



FIRM FOUNDATION GROUP



Firm Foundation is a group of schools – **Firm Foundation Christian Academy , Borrowdale , Helensvale Harare** and **Firm Foundation Country School, Southwood, Zvimba Road**. The Group is widely regarded as Zimbabwe’s top Seventh Day Adventist Schools and one of the top Independent Christian Schools in Zimbabwe.

The Firm Foundation Group is led by the Board of Directors who have responsibility on a day-to-day basis. **FFCA** and **FFCS** have their own Heads both of whom report to the Board Of Directors.

The Heads of both schools are all qualified teachers and members of the Conference of Heads.

Firm Foundation, founded in 2021, caters for approximately 500 students from Form 1 to 6, Chegutu is a strictly Boarding School and Harare is a mixture of Boarding and Day School.

At **Firm Foundation**, we prepare pupils for life beyond school in such a way that they are able to make a positive and lasting difference.

Values and Aims

The Firm Foundation Group champions a core set of values – loyalty, decency, honesty, humility, service, self-sacrifice and respect - all based upon the Seventh Day Adventist Beliefs.

The specific aims of the Firm Foundation Group are:

- to develop and promote an atmosphere in which learning and personal development can prosper unhindered and in which pupils are able to develop a sense of their own identity and worth;
- to ensure that pupils are happy and that standards of health and pastoral care are as good as they can be;
- to ensure that pupils leave Firm Foundation with the best possible academic qualifications;
- to enable pupils to develop their potential not only in the classroom but in all other respects (leadership, sport, outdoor pursuits, music, drama, art and culture) depending on their aptitudes and interests;
- to promote high standards of personal appearance, dress, good manners and self- discipline; and
- to prepare pupils for life beyond school in such a way that they are able to make a positive and lasting difference.

**AN ACADEMIC CHRISTIAN
INSTITUTION WHICH
PREPARES STUDENTS FOR
SUCCESS IN A CHANGING
WORLD**





At Firm Foundation academic pursuits receive top priority. The academic curriculum itself is as flexible as possible, particularly at IGCSE and AS/A level, which gives pupils every opportunity to achieve success in their Cambridge examinations. All two schools in the Firm Foundation Group follow an academic curriculum, which is based on the Cambridge International Exams (CIE) system.

At all Forms we offer a highly effective curriculum support for those in need and there are specific programmes to stretch academically gifted pupils. Setting/streaming occurs whenever possible. Class sizes are typically 30 in forms 1 to 4, at IGCSE level and 10 to 15 at A level. At boarding writing candidates benefit from a well-structured academic tutorial system.

Pupils receive high quality teaching based in well-equipped classrooms of which have modern IT facilities (interactive whiteboards / projectors etc.).

It is often the case that pupils participate in educational trips - from junior forms expeditions to Tongaat Hulett in Chiredzi Valley to senior school tours of the Burj Khalifa to Desert Safari sites in Dubai.

Sport is, and always has been, a very important part of life within the Firm Foundation Group. For all ages there is a vibrant sports' programme; pupils have every opportunity to play sport on a regular basis and many participate at provincial and national level. Facilities for sports are still work progress with the aim of having good sporting fields by 2028 the Group has a culture/ethos which promotes sport

We operate an extensive and lively programme of cultural activities; from music and drama to bridge, debating and public speaking. There is plenty of opportunity for pupils at all stages to enjoy and develop their creativity.

Music and drama are both very high profile. The Group has a particularly impressive record in the Eisteddfod held in Harare on an annual basis where both individual and groups of musicians regularly win prizes for outstanding performance. There are extensive facilities for music in all three schools.

Leadership training and development forms an integral part of an education within the Firm Foundation Group. From the earliest age at Firm Foundation Preparatory through to the 6th form, pupils are given the opportunity to take on positions of leadership/responsibility and benefit from well-structured leadership training programmes.

At senior school level the Group's *Infinity Programme* integrates leadership and personal development, life skills and academic tutoring into a holistic programme designed to ensure that pupils leave the school as well rounded, self-





The welfare and happiness of pupils, particularly in a boarding school environment is of fundamental importance and is taken very seriously. All two schools within the Firm Foundation Group have their own Boarding Staff, Security. Residential staff live on site, some in boarding houses, and the two working kitchens are fully provided with new and modern equipment, thus ensuring that pupils are well fed.

At senior school level pupils in the lower year groups are housed in dormitory style accommodation to facilitate their greater need for socialisation whereas more senior pupils have single or double bedsits with built in areas for study and homework.

Although FFCA and FFCS occupy their own campuses pupils across all age groups from both schools meet regularly to socialise and they also come together to participate in a variety of sports and cultural activities.

All pupils are able to visit home on a regular basis either on Fixture Free or Floating Weekends and parents are always welcome to visit the School and, in particular, are encouraged



to support sporting and cultural events whenever possible.

Pupils who live a long distance from school (e.g. in Zambia or Mozambique) are given additional time off to

facilitate their travel and the school lays on transport to Harare International Airport and also to a variety of destinations around Zimbabwe.



Pupils within the **Firm Foundation Group** are enormously privileged and they are encouraged to ‘do their bit’ both for the environment and also for the wider community in which they live.

Community action also takes place on a regular basis; from support for the local children home , schools(donations etc.) to the excellent work done by the Leo and Interact Clubs, pupils at all levels are encouraged to help those less fortunate than themselves; they find the work they do in this respect enormously rewarding.

Pupils are encouraged to ‘do their bit’ for the environment and community in which they live.



ENTRANCE

Applications and admissions are handled by the Front Office at each school. Prospective parents of pupils are encouraged to write, e-mail or phone the school direct for more information or to explore the <https://firmfoundation.co.zw/> Website.

A nominal registration fee is required as well as a copy of the applicant's Birth Certificate, most recent school report and passport sized photo which should be submitted together with the application form itself.

Open Days for Form 1 are organised for pupils in August of each year and Applicants who choose Firm Foundation as the school of their 'First Choice' write the Common Entrance Examination set by Head Of Academics.

Admission is dependent upon performance in the entrance examination; consideration is also given to the applicant's junior school, their Head's recommendation, whether he/ she has siblings within the Firm Foundation Group.

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