



Spoilt for choice!

In less than five years, five new private schools opened in the South of Johannesburg, all seemingly with the same goal - to provide excellent education within our own area, and to keep our top students in the South.

Judging by the number of learners and the success rate of these schools: - the needs of parents to provide the best education for their children without having to travel vast distances, facing heavy traffic and dealing with increased toll and fuel prices, have now been catered for.

Added to this is the fact that all these schools are within close proximity to some prestigious property developments in the South, such as the beautiful Eye of Africa Golf & Residential Estate.

The latest of these schools is, "Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic School" in Liefde en Vrede Mulbarton, which opened its doors at the beginning of 2011. The school caters for Grade 00 to Grade 1, with plans to add a grade every year and finally developing into a fully fledged private primary school. The school was opened by the church as a service to its community and offers Lebanese as part of the curriculum and Portuguese as part of the extra curriculum.

Grace Trinity School for Girls in the Rietvlei Lifestyle Centre on Swartkoppies Road also opened in the beginning of 2011 and caters for girls, Grd 1 to Grade 9. Grade 10 will be added next year, Grade 11 in 2013 and Grade 12 in 2014.

The mission statement of Besa Leadership Academy, "To provide the highest quality education, care and supervision for all learners with the goal of assisting them to grow, develop and achieve their true potential" possibly best describes the true intent of educators such as Craig Bowker, who opened this school in the beginning of 2010 .

"Besa Leadership Academy caters for high school learners who need focused attention, love and care," said Craig. The school is situated in Bronkhorstfontein near Walkerville and follows the IEB (Private Schools) Curriculum and Examinations.

Fast becoming a well-established name in the south is the Waterstone College, located on the banks of the Klip River in Kibler Park, which caters for learners grd 00 to grd 12. Waterstone College is one of the fastest growing schools in the country, having grown from 130 learners in 2007 to nearly 1000 learners ranging from Grade 00 to 12 in 2011.

Their campus currently boasts 70 classrooms, a 600-seater hall, auditorium, computer rooms, state of the art High Performance Centre, six soccer/hockey fields, six netball/tennis courts, 6 six astro cricket nets, three turf nets and three cricket ovals which are all testimony of their goal to provide an all-round education in a beautiful and serene environment.

Abbotts College in Suideroord, which opened in the beginning of 2010, is positioning itself as a specialist in educating Grd 10, 11 and 12 learners. It is distinguished by its magnificent campus with its modern computer rooms, Science and Biology laboratories and Art and Design studios.

Bearing in mind that the South, prior to all of these new schools, already boasted a number of other excellent private schools such as St Martins, Marist Brothers and Christian Harvest School, we are now really spoilt for choice! All of this reflects the tremendous growth in the area and the ability of the residents of the South of Johannesburg to respond positively to the pressures of population growth, by investing in their own community and build the South for the long term on the foundation of strong knowledge and excellent education.