

## Statement on Gender

St Mary's School was founded in 1888 and is an independent Anglican school for girls from Grade 000 to Grade 12. Boys may be admitted to Grades 000 and 00. The purpose of St Mary's School is and always has been to provide an empowering education for girls and to be a leader in girls' education and advocacy for women in South Africa. The institutional language of the school is gendered as we refer to the pupils as girls or young women in alignment with the school's purpose.

St Mary's School is committed to diversity and to creating an educational environment of responsibility, mutual respect and empathy. St Mary's recognises the diversity and complexity of gender and the difficulties faced by those who do not fit into the societal norms of gender.

St Mary's will respect the identity of every pupil and will work towards making the school a safe and inclusive place for all who learn here.

St Mary's will also continue to work for the advancement and empowerment of women and the promotion of a society in which everyone has equal opportunity and is treated with dignity and respect.

## Accordingly -

- St Mary's will consider for admission, all girl applicants who commit to the principles in this Statement and who will participate in our school's education process which is designed for girls.
- In a case where a girl who currently attends St Mary's and no longer identifies as a girl, the school will support the child and family to navigate the challenges inherent in being a non-binary or transgender pupil in a girls' school.