

# GRADE 11 INFORMATION EVENING 2025



**BISHOPS**  
Diocesan College

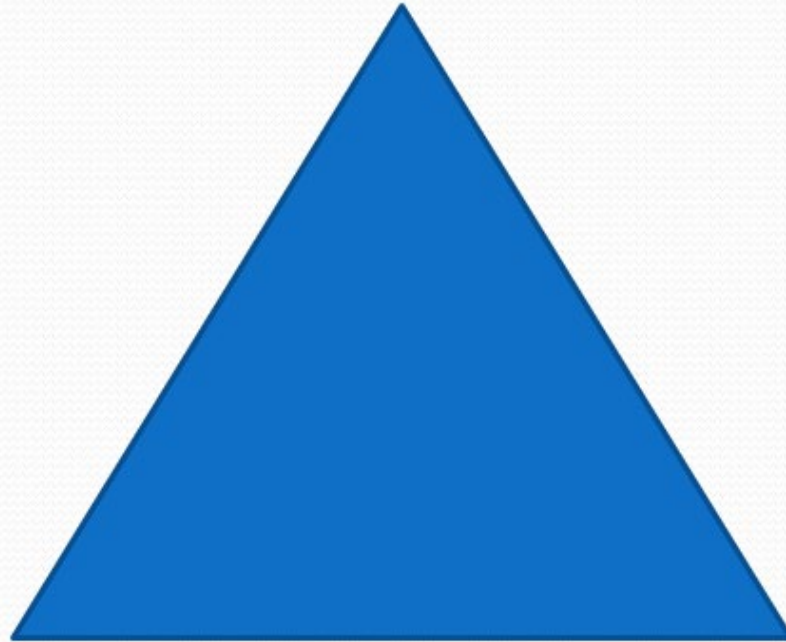


# Programme

- Opening remarks and general administrative matters
- Why Grade 11 is a Big Year
- University admission rations
- NBTs, A level admission equivalents (local)
- Myth busting and FAQs
- Importance of cognitive skills
- Practical considerations
- How Bishops supports the process



Scholar



Parents

Teacher



# ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- ✓ No more subject changes after end of Grade 11
- ✓ Matric Entries check – March and August
- ✓ ID cards/ passports needed for final exams



# Why the big rush? Isn't matric supposed to be the most important year?

## TRENDS

- Application dates earlier
- Grade 12 starts in Grade 11
- September 2026
- Local university applications 1 April - 31 July (excl Medicine)



# What is the big deal about the Grade 11 final exams?

- Provisional acceptance on Gr 11 exam results.
- **Be here for the Check!**
- NSC results release mid Jan, varsities start Feb
- Cognitive skills and work ethic don't develop overnight
- AS Level results– take them **SERIOUSLY.**



# What does this mean for my son?

- Limited places available
- Minimum requirements
- Merit rank is more NB guideline than marks
- Make multiple applications. Have Plan B and C and D





# Current application ratios

University	No of applicants	No of places available
University of Johannesburg	693 990	10 500
UWC	120 000	4705
UCT	98 844	4500
Stellenbosch	90 027	6005
Wits	86 000	6000





# NBTs

- National Benchmark Tests (NBTs):
  - AQL (academic and quantitative literacy) test
  - Mathematics test
  - All degrees at UCT require the AQL test (and certain degrees also require the mathematics test)
  - Stellenbosch University no longer requires NBTs
- Entry into a chosen degree is based solely on your grades
- Each South African university uses their own points conversion system



# Cambridge: A Levels

Faculty	UCT	SU
Commerce	3 A Level subjects (minimum C) 3 AS/IGCSE subjects (minimum C)	AS English (minimum C) AS Maths (minimum C)
Engineering	A Level maths (minimum B) A Level chemistry/physics (minimum B) AS chemistry/physics (minimum C)	AS English (minimum C) AS Maths (minimum B) AS Physics AND Chemistry (minimum C)
Health Sciences	A Level maths (minimum B) A Level chemistry/physics (minimum B) AS chemistry/physics (minimum A)	AS Maths, Chemistry and Biology (minimum C) AS Physics (recommended)
Law	Combination of Cs and Bs	AS English (minimum C) AS Afrikaans (minimum C)



# Cambridge: A Levels

- For most degrees, 4 AS subjects (3 of which are taken through to A Level) and 1 IGCSE are required
- **Exceptions:**
  - UCT Health Sciences Faculty and Faculty of Law (5 AS subjects and 1 IGCSE subject required)



	Subject	Level	Minimum Requirement
Group I (compulsory)	First Language English	AS Level	D (50%)
Group II (compulsory)	Second Language (Afrikaans)	IGCSE	C (60%)
Group III (compulsory)	Mathematics	AS Level	D (50%)
Group IV	Any other TWO subjects	AS Level	D (50%)

- You can complete the process in Grade 12 with AS results. Application fee is R1000 for 2025



# Let's do some myth-busting

- “But my friend’s son got in...”
- “Who do you know there who can push this through?”
- “I will pay for another student”
- “He can apply with his IR results in matric”
- “He will do better at the end of the year. He’s been a bit lazy”
- “Just get him into any course. He can change to a B.Com when he gets there”
- “What is the best university/course?”
- “He won’t get a job unless he goes to university”



# How can I avoid the panic?

- It is time-consuming and hard work to check the websites
- He must begin the research now. Your son must do this and the application form.
- What we can do is not always what we will do
- Past performance
- He must decide on a field, if not a particular career within it



# Who gets into a university then?

- Self- motivated, disciplined, intellectually curious and rigorous. Independent thinkers with a good set of personal standards and ethics
- Consistently excellent results
- Education is about development of cognitive skill sets
- Theoretical not vocational





# Bloom's taxonomy

is hierarchical, meaning that learning at the higher levels is dependent on having attained prerequisite knowledge and skills at lower levels



# For example...

## NSC Mathematics

Knowledge 20%

Routine Procedure 35%

Complex Procedure 30%

Problem Solving 15%



# ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS

- ✓ Be present at school and all assessments
- ✓ “Bishops” examinations



# NSC PASS REQUIREMENTS

## Bachelors Pass

- ✓ Achieve over 50% in 4 subjects (aside from LO).
- ✓ Must have at least 40% English



# CALCULATION OF FINAL MARKS

✓ Portfolio of work (SBA): 25%

Final external examination: 75%

✓ Subjects with a practical component

✓ Life Orientation

✓ NO AGGREGATE

# What does Bishops do to help?

- Life Orientation
- Self-awareness
- In house – career advice
- Career expo, Open Days , career library, career assessments, job shadow
- Resources for NBT, personal statements etc



# APPROACH TO THE MATRIC YEAR

- ✓ Taking breaks
- ✓ Parental support