



14 September 2022

Dear Parents

RE: RANDOM SENIOR PHASE SEARCH – SOUTH AFRICAN SCHOOLS ACT 84 OF 1996 SECTION 8A

It has been brought to educators' attention that illegal substances and objects being brought to the school. The School Governing Body Chairperson requested the school to conduct a random search in the Senior Phase to ensure the safety of all learners and educators.

ZRC Safety policy states that this is a weapon free, drug free school with notice boards visible at the entrance of the school.

The search has been conducted by the school Principal, Mr Millin, Deputy Principal, Mrs Kisten, security, Mr Cebekhulu, Mr Mthethwa, where various articles were found, and parents were contacted to fetch these articles from the school office.

The South African Schools Act 84 of 1996 Sect 8(a): *"unless authorized by the principal for legitimate educational purposes, no person may bring a dangerous object or illegal drugs onto school premises or have such object or drug in his/her possession on school premises or during any school activity. "*

"Subject to subsection (3), the principal or his or her delegate may, at random, search any group of learners, or the property of a group of learners, for any dangerous object or illegal drug, if a fair and reasonable suspicion has been established –

(a) that a dangerous object or an illegal drug may be found on school premises or during a school activity; or

(b) that one or more learners on school premises or during a school activity are in possession of dangerous objects or illegal drugs.

3(a) A search contemplated in subsection (2) may only be conducted after taking into account all relevant factors, including –

- (i) The best interest of the learners in question or of any other learner at the school;*
- (ii) The safety and health of the learners in question or of any other learner at the school;*
- (iii) Reasonable evidence of illegal activity; and*
- (iv) All relevant evidence received.*

Parents are informed that in future more random searches will be conducted by the SAPS to ensure the safety of all our learners and staff.

Your co-operation will be appreciated to ensure that your child do not bring anything to school that is not allowed.

Regards

K Hodgson

SGB: CHAIRPERSON