



GRADE R PROSPECTUS

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Dear Parents

Thank you for entrusting the welfare of your child to us. We sincerely hope that your child will have an enriched year in his/her Xanadu Private School Grade R class.

We would however like to bring a few matters to your attention:

1. THE AIM FOR THE GRADE R YEAR:

- To allow your child to develop in a happy, informal atmosphere and to be equipped and ready for his/her formal education.
- To expose your child to the atmosphere of how the “big school” will function without formal teaching.
- To bring a part of his/her home into the school by the following:
 - To interact in an informal manner.
 - To create a warm, cosy and safe environment.
 - To allow your child to be him/herself.

If you are aware of any special needs your child might need, do not hesitate to bring it to our attention.

Spiritual development

In grade R we want your child to also develop spiritually. Therefore, we often pray in small groups for any personal or other needs.

When we do Bible stories we focus on the Biblical principles and the content of the story. Children learn that they are precious and special to God, because after creating man God spoke and said: “It was good”.

Your child will get the opportunity to testify to his/her friends on a daily basis and once a week to attend a praise worship session with their friends.

We try to reflect the passions below through the presentation of our themes and subject groups in order to integrate our curriculum and Christian values:



- A Passion for God
- A Passion for People and service
- A Passion for the Nations

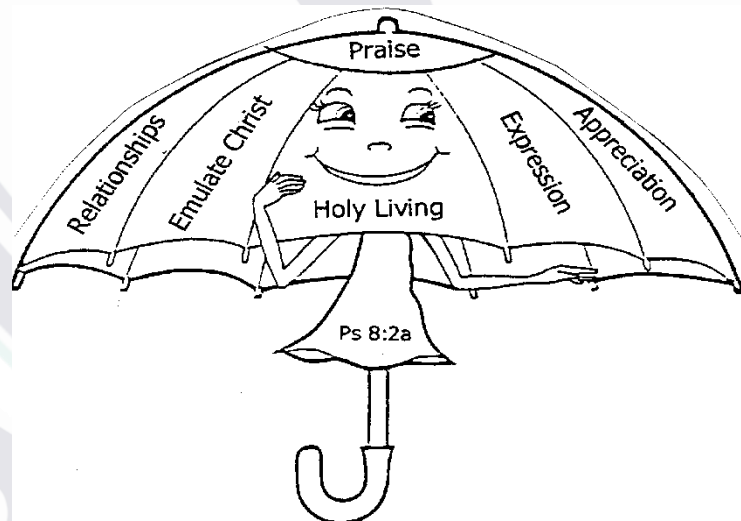
2. CHRIST-CENTRED EDUCATION

It is of utmost importance to us that we offer a Christ centred curriculum. The object being to build up, in a balanced manner, Biblical truths into the character of the learner, so that he/she can equip him/herself with the necessary life skills, as to fulfil the purpose for being placed on earth.

Themes are chosen to which the child can relate to while we are focusing upon the heart of Christ for the pupils. We do, however, endeavour to cover a wide spectrum of subjects.

At the end of the Foundation Phase we really want to know that each pupil has developed to his/her fullest potential.

The umbrella shown below depicts the heart of Christ for life skills, and thus is the basic principle which we endeavour to teach the child.



Passion programmes:

As part of our passion for People and Service, the Pre-school supports the Ennis Thabong Pre-school. They are an underprivileged neighbouring school. Together with the whole school we provide them with Oats/Pronutro and milk every term. For some of these children it is the



only decent meal they get. Furthermore, we invite them to our Pre-school Sports day during the first term where we treat them with a fun day and goodie bags. During the second and third term we visit them at school and do some activities with them. We end off with a water fun day in the last term. Our aim with this passion programme is to instil love, compassion and respect for all God's people in our children's hearts.

- **Admission requirements** – the year in which the child turns 6 years.

Year plan of themes

The following is a list of all the themes that will be discussed in Grade R.

Term 1

- This is me
- My school
- God made me special
- God creates through colour and shape
- Senses
- Trees
- Fire
- Eggs
- God's heart for me – Easter

Term 2

- Autumn becomes Winter
- Shoes
- Dogs
- Bread
- Books
- The Police
- The Doctor
- South Africa
- Day and Night
- The universe/Space

Term 3

- South Africa
- Citrus fruit
- Music
- Vegetables



- Dairy
- The sea – fish
- Creepy crawlies

Term 4

- Spring becomes Summer
- Bees
- Birds
- Water
- Wild animals
- Frogs
- Dinosaurs
- Our King is born

3. SUBJECT APPROACH

Although the study material in Grade R is presented in context with a specific theme, all three subjects are integrated in the presentation thereof.

Subjects and time allocation in the Foundation phase for Gr. R:

Language

- 10 hours per week.

Mathematics

- 7 hours per week

Life skills

- 6 hours per week

4. DISCIPLINE AND CLASSROOM ORGANISATION

It is an important principle that children should be disciplined and we would fail in our upbringing if we did not implement this principle.

Class rules are simple and fair. We discuss them with the children during the first week of school. Obedience and a positive attitude will be rewarded.

Each child also has the opportunity to act as the Class Leader, which will give them certain responsibilities.



Classroom organisation also implies that your child will learn to organise him/herself. This includes tidiness of their lockers, care of their belongings and packing their bags at the end of the day.

5. PARENT-TEACHER-RELATIONSHIP

Constant contact between parents and teacher is of utmost importance. During the first two weeks you are most welcome to speak to us when you collect your child. If, however, there is something you would like to discuss with us, we urge you to put a note in the child's homework book, so as to bring the matter to our attention.

- Introduce yourself to us at an early stage. We like to associate the child's face with those of his parents.
- Please feel free to make an appointment with the class teacher if you have any questions or if you are concerned about anything.
- We would like to do a friendly, but earnest appeal, that you as parent do not interrupt any classes. Please report to the office first.
- Please communicate with us by written notes or in their message books.
- During Parents' evening, you will be given the opportunity to discuss, without your child being present, any matters that may concern you. Please try and attend as many annual meetings, parent/teacher and social functions as possible. Your interest will help your child to realise that his/her school education is important to you as parent.

6. HOMEWORK AND EXTRA MURALS

Grade R learners do not formally receive homework. They will however be informally introduced to this principle by getting "Letterland" homework every Monday, from the second term, where they only have to search for magazine pictures.

From the third term they will informally prepare for a weekly "Show and Tell" presentation to prepare them for public speaking in Grade one.

Extra mural activities are optional and extra provided by external service providers. Information in this regard is available from the office.

Please take note that extra mural activities will only commence after school hours.



7. LANGUAGE POLICY

The language of learning and teaching is English.

8. ASSESSMENT

It is the policy of Xanadu Private School that your child will be formally assessed at the end of the 2nd, 3rd and 4th term and you will be informed via a formal assessment report. In the 1st term the learners will receive an informal progress report.

8.1 Interpretation of assessment

Your child's behaviour, participation in activities and development will be assessed from time to time and constructive comments and tips will be communicated to the parents if necessary.

At the end of the first term you as parent will receive an informal progress report. Information noted in this report relates to your child's adjustment, socializing, behaviour and disposition towards the school. If it is suspected that the learners may have developmental difficulties or any serious inabilities then it will be discussed personally at this stage. We find that learners at this age develop so quickly and drastically, that aspects which seems to be major problems, might clear up during the first half of the year.

Assessment in grade R is done informal and continuously.

The following description codes are used on the 2nd, 3rd and last reports.

Achievement Level	Achievement Description	Mark %
7	Outstanding Achievement	80 -100
6	Meritorious Achievement	70 – 79
5	Substantial Achievement	60 – 69
4	Adequate Achievement	50 – 59
3	Moderate Achievement	40 – 49
2	Elementary Achievement	30 – 39
1	Not Achieved	0 - 29



8.2 Assessment done in the second term will contain the following:

- Gross and fine motor skills.
- Basic visual and auditory perceptual skills.
- The way the learners become involved and participates in different activities.
- Language skills, concentration and attention skills.

8.3 During the third term the following aspects will be assessed:

- Gross and fine motor skills
- Language development
- Mathematical skills
- Visual and auditory perceptual skills
- Concentration and attention
- School readiness skills

8.4 During the last term the following aspects will be assessed:

- Advanced visual and auditory perceptual skills
- Language development
- Higher cognitive skills
- Concentration and attention
- School readiness and perceptual skills are assessed with higher expectations

8.5 Therapy

Learners may be referred to a speech and/or occupational therapist during the course of the year if necessary.

8.6 School readiness evaluation

Learners are expected to go for a formal school readiness evaluation at the end of the third term.

9. SCHOOL READINESS PROGRAMME

During the first six weeks intensive attention is given to the vestibular and tactile system.

The following areas are covered during the course of the year:

9.1 I see and understand (visual perception)



- Differences and similarities – visual discrimination
- See and do – visio-motor integration
- Remember things I see – visual memory
- Foreground and background discrimination
- Perception of shapes
- Analysis and synthesis
- Transposition
- Visual closure

9.2 I can hear and understand (Auditory perception)

- Remember what I am told – auditory memory
- Hear different sounds – auditory discrimination
- Act upon what I hear – auditory motor integration

9.3 I can move

- Gross motor skills
- Fine motor skills - accurate movement of hands and fingers
- Dominance - this must be established before Grade 1
- Middle line crossing
- Laterality - be able to distinguish between two sides of body
- Balance
- Bi-lateral motor integration
- Hand and eye co-ordination
- Eye movements and tracking

9.4 Body awareness

- Must be aware of the body. Name all the different parts and understand their functions.

9.5 I can relate to my home and the world around me

- Position in space
- Spatial relations

9.6 I can communicate (Language development)

- Reasoning

9.7 Concentration and perseverance



9.8 Emotional development

9.9 Sequence of events

9.10 General development

- Knows age
- Understanding of time
- To sit still
- Impulse control

9.11 Understanding concepts

- Colours
- Counting objects – how many legs?

9.12 Preparatory mathematics and counting games gets foremost attention

10. READING PROGRAMME AND MATHEMATICAL SKILLS

STARTING TO READ:

The Grade R learners start their reading journey by listening to stories, reading their own names and the names of friends and brand names in their environment. They also like adults to label their drawings. They should be made aware in a fun way that sentences are made up by words and words are made up by sounds and the alphabet letters make sounds.

HOW CAN I TEACH MY CHILD TO READ WITH UNDERSTANDING?

- Allow your child to “read” a book that he/she enjoys together with you. Children learn more from books that they enjoy. The book can be presented in large print and with plenty of colourful pictures.
- Seek out a comfortable and quiet place to read.
- Ask relevant questions of the facts and story line.
- Predict the end of the story.
- Do not be afraid to praise your child with gusto. Joseph Joubert said, “Children need a role model more than they need criticism”.



MATHEMATICAL UNDERSTANDING

All the visual perceptual skills include pre-school mathematics. In other words, colours, shapes, sort, classify, puzzles, similarities and differences, concept of time, spatial relations, laterality, body awareness, sequence of events and patterns.

- Encourage your child to count things in his/her world aloud in a playful and fun way. Count backwards and in two's.
- Provide your child with simple word problems (on your way to school in the car)
- Memorise important numbers and number sequences e.g. 74391 (five digits)
- Teach them mommy's cell phone number and house number.

11. EXCURSIONS

From time to time we arrange outings to places of interest. This might be something like the Zoo, Lion Park or any other place which we feel might enhance any of our weekly topics in the curriculum. We also arrange with people and or organisations from outside the school to visit us with presentations on some of the themes in our curriculum. This might be something like a visit from the Dentist, the Fire Brigade or the Ambulance.

12. REFRESHMENTS

Each child must bring his/her own nutritious lunch box for two small meals e.g. brown bread, cheese, carrot sticks and juice. A healthy lunch box cannot be replaced by tuck shop money.

No potato chips, sweets or fizzy drinks please. The children all sit around tables and eat. If a child brings sweets etc. to school, it leads to unhappiness and even conflict. If you feel you have to send sweets to school, then we ask that you send enough, so that they can be shared amongst the children.

13. BIRTHDAYS

This is a highlight for your child, and his/her birthday is of utmost importance. The birthday boy/girl receives a crown and we play a whole game to make them feel special.

You are most welcome to discuss your own arrangements with the teacher \pm one week prior to the "special day". The party will then be held in school time, at 11h30. We request however that no whistles, balloons or anything that makes a noise are sent.



14. CONCERT

In the Pre-school phase the Grade RR and Grade RR pupils participate in a Nativity play in November every year. The Foundation phase alternates with the Intersen phase to have a concert every second year. Therefore, the Grade R pupils join the Foundation phase for a concert every second year.

The concert supports pupils in their emotional and social development; therefore, it is compulsory for all our pupils to participate in the concert. A concert fee will be charged.

15. GRADUATION AND CROWNING EVENT

At the end of every year we have a graduation and crowning ceremony for the Grade R pupils. This is a very special evening where each child receives a graduation certificate and a character certificate which says something about the child and goes along with a blessing for his/her future.

16. TUCK SHOP

The Pre-school pupils visit the tuck shop only once a week on a day appointed by their class teacher. For this they need R10 a week. Please put this money and all other money to be send to school, in a clearly marked envelope with the child's name, what it is for and the amount that is included. This event of buying items from the tuck shop serves as educational time where the learners have the opportunity to learn to barter with money.

17. STATIONERY

The following is a list of items needed for Grade R.

Description	Qty Required
A5 48 Page Feint & Margin Book	1
A4 72P Unruled Book	1
Pritt Glue Stick Jumbo 43g	4
Ponal Wood Glue 100ml	2
Scissors 165mm Orange Handle School Blade 1.5mm	1
Writing Slate A4 White (297x210mm)	1
Pentel Maxiflo White Board Marker Black 4mm Pump Action	2
Pentel Maxiflo NLF50 Black Bullet Permanent Marker 4.5mm	1
Giotto Turbo Colour Fibre Pens Maxi 12s Assorted (Jumbo)	1
Carry Folder A4 PVC – Blue	1
Carry Folder A5	1
Duster Small A4 Board 50mm – wood and felt	1
Chair Bag Denim 38cm with pocket standard	1



Bostik Wax Twisters 12s (Retractable)	1
Tissues 200's	1
A4 Book Cover Heavy Duty Clear Polypropylene (Peel & Stick) Donau	1
A4 2 Ring Binder 25mm PVC Blue Plastic	1
Gummed Paper 150 X 150mm Assorted 20 sheets Butterfly	1
Plasters 40's Material – Not Supplied By Dean's	1
Pilot EE102 Plastic Eraser Large 60mmx20mm	1
Maped Igloo sharpener 1 hole	1
Photocopy Paper A4 Typek 80g 500s White	5
Faber-Castell Junior Tri Grip Beginners Pencil HB	1
Giotto Olio Pastels Fine 12pcs (5.5x8mm)	1
Wetwipes	1

DO NOT MARK ITEMS. DO NOT COVER ANY BOOKS PLEASE

18. TIMES AND DAILY PROGRAMME

- Mondays to Fridays (excluding school holidays and public holidays)
- From 8h00 till 13h00 an intensive educational programme will be followed. There is a waiting class available from 7h00 and till 14h00 if needed.
- You are more than welcome to make use of our aftercare facilities. Contact the school office for more information.
- Pupils who are at school after 14h00 will be sent to aftercare. Please take note that a fee will be charged for aftercare services.

DAILY PROGRAMME

7h00 – 8h00	Arrival and free play
8h00 – 9h00	First ring Bible, greeting, register, weather chart, birthdays, news, theme discussion, science
9h00 – 9h30	Toilet routine and refreshments Free play outside
9h30 – 10h00	Teacher guided activity Perception/Maths/Science/Computer/Movement
10h00 – 11h15	Creative art Main activity with two to three side activities, free play inside and tidy up.



11h15 – 11h45	Teacher guided activity Letterland/theme discussion/rhymes/music/computer/movement
11h45 - 12h30	Outside play
12h30 – 12h50	Story time
12h50 – 13h00	Rest, quiet time and depart

When fetching your child please do not enter the classroom while we are busy finishing Story Time as it disturbs all the learners' concentration and spoils the ending of their day.

19. GENERAL

- Toys are not allowed to be brought to school. We cannot take responsibility for them.
- Please see to it that your child goes to bed early and gets enough sleep. A child who is tired is unhappy and is unable to associate his feeling with being tired.
- We recommend that the children bring a backpack that is big enough to carry and store all their belongings. Please mark lunch boxes and all clothing.
- Let the children wear old clothes. We like to be messy.
- **Clothing:**
All the Pre-school learners are required to purchase a navy XPS branded T-shirt and sunhat. They have to wear the T-shirt on Fridays, on outings, on the Go-cart day and at the Pre-school sports day. The sunhat must be worn every day in summer during outside playtime.

20. CONCLUSION

It is our wish that your child be truly happy and develops to his/her full potential. Please feel free to discuss any problems your child may experience.



XANADU PRIVATE SCHOOL

012 000 9250 | info@xanaduschool.co.za | www.xanaduschool.co.za

Regards

Grade R – Teacher

Every mom's dearest wish for her children:

"I want them to be the happy end of my story."

Margaret Atwood

ROOTED IN FAITH