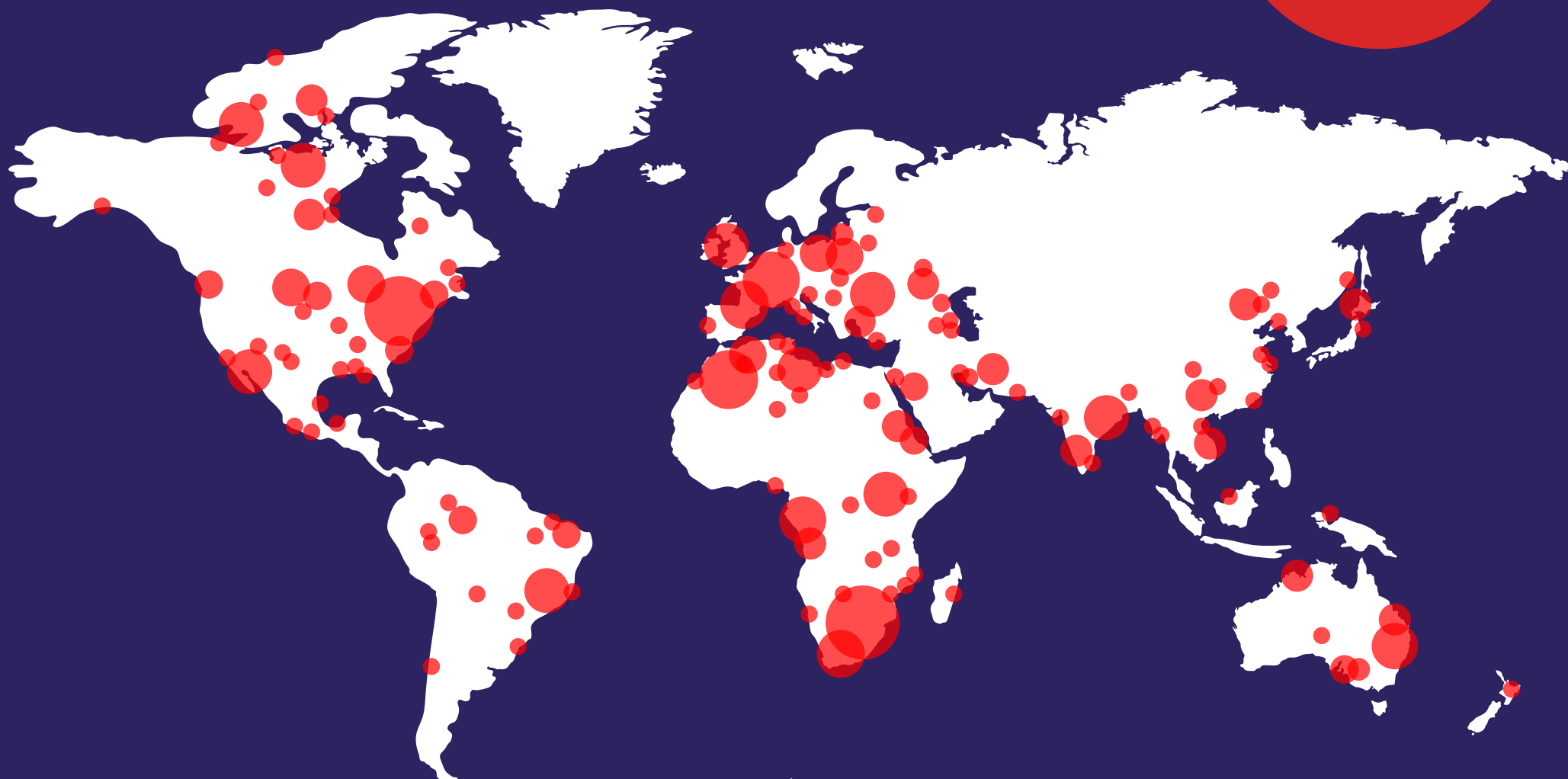
Wholesome, nutritionally balanced meals are planned and prepared by a professional catering company for all our pupils. Pupils order their meals via an app, selecting from three different options. Special dietary needs are accommodated within reason.



Our global footprint



We are proud
of our Epworthians
who travel the world
and achieve great things
while flying the
Epworth flag.





Apply now

**Your journey to becoming an
Epworth pupil starts here.**

For further information regarding our admissions process, please contact:

☎ 033 846 2519 | ✉ admissions@epworth.co.za

For marketing enquiries and to book a personal tour, please contact:

☎ 033 846 2580 | ✉ marketing@epworth.co.za

Or visit our website:

www.epworth.co.za



Applications for
Grade 8, 2027 close on

**Friday,
27 March 2026**

**APPLY
ONLINE**



Contact us



033 846 2580



marketing@epworth.co.za



admissions@epworth.co.za



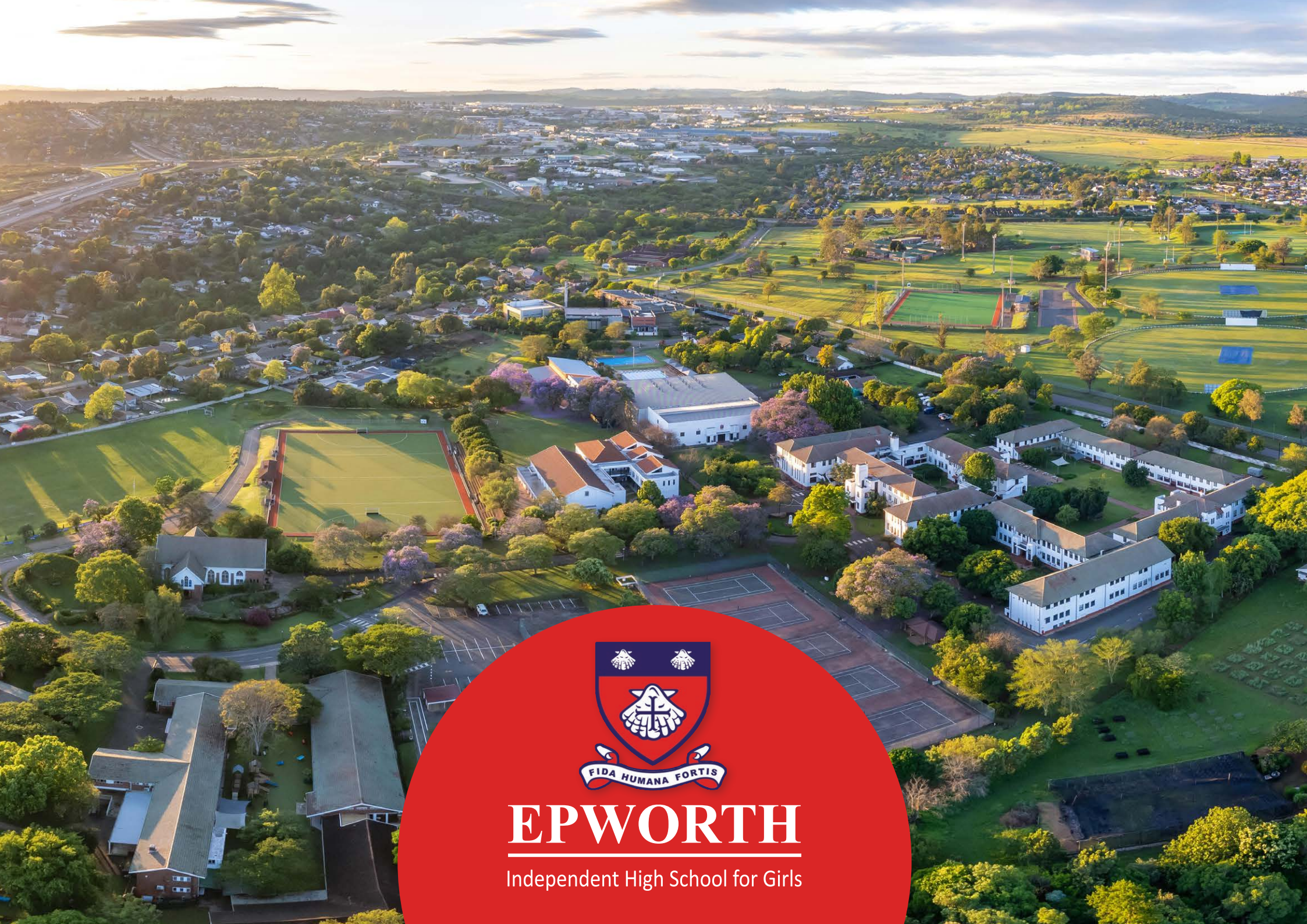
95 Golf Road, Scottsville,
Pietermaritzburg 3201



www.epworth.co.za

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA





EPWORTH
Independent High School for Girls