



**IN CRUCE SALUS**

# **HOLY CROSS HIGH SCHOOL**

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## **Dear Reader**

This letter serves as an indication of the project we are embarking on. It is our response to the COVID 19 crisis and how we would like to use technology to answer the challenges it poses. In a nutshell we would like to create a very dense internal network to allow streaming and recording of lessons within the school primarily. We intend to spread learners out to such an extent that our teachers will not be enough to cover the physical space required. Thus, we would like to have a situation where an educator teaches in one classroom and her lesson is simultaneously being broadcast to another classroom or even two. Furthermore, learners who are quarantined or need to stay at home will be able to access either the live stream or better yet a full recording of the lesson. We have attached here the full breakdown of the project. We are not asking for money necessarily, rather we would like to know if you would donate some of the equipment. Or even better use this as an opportunity for social responsibility and partnering with us as a pilot project which could be rolled out to other schools. We intend to use specifically Ubiquity products and have used you as our network hardware vendor as of late.

## **School Background**

Holy Cross High School is an independent mission schools for girls from disadvantaged and lower income communities in Cape Town, South Africa. The School is 107 years old and is the property of the Holy Cross Sisters. The School has endeavoured to give a quality education to its learners. The School is a safe haven where girls can learn in an environment where some of the social issues and pressures of the state-owned schools can be negated. A strong Christian ethos and its associated values are evident and the school welcomes girls from all religions and nationalities.

The School is situated in Maitland and draws girls from a wide range in terms of suburb and township. We regularly accept asylum seekers too. Though we ask a school fee, since we are an independent school, we keep it to a minimum and our largest expenditure is staff salaries. We do also receive support from various groups, and we channel most of our sponsorships into assisting with fees where families have problems in this regard. However, between maintaining the old buildings and paying the educators we have very little left for bigger projects. It then falls to the school to ask the larger community for assistance when larger projects need to be addressed. The School is registered in its own right as a non-profit organization. We currently cater for 350 learners and are expanding.

## Why support this school?

For a business, the marketing or exposure potential is mainly around social upliftment. There are three main areas one can address namely:

- 1) The Girl Child in education
- 2) Learners from generally low-income households
- 3) Empowering learners technologically to derive maximum benefit in the COVID 19 crisis.

Based on our long existence and track record we hope it is clear that we have lived up to expectations of many sponsors and donors in the past. The Sisters of the Holy Cross of Southern Africa were for a very long time a major benefactor but since fewer ladies are entering religious life the order is shrinking and has looked to school to become self sufficient.

However the guiding principles that allowed the order of Sisters to continue the education task for many years is a lasting legacy. As such, we endeavour to continue to take girls from middle class to low income class groups.

Our fees are structured to be as affordable as possible, yet we rely on various organizations to assist where the going is very tough. We believe and are working in the belief that we are able to take girls from especially previously disadvantaged backgrounds and give them an edge in a world which sadly is still male dominated (Particularly in the cultural groups many of our girls are from)

We reach out to the foreigners and asylum seekers who are just so relieved when their daughters can get an education without all the additional red tape seemingly present in state schools.

In short I am not aware of any point in the schools long existence where money from funders has been squandered, wasted or disappeared. We wish to contribute to the education of the girl child in Africa and have the skills to do so, we would welcome any philanthropic assistance wherever we can get it.

As principal of the school I thank you for taking time to read through this document. As a school we would be most pleased if you paid us a visit to get a better idea of the projects listed. We are also more than willing to go into any details you may require.

Warmest regards

  
Michael Fouché  
Principal

