



UCT ONLINE
HIGH SCHOOL

2025



INFO PACK

South African National Senior Certificate (CAPS)

[Start Application Process](#)



in collaboration with
VALENTURE INSTITUTE



SOUTH AFRICAN COMPENSATION & ADJUSTMENT INSTITUTE
EVALUATING, MONITORING & ACCREDITING QUALITY

Updated 09 May 2024

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**DISCLAIMER**

The information provided in this presentation is consistent with the current policies and guidelines laid out within our office, Valenture Institute and UCT Online High School. The information provided here is subject to change. Please visit our website regularly for up-to-date information.

Welcome to UCT Online High School



UCT ONLINE
HIGH SCHOOL

AN ONLINE HIGH SCHOOL WITH A DIFFERENCE

UCT Online High School completely redefines what it means to “go” to school, we’ve put your child front and centre, right where they should be. By using the latest data-driven technology, we’re able to offer a state-of-the-art learning experience just for you.

We know that success in life is based on more than just access to great opportunities, it requires continuous encouragement and support too. This is why we’ve created an unrivalled support network to ensure the well-being of every learner that comes through our online school.

Together, we’ll provide your child with all the tools that they need to succeed in high school, tertiary education, and life.

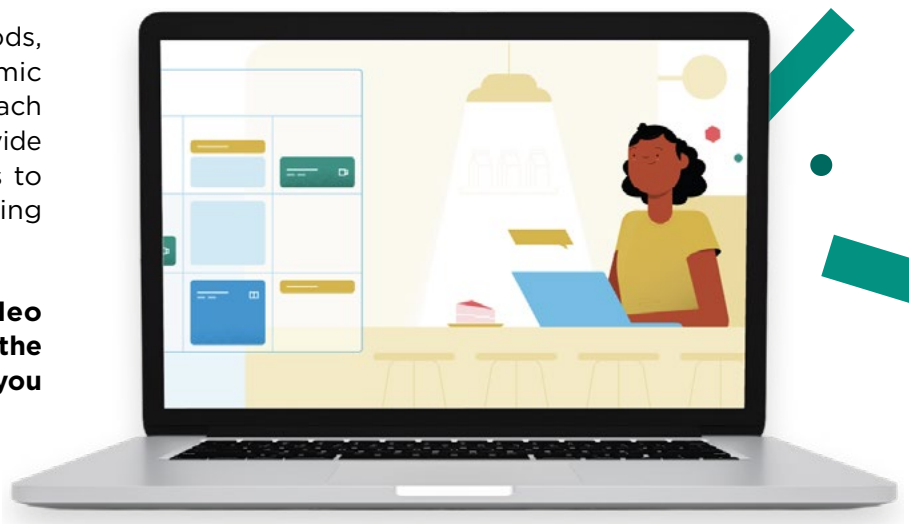
OUR MISSION

To accelerate access to world-class high school education, in order to unleash Africa’s potential.

At UCT Online High School, we do schooling differently.

We believe in innovative teaching methods, cutting-edge technology, and a dynamic learning environment that adapts to each learner’s unique needs. Our goal is to provide an education that empowers learners to succeed in the fast-paced, ever-evolving world of tomorrow.

Take a look at the following video showcasing how our school works and the many benefits you get access to when you join us, the school of the future!



Our advanced learning analytics, engaging content, and unrivalled support system ensure that learners are expertly equipped to excel at online learning.

01 STRUCTURED FLEXIBILITY

The freedom to work within well-defined boundaries

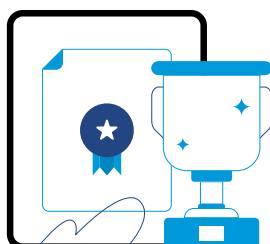


At UCT Online High School, we know that no two learners are the same. We provide the structure that allows our learners to excel according to their own strengths and capabilities. No learner should ever be bored (because spending hours sitting in a class that you've already mastered is as pointless as a broken pencil) and no learner should ever get left behind.

Our structured approach sees modules released weekly, with weekly assignment deadlines. Cycle Tests and Internal Examination blocks are fixed throughout the year and learners are given recommended study timetables. Our expert team of Support Coaches check-in with learners to keep them accountable — ensuring that they are working through their modules at the required pace to meet their deadlines.

02 INDIVIDUAL MASTERY

You can't build a house on shaky foundations



Much like building a strong house, a good education requires a solid foundation. If a learner misses too many building blocks,

their whole knowledge structure can become unstable.

Where learners have not mastered their weekly content, they are placed in a Mastery Boot Camp to ensure that they do not progress with substantial gaps in their learning, which is imperative for success in subjects like Science, Technology and Maths.

03 DYNAMIC ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Designed, created and delivered by experts



Our aspirational Subject Specialists and Learning Facilitators unpack concepts in dynamic pre-recorded videos that learners can rewatch until they have that “aha” moment. If learners want to go deeper, Subject Specialists encourage the use of forums and Ask Me Anything sessions where pre-curated questions are answered for the benefit of all.

04 MOTIVATING SUPPORT COACHES

Every learner deserves a champion



UCT Online High School puts learners first by placing them in the centre of their very own superhero movie. Our multi-layered support system gives them all the encouragement, tools and support they need to master their own destiny.

The Support Coach is wholly responsible for keeping a learner on track. They do this by driving effective learning behaviour through goal setting and holding learners accountable. The Support Coach is equipped to identify socio-emotional needs and refer these to specialists. They also triage learners based on need and focus on study skills and prioritisation exercises in group sessions.

Having a bad day is par for the course, but having too many can take you off course. Our Support Coaches are there to motivate and encourage learning habits that make all the difference.

05 RESPONSIBILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Thriving in a monitored environment



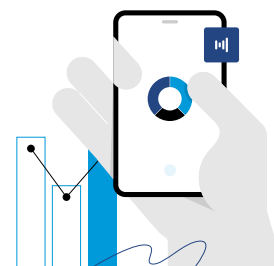
School isn't about promotions, demotions, or being in class for a set amount of time; it's about mastering the skills necessary for life. One of the most important skills that learners develop on their journey towards self-mastery is discipline.

We know that fostering the art of self-discipline takes time, which is why our Support Coaches are the ultimate accountability partner. They'll tell learners the hard truths when they need it and motivate them to pursue the goals they're chasing.

We also educate guardians on how to effectively oversee their high school learners and equip guardians with the visibility and tools to intervene if necessary.

06 DATA-DRIVEN INTERVENTIONS

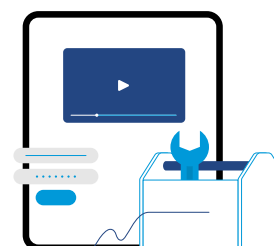
To paint the full picture



In a traditional classroom, there is a front row and a back row — it's easy to get lost in the middle. At UCT Online High School, our platform looks at each learner individually. It uses nudging mechanisms to alert learners when they are falling behind, and prompt guardians when they need to intervene.

07 THE SCIENCE OF ONLINE LEARNING

We built this baby on purpose



Many COVID-era online schools have been retrofitted to "go online" as a temporary fix. UCT Online High School was born online! We are the school of the future, designed to meet the needs of an ever-changing world.

Our expert team of Learning Designers, Learning Technologists and Data Analysts have worked with the best teachers in the country to design engaging learning paths that are purpose-built for online learning. Our learning paths provide robust scaffolding, building on key concepts through integrated course materials, dynamic video lessons, study notes, practice questions and assessments.

TAKE THE NEXT STEP!

Start the application process now.

[Apply now!](#)

[Book a call](#)



CURRICULUM

Online schools in South Africa are currently not able to register as independent schools, although there have been recent moves by the Department of Education to allow for this. Until a regulatory framework exists for the registration of online schools, we advise guardians with children in the Compulsory Schooling phase to register for Home Education, which is a legally recognised alternative to formal education in South Africa, and allows parents and guardians to choose any curriculum that meets the minimum outcomes as set out in the national curriculum. This particular offering is aligned with the South African National Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statements (CAPS) which prepares high school learners for their National Senior Certificate (NSC) examination, colloquially referred to as matric.

ELIGIBILITY TO STUDY

Typically high school learners start at 13 years old in Grade 8 and conclude their matric at 18 years old in Grade 12. The National Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statement (CAPS) Curriculum is divided into two phases.

There are specific criteria for admission to study at UCT Online High School, please refer to our [Admissions Policy](#) which outlines all the criteria for admission.

Phase	Qualification	Year	Age	Qualification length
Senior Phase		Grade 8	13+	12 Months
		Grade 9	14+	12 Months
Further Education & Training (FET) Matric		Grade 10	15+	12 Months
		Grade 11	16+	12 Months
	South African National Senior Certificate (NSC) (With or without endorsement)	Grade 12	17+	12 Months

Grades 8 & 9 (Senior Phase)

Subjects
English Home Language
First Additional Language (FAL): Afrikaans OR isiXhosa OR Sesotho OR IsiZulu
Mathematics
Life Orientation
Natural Sciences
Technology
Economic Management Sciences
Social Sciences
Creative Arts

Please note that it is compulsory to take nine subjects in Grades 8 and 9. For the First Additional Language (FAL), which is compulsory, there are a number of languages available to choose from.

Grades 10 - 12 (Further Education and Training (FET Phase)

4 Compulsory Subjects	Remaining Subjects (choose 3)
English (Home Language)	Accounting (Mathematics Core / Literacy is a prerequisite)
First Additional Language (FAL)	Business Studies
Mathematics Core OR Mathematical Literacy	Computer Applications Technology (CAT)
Life Orientation (LO)	Economics
	Geography
	History
	Physical Sciences (Mathematics Core is a prerequisite)
	Life Sciences
	Visual Arts
	Information Technology (IT)

Please note that it is compulsory to take a minimum of seven subjects throughout the FET phase. For the First Additional Language (FAL), which is compulsory, there are a number of languages available to choose from. There are **four** compulsory subjects and the remaining **three** are selected by choice.

In addition, some subjects do have prerequisites.

Consult our [Academic Handbook](#) Policy for more detailed information on subjects.

Disclaimer: In order to manage the examination process effectively, UCT Online High School may require you to revisit your subject selection choices during the admissions process before confirming your final acceptance to the school. This is to ensure that your chosen combination of subjects meets our examination management requirements. Our Student Records Office will be in touch to confirm this with you during the pre-enrolment phase.



ONE SINGLE JANUARY INTAKE

We have a four-term academic year starting every January and concluding in December. Each grade should take one year (12 months) to complete.

Learners will need to move through their modules in a timely manner and meet fixed Cycle Tests and Internal Examination blocks throughout the year to pass.

Click [here](#) for our Stationery and Equipment List



INTERNAL EXAMINATIONS

All internal examinations, besides the final National Senior Certificate (NSC) external examinations in Grade 12, are written in-house and online. Grade 12 examinations must be written in person at a South African Comprehensive Assessment Institute (SACAI) approved centre within South Africa.

If you reside outside of the borders of South Africa you will be required to travel here for a period of six weeks during the time when the Grade 12 external examinations are written.

TAKE THE NEXT STEP!

Start the application process now.

[Apply now!](#)

[Book a call](#)

VIRTUAL CLUBS

Our Virtual Clubs offer high school learners an online space to explore their interests, hobbies and knowledge with like-minded peers.

Our key focus areas are Well-being, Creativity, Skills Development and Special Interests. They provide learners with the opportunities to learn new skills, get creative, build online communities, develop leadership skills and most importantly, have fun!

Music, Sustainable Living, Book Club, Mindfulness, Model UN, Debating, Film Club, Master Chef, Gaming... the list goes on.

The list of available Virtual Clubs will be confirmed at the beginning of the academic year at which point learners will be given the opportunity to sign up.



WE LIKE TO MOVE IT

A healthy body is essential for a healthy mind and there is so much life to live outside of the classroom! Our high school learners love getting out and about to participate in the abundance of sport and lifestyle activities offered by our vast directory of vetted clubs and societies.

Wanna go surfing on Tuesday morning? Done! Fancy a yoga and mindfulness session on Thursday afternoon? Do it! Club sports with your local team? You're on!

Please note that participation in sports clubs and societies outside of UCT Online High School may incur external fees.



COUNSELLING SERVICES

Where learner-first well-being meets a world-class syllabus. Every high school learner is unique and every learner has different needs. Beyond our Support Coaches, we have a full-time counselling service. Our learner well-being team is there to ensure that our learners are nurtured and cared for, providing them with all the emotional support that they need to cope, thrive, adjust and navigate their school experience positively.

Learner-oriented services include:

- Short-term one-on-one counselling
- Open time with a Counsellor – time slots where counsellors discuss a topic with learners
- Fun and support-based therapeutic groups – for specific therapy concerns, such as grief counselling

Our team further extends support to our educational teams, individually or in groups, in the form of debriefing spaces and training for expressed needs.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Learners who experience barriers to learning are referred to Academic Support for assistance with a support plan, in collaboration with their Subject Specialists, guardians and Support Coaches.

- Assists learners with access arrangements during the examination process.
- Facilitates pairing learners with Readers, Scribes and Promoters.*
- Assists staff with training on inclusivity, accessibility and adapting teaching and support methods to cater to our diverse range of learning needs.

** These are externally sourced and may incur additional costs on behalf of the guardian.*

GUARDIAN ENGAGEMENT

We take an active approach in engaging with the guardians of our high school learners. Through various initiatives, such as webinars and newsletters, we aim to equip our guardians with the knowledge and support structure they need to partner with the school in making sure that their child's educational journey is a success.

Each guardian has a personal profile on our dynamic **Guardian Portal** that is linked to their child's online campus. There, you can see your child's progress, grades, test dates and more. The **Guardian mobile app** offers another convenient way to keep an eye on your child's learning and receive alerts if they are falling behind. We also encourage guardians to connect with each other to plan meet-ups, share tips and connect with others who have had similar experiences.



PREPARING FOR LIFE BEYOND THE POND

We know that school is just a stepping stone, which is why UCT Online High School has a suite of dedicated career guidance services to help high school learners make the best decisions possible. We'll help you find your passion, whether that's getting into university, landing your dream job, or becoming the next global music icon.

Our purpose is to inspire students to reach their full potential, guiding them through subject selection and exposing them to a variety of career options.



EXPLORE

We encourage and support learners to explore various university majors and careers through an integrated approach.



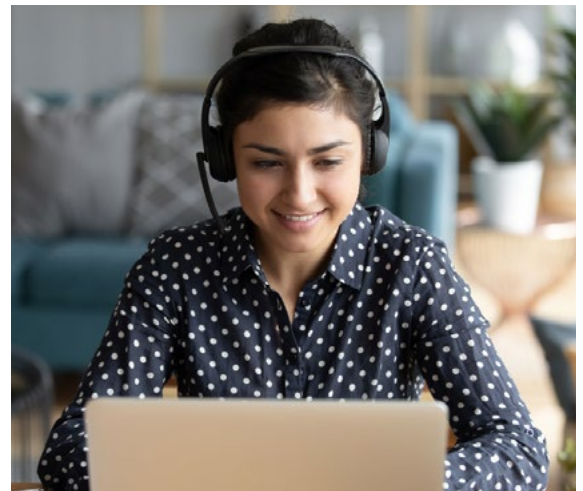
PREPARE

We provide training and resources to prepare learners for academic and career success.



CONNECT

We facilitate connections between learners, university, and community stakeholders through events, job shadowing, internships, and career opportunities.



SUPPORT

We support and train our academic staff and employees across the entire organisation to encourage experiential learning and expand professional prospects.



THE IN'S AND OUT'S

Finance

	Open Educational Resource (OER)	CAPs Offering
Placement Fee (2024)	Free	R525
Tuition Fee†	Free	R2,595pm
External Examination Fee†	-	Approx. R10,000 - R12,000 due in Grade 12 for SACAI

† Subject to a 2024 increase

Programme Information

	Open Educational Resource (OER)	CAPs Offering
Curriculum	Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statement (CAPS)	Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statement (CAPS)
Qualifications Awarded	National Senior Certificate (NSC)	National Senior Certificate (NSC)
Accreditation Body	-	SACAI Registration No. 89901
Grades/Year Groups	Grades 8-12	Grades 8-12
Length of programme	⊗	12 months
Number of Terms	⊗	4 Terms
Start Dates	⊗	January (Term 1) April (Term 2) July (Term 3)
Suitable for	High School Learners, Educators and Guardians. Adult Learners	High School Learners ages 12-18 years

The Learning Model

	Open Educational Resource (OER)	CAPs Offering
Learner Portal Access	×	✓
Lesson Content Delivery	Interactive lesson notes and instructional videos	Interactive lesson notes and instructional videos
Facilitated Academic Discussion Forums	×	✓
Weekly Graded Assessments	×	✓
Dynamic Academic Content, which means no textbooks are required, except prescribed language networks	×	✓
Learning Facilitators*	×	✓
Weekly Work Plans	×	✓
Weekly Module Release with Submission Deadlines	×	✓
Live Sessions (weekly "Ask Me Anything" (AMA) sessions and Mastery Bootcamps)*	×	✓
Academic Annual and Termly Calendars	×	✓

Support Services

	Open Educational Resource (OER)	CAPs Offering
Dedicated Support Coach*	×	✓
Academic Support (Barriers to learning & concessions support)*	×	✓
Socio-Emotional Support (short term counselling)	×	✓
Career Pathway Resources*	×	✓
Guardian Mobile App (available on Android and IOS)	×	✓
Guardian Facebook Group	×	✓
Guardian Portal	×	✓
Live Check Ins with Support Coaches	×	✓
Automated and Manual Interventions to keep learners on track	×	✓

Beyond the Classroom

	Open Educational Resource (OER)	CAPs Offering
General Orientation Course (GOC)	✗	✓
Assembly	✗	✓
Virtual Clubs	✗	✓
Gamification and Rewards Programme	✗	✓
Senior Learner Leadership Team	✗	✓
Guardian Forum	✗	✓
Well-Being and Engagement Website	✗	✓

DEFINITIONS (Marked by *)

Subject Specialists

A Subject Specialists is a member of the Student Experience division whose main role is imparting subject-specific knowledge to you, our learners, mostly in the form of dynamic online videos but also in live sessions (Ask-Me-Anything (AMA) sessions and Mastery Bootcamps) as well as on the academic discussion forum.

Support Coach

The ultimate role of our Support Coaches is to help learners successfully navigate their online school journey and stay on track with their learning. They are the go-to person for all non-subject-specific queries and information for learners and guardians. More than this, they are an ear, a nudge, a cheerleader, a guide, and a coach for your child.

Academic Support (Barriers to learning & concessions support)

Academic Support is there to assist learners who: have an identified barrier to learning; have been referred by their Support Coach; or are at academic risk and require referrals to external specialists or academic group support.

Live Sessions (weekly “Ask Me Anything” (AMA) sessions and Mastery Bootcamps)

Ask Me Anything sessions are live sessions hosted by the subject’s Subject Specialists. These sessions focus on the content being covered in the week and may include assessment preparation. Mastery Bootcamps are an additional remediation session provided for learners who have not passed the second attempt of an autograded mastery check.

Career Pathway Resources

A Career Services Workbook that encourages accountability and Self-help, ensuring that learners start building their career plans and become more accountable.

TAKE THE NEXT STEP!

Start the application process now.

[Apply now!](#)

[Book a call](#)

ZAR2,349 per month (2024) ZAR31, 140 per year (2025)

For more information on our fees, please read our [Fees Handbook](#).

FEES INCLUSIVE OF:

- Digital learning content, excluding language networks
- Access to our online campus and all of our digital tools
- Fourteen subject choices for Grades 8 - 9 and twenty subject choices for Grades 10 - 12
- Support Coach and Technical Support Officer
- Passionate Learning Facilitators in all key subject areas
- Proctored cycle tests, , School Based Assessments (SBAs) and internal examinations
- Career guidance
- Academic support and counselling services
- Virtual Clubs

FEE TERMS

- A once-off, non-refundable, placement fee of **R525** is required to conditionally secure your learner's place at UCT Online High School.
- Monthly fees are payable every month for the full enrollment duration, including holidays, revision, and examination months.
- Fees are paid in advance and billing occurs on the 20th of each month, due by the 1st of the month. You also have the option to pay quarterly or annually.

ADDITIONAL FEES

We don't like to play hide and seek with our fees.

Placement fee

In order to accept a conditional offer and conditionally secure your child's place at our school, we require a once-off placement fee of **R525** to be paid in advance. This is a non-refundable fee that is payable upon a high school learner being sent an official letter of conditional acceptance. This fee is to cover the costs incurred when processing a learner's placement. It includes, but is not limited to, the costs associated with record verification, learner onboarding and the purchase of technology licences on behalf of the learner. Please visit our [Fees page](#) where you can download our Fees Handbook.

SACAI External Examination fees (Compulsory)

SACAI is an independent examiner, which is a legal requirement, to write Grade 12 (matric) in-person external examinations.

- Grades 10 and 11 | **R250** per annum (registration fee)
- Grades 12 | **R12,000***

** External Examination fees depend on subject choices and are subject to change.*

** External Examinations may only be written at an accredited SACAI venue within South Africa, additional travel costs may be incurred.*

Additional Subjects (optional)

- **R375** per subject per month (**R4,500** per year)

We advise no more than two additional subjects to avoid academic overload.

For the FET phase, additional subjects may be chosen at entry into Grade 10, however, they are chosen for the entire phase and would form part of the NSC external examinations the learner would be required to sit for.

Additional subjects may be dropped at any time and this doesn't constitute a subject change.

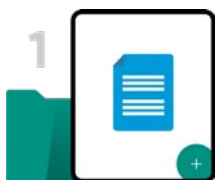
TAKE THE NEXT STEP!

Start the application process now.

[Apply now!](#)

[Book a call](#)

HOW TO APPLY



Step 1

Fill in one quick and easy application form

(available on our website www.uctonlinehighschool.com)

This should seriously take you less than 10 minutes. There are no documents to submit yet (we'll get those at a later stage), but keep your latest school report on hand.



Step 2

Receive your conditional offer

Give us some time to process your application. If all goes well, it'll take a few hours before getting an official conditional offer — your golden ticket to a world-class online education.



Step 3

Application Review

To accept the conditional offer at UCT Online High School, the payment of a non-refundable placement fee of **R525** is required to cover costs associated with processing a learner's enrolment. As part of final steps in the applications process, your application is reviewed against regulatory requirements and our Admissions Policy, and if these requirements are met, final enrolment may be confirmed.

PS. We understand that applying to study at a new institution can be daunting. Our friendly Admissions Consultants love to answer questions and are here to help you every step of the way. You can contact them on +27 21 140 1792 or at admissions@uctohs.valentureonline.com

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE ADMISSIONS PROCESS?

Closer to the time, your dedicated Support Coach will get in touch with you to guide you through the next steps, which will include getting to know you and your family and advising on the orientation process.

Do you have everything you need?

If this sounds like just the right path to help you achieve success at any age, then enrol now, if you still need still more clarity, download our [FAQs](#), we've answered the questions we get asked most.

TAKE
THE
NEXT
STEP!



Apply now!

WHAT OUR GUARDIANS HAVE TO SAY:



I am a very happy and satisfied parent with UCT OHS. Kudos to each one of you for your dedication, patience, understanding and support.

The teachers and support coach are hands on and afford individual attention even in a group and virtual environment. Each student is given an opportunity to excel and they are encouraged to have a disciplined and motivated approach to their learning journey. I must admit the first term was daunting as it was a change to virtual learning on a permanent basis. Initially the teaching model never had online classes and content review sessions, however UCT OHS was quick to make the necessary changes and adapt to the suggestions. Whenever I raise a question or any query it's dealt in a speedy and polite manner. I really appreciate the willingness to engage with me as a parent. Furthermore, the examinations are set where a child can study without added stress of multiple exams on same day.

My child is also really enjoying himself. He constantly engages with fellow students, teachers and support coach. He challenges himself to excel continuously.

- Neerie, Grade 9 Guardian



My child has done such a 360 and for that I will be forever grateful and he has made so many new good friends. He was on another online school platform and he was so isolated, no contact with other peers and it took its toll on him. We have been home online schooling since before Covid and UCT OHS was really a game changer.

- Zeta, Grade 11 Guardian



TAKE THE NEXT STEP!

Start the application process now.

[Apply](#)

[Book a call](#)



As a parent of a young pro-cyclist with a hectic training schedule, there couldn't be a better choice for us other than UCT OHS. At first this was the reason for our decision to change to an institution like UCT OHS. Now, at the end of 2022 and looking back at the year behind us and with Gr. 11 almost done, we are so happy with UCT OHS, that we, if we knew what we know now, would probably have made the switch regardless of her cycling.

- Margarette, Grade 12 Guardian



After applying for Gr. 8 at normal government schools didn't produce good results, my son suggested online schooling and we reviewed a few and ended up at UCT OHS. I have to say it was a bit tricky at the beginning with all the changes but with their innovative ideas especially the support coach, my word... Lelethu has been nothing but the best as a support coach to my son. When we had a power outage and my son couldn't write an exam, we were panicking but Lelethu was there to guide us. I can say from the 2nd term my son's marks were getting better and besides the few teething problems UCT OHS had at the beginning but they always made sure that we were on the right track. Online school though is NOT for everyone, I tell my friends that if a child needs a teacher supervision all the time or needs to be chased in order they do their homework, then online school is not for them, more especially UCT OHS as to me it's teaching the kids how to work independently. I like that. Love the parent portal as well... From here UCT OHS can only get better and better.

- Mpendulo, Grade 9 Guardian



**Thank you
Enkosi
Ngiyabonga
Dankie
Ke a leboha**