

Dear Parent(s) /Legal Guardian(s)

Grade 8 Subject Choice

In Grade 8, learners have to choose TWO from the following: Creative Arts/ Specialised Music/ Specialised Art/ Technology and Digital Technology. A further choice must be made between Afrikaans First Additional Language or isiXhosa First Additional Language. A learner need not have taken Specialised Music, Specialised Art or Xhosa in Grade 7 in order to select these respective subjects in Grade 8.

Read the following carefully and complete the Grade 8 Subject Choice form.

1. CREATIVE ARTS / SPECIALISED MUSIC / SPECIALISED ART/TECHNOLOGY/DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

1.1. CREATIVE ARTS:

Creative Arts is a subject that explores various art forms. At Hudson Park High School your child will do Drama and Art for Creative Arts [this excludes Specialised Art and Specialised Music]:

Should your child choose Creative Arts, a choice must be made between Technology and Digital Technology. Specialised Art/Music may not be taken with Creative Arts.

1.2. SPECIALISED MUSIC

- A learner need not have taken Music as a specialised subject in Grade 7 in order to take Specialised Music as a subject in Grade 8 and 9.
- To be considered for Specialised Music in Grade 8 a learner will be required to attend auditions at the end of the school year in 2025. Parents who have selected specialised music on their subject choice form will be contacted via email towards the end of the school year in 2025.
- In Specialized Music learners are taught to play a musical instrument of their choice (subject to availability) and will take part in school musical ensembles on an extra-mural basis.
- Specialised Music learners can also choose vocals instead of another instrument.
- Instruments offered at Hudson Park High School are: Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Piano, Trumpet, Trombone, Tuba, Euphonium, Drum-Kit and Orchestral Percussion.
- Please note that parents are required to pay Music fees in addition to school fees.
- The Specialized Music fees for 2025 are as follows:
 - Subject Music Fee – R 4400 per year.
 - Instrument Rental Fee – R 3300 per year.

Please note that these fees have not been finalized for 2026 and are subject to change.

- Should your child choose specialised Music, a choice must be made between Technology and Digital Technology for their second subject choice.

1.3. SPECIALISED ART

- A learner need not have taken Art as a specialised subject in Grade 7 in order to take specialised Art as a subject in Grade 8 and 9.
- Learners are taken to Belgravia Art Centre during the morning for their Art lessons. Learners taking Specialised Art will therefore have four specialized art lessons in a two-week cycle.
- Please note that parents are required to pay Art fees in addition to school fees in order to cover art material.
- The Specialized Art fees for 2025 are R370 per learner, per term.

Please note that this fee has not been finalized for 2026 and is subject to change.

- Should your child choose specialised Art, a choice must be made between Technology and Digital Technology for their second subject choice.

1.4 TECHNOLOGY

- Technology is about designing solutions to technological challenges by using knowledge and understanding in ways that are ethical and in a manner that benefits human beings without having a negative impact on the environment.
- Technology is great subject to take should your child choose to take EGD in Grades 10-12.

1.5 DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

- Digital Technology is the use of computers, applications and internet technologies to enable users to communicate, create, store, distribute and manage information as well as to solve real life problems using appropriate computer tools and techniques.
- Digital Technology is a great subject to choose should your child choose to take IT or CAT in Grades 10-12. **However, not taking this subject in Grade 8 will not prevent your child from taking IT /CAT in Grade 10-12.**
- Digital Technology enrolment is restricted to 120 learners due to the availability of computers. Selection will be based on the following criteria: A Grade 7 Mathematics mark exceeding 65%, involvement in a computer academy program in Primary school, and first-come, first-served basis. Please indicate on the table that follows, your child's second choice of subject should they not be able to take Digital Technology.
- Parents will be notified should their child not be accepted in to Digital Technology. An alternate subject will need to be chosen.
- It is strongly advised that Learners who choose Digital Technology as a subject must have access to a computer and internet at home.

2. FIRST ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE

It is compulsory for learners to take a First Additional Language, unless they qualify for a FAL Exemption. Hudson Park High School offers Afrikaans First Additional Language and Xhosa First Additional Language.

Learners may apply for a FAL exemption based on the following criteria:

- A child or a dependent of a diplomatic representative of a foreign government accredited in South Africa; or
- A person who:
 - First enrolled at, and entered a South African school in Grade 7 or a more senior grade, or
 - Having begun his/her schooling at a school in South Africa; attended a school outside South Africa for two or more consecutive years after Grade 3 or its equivalent, and has subsequently returned to South Africa.

Should your child qualify for a FAL exemption, please indicate on the form.

Yours sincerely



Mrs T van der Merwe
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
ACADEMIC HEAD

Grade 8 Subject Choice Form for 2026

LEARNER'S SURNAME	
LEARNERS'S FIRST NAME	
NAME OF CURRENT SCHOOL	
PARENT NAME & SURNAME	
PARENT CONTACT NUMBER	
PARENT EMAIL ADDRESS	

In the Grade 8 Subject Choice form please make the relevant choices.

1. CREATIVE ARTS / SPECIALIZED MUSIC / SPECIALIZED ART/ TECHNOLOGY/DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY [SEE SELECTION INSTRUCTIONS]:

- Choose ONE option from column A
- Choose ONE option from column B

2. FIRST ADDITIONAL LANGUAGES [SEE SELECTION INSTRUCTIONS]:

- If you wish to do Afrikaans First Additional Language, please tick Option 1.
- If you wish to do Xhosa First Additional Language, please tick Option 2.
- If you wish to apply for a FAL exemption and satisfied the abovementioned criteria, please tick Option 3.

LSEN QUESTIONNAIRE (PROVIDE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION)

Does your child qualify for learning accommodations that support specific learning needs? No/Yes
If yes, please indicate what areas of learning and performance they experience as challenging in the block below:

Neurological barriers: dyslexia, dysgraphia, dyscalculia, ADHD/ADD	No	Yes	Specific Learning Disability (Specify)	No	Yes
Physical Impairment	No	Yes	Language of learning and Teaching (Specify)	No	Yes
Hearing Impairment	No	Yes	Other (Specify)	No	Yes
Visual Impairment	No	Yes			
Medical Condition (Specify)	No	Yes			

If your child does qualify for a learning concession, kindly share all relevant supporting documentation with the counselling department (e.g. Doctor's Certificates; Psycho-educational Report; or other therapeutic intervention reports)

PLEASE TICK NEXT TO YOUR CHOICE:

Learners who choose Digital Technology in column A, may not choose Digital Technology in column B.

1. CREATIVE ARTS / SPECIALIZED MUSIC / SPECIALIZED ART SELECTION / TECHNOLOGY / DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY			
COLUMN A Choose ONE option from column A		COLUMN B Choose ONE option from column B	
CREATIVE ARTS Drama and Art [excludes specialised Art and specialized Music]		If you choose Digital Technology in Column A, do not choose it again in Column B.	
SPECIALISED MUSIC (with HPHS music department) <i>Specialised Music [additional fee applies]</i>			
SPECIALISED ART (with Belgravia) <i>Specialised Art [additional fee applies]</i>			
DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY		DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY	
		TECHNOLOGY	

PLEASE NOTE: Due to availability of computer labs, Digital Technology is limited to 120 spaces. Preference will be given to learners who achieve above 65% for Mathematics and did Computer Academy in their Grade 6 and 7 years.

Parents will be notified if your child has been accepted to do Digital Technology in Grade 8. If your child is not accepted, he/she will have to take Technology or Creative Arts.

If your child chooses not to do Digital Technology in Grade 8, he/she will not be disadvantaged if wanting to choose IT/CAT as a subject in Grade 10.

1. FIRST ADDITIONAL LANGUAGES	
<u>OPTION 1:</u> Afrikaans First Additional Language	
<u>OPTION 2:</u> Xhosa First Additional Language	
<u>OPTION 3:</u> FAL exemption application	