



## **PUPILS' EXCHANGE PROGRAMME BETWEEN GERMANY AND SOUTH AFRICA 2019**

June 2019 – July 2019 (4 weeks)

August 2019 – September 2019 (4 weeks)

October 2019 – January 2020 (long programme)

November 2019 – January 2020 (6 weeks)

December 2019 – January 2020 (4 weeks)

The Headmaster / Headmistress and Staff,

The FSA Youth Exchange, once again, invites learners from your school to apply to take part in the FSA pupils' exchange programme between South Africa and Germany.

German as a school subject is not compulsory to take part in our 4 - and 6 week programs.

German as a school subject is compulsory to take part in the long programme.

The FSA Youth Exchange (FSA = Freundeskreis für Südafrika / Friends of South Africa) is a non-governmental, non-political and non-denominational pupils' exchange organisation, registered in South Africa, registration number: (1997 / 06295 / 23).

### **2018 top schools in the FSA programme**

Helpmekaar Kollege, Johannesburg - 15 participants

Die Hoërskool Menlopark, Pretoria - 8 participants

Hoër Meisieskool Bloemhof, Stellenbosch - 8 participants

Pretoria Boys' High School, Pretoria - 6 participants



To date an impressive number of 4 740 learners took part in our exchange programme.

## **1. THE PURPOSE OF THE VISIT**

### **1.1 Exposure to the way of living and reasoning of a different culture**

The stay at an **ordinary** German family enables the participant to broaden his / her views, knowledge and opinions on various cultural backgrounds.

### **1.2 Young Ambassadors for South Africa**

Participants experience the different educational systems first hand and have the opportunity to educate German learners by representing South Africa and sharing our cultural and national history in the form of a presentation whilst attending the German schools. School attendance is compulsory when school is open. Only in exceptional cases school will be closed for the duration of visit.

### **1.3 Personal growth and development of each participant**

The impact the stay abroad has on the intellectual and personal development of our pupils is noteworthy. The feedback and achievements of ex-participants are testimonial to this effect.

## **2. DETAILS ABOUT THE PROGRAMME**

**2.1** Selected South African participants stay for 1 month with a German host family (4 week programs). Participants in the 6 week and long programs stay for 6 and 10 weeks respectively with a German host family. Participants are considered a member of the family and not a guest or a tourist. This includes sharing the normal household duties and German cuisine.

**2.2** Although the participants in the 4 and 6 week programs do not formally participate in tuition, school attendance is compulsory on the days schools are open. The participant will be

expected to attend a local German school to experience the difference in educational systems. Participants in the long programme formally take part in tuition.

**2.3** We expect the German families to continue with their normal way of living while the guest is there.

**2.4** Private visits are allowed only during the last 4 days, 3 nights of stay in Germany.

**2.5** Depending on interest, we will offer a tour to Switzerland and/or France at the end of the programs. Seats are limited and successful participants will be invited to apply for the tour.

## **3. CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION**

**3.1** **The FSA is a cultural exchange programme and not a travel agency.** The participant will be staying with an ordinary German family. The allocation of participants to families is done by the FSA. We do not offer a tour to Europe. The participant is not allowed to use the family as free accommodation to enable him/her to do private trips. The programme is aimed at the youth and parents are not allowed to stay with the host families.

**3.2** South African citizens aged 15 to 19 years, registered at a school in South Africa, may apply.

**3.3** Application does not automatically mean participation. Candidates have to complete our selection process. Details about the selection process will be made available later. The results are final and no correspondence will be entered into.

**3.4** It is impossible for a normal working family to entertain the guest 24 hours per day. A certain degree of independence and self-confidence is vital, especially if the family has younger children only. The applicant must be prepared to stay either in a city or in the

countryside and with a family with or without children.

- 3.5** A shy person will find it hard to adapt to the German way of living. There will be trying times. The ideal candidate should be able to handle these situations without withdrawing himself/herself.
- 3.6** The selected participant must be well informed about South Africa and Germany. Good communication skills should be portrayed by the applicant.
- 3.7** The participant must be fluent in English. German as a school subject is not compulsory for the 4 - and 6 week programs. **It is compulsory for the long programme.**
- 3.8** The selected participant will act as a 'Young Ambassador' for South Africa. The relevant headmaster / mistress therefore needs to approve the participation of each applicant. We will send the list of names to the school for approval.
- 3.9** An email address is compulsory for all candidates as all communication is by email.
- 3.10** In Germany pets receive five star treatment. Participants need to accept and live with the pets.
- 3.11** The selected candidate must adapt to the German cuisine. **No special meals are provided.**
- 3.12** The programme does not make provision for special training programs e.g. sport or music.
- 3.13** Although it is expected of participants to have an own view about various subjects, no racism or sexism will be tolerated.
- 3.14** An exchange programme is a reciprocal agreement.

**4 and 6 weeks programs:** participants have to host a German FSA-participant within 18 months of own participation for the same period of time, or provide a suitable host family. A surcharge of R3 000.00 will be levied if you are not available to host an FSA German guest.

**Hostel learners taking part in 4 - and 6 weeks programs:** The surcharge is levied.

**Long programme:** It is compulsory to host a German student for 3 months before taking part in the programme.

**Grade 11 and 12 participants:** If it is impossible for you to host before own participation, the surcharge of R3 000.00 will be levied automatically.

#### 4. PROGRAMME DATES

**June/July:**

13/06/2019 – 12/07/2019\*

**August/September:**

07/08/2019 – 04/09/2019\*

**October/January:**

30/10/2019 – 09/01/2020\*

**November/January (6 weeks)**

27/11/2019 – 09/01/2020\*

**December/January (4 weeks)**

11/12/2019 – 09/01/2020 \*

\* **Provisional dates!** Denotes day of departure from and arrival in South Africa.

#### 5. THE COST

Due to the exchange rate, the final cost of the flight ticket will be available closer to the departure dates. The quotes are based on estimates and therefore we distinguish between programme cost (fixed) and flight ticket cost (estimate).

**Programme cost:** R 6 100.00  
(Deposit of R 1 000.00 included)

**Flight ticket:** R15 500.00  
(Estimate, airport tax included)

**Participants are not allowed to make use of own flight tickets, including tickets obtained with rewards programs. Our German partner does not accommodate participants not making use of an FSA ticket.**

## Included

- Return flights from Johannesburg to Frankfurt;
- Selection and preparation of the South African participants and the organisation of the visit to Germany;
- The selection of host families in Germany and the organising of the programme in Germany.
- Meeting of the groups on arrival and departure in Frankfurt by our German colleagues.

## Excluded

- **VAT** on the South African part of the programme cost (approx. R 812.00);
- The prescribed medical and personal liability **insurance**,
- **Domestic flights** within South Africa, if you have to fly to Johannesburg;
- **Spending money** (previous year recommendation ranged between **Euro 30 – 60** per week);
- Your **train ticket** from Frankfurt airport to/from your host family/ies (previous year the cost of a single train ticket ranged between **Euro 45 – 115** with an average of Euro 70);
- **Bus ticket** to/from the school (previous year ranged between **Euro 40 – 90** per month);
- Due to the latest European legislation all applicants have to apply in person for a **Schengen (German) visa**. Cost of Schengen visa (**approx. Euro 90**);
- **Any eventual increase in international airfare**.

## 6. DEPOSIT AND CANCELLATION FEES

A **non-refundable** deposit of R 1 000.00 (VAT excl.) must accompany all applications. The deposit is refunded only to **unsuccessful** applicants. A cancellation fee of R3 000.00 for the host family and a cancellation fee as determined by the airline will be levied for cancellations received after

the names of the successful candidates have been announced.

EFT-payments are preferred. Banking details are on the application form. Make all cheques payable to FSA Youth Exchange.

**All cash deposits:** Please ensure that the required amount appears on the FSA bank statement.

## 7. FINAL PAYMENT

All outstanding fees must be settled eight weeks before departure. Unfortunately we do not accept any credit cards.

## 8. CLOSING DATES 2019

Jun 2019/Jul 2019 (4 weeks):	28 Feb 2019
Oct 2019/Jan 2020 (long programme):	28 Feb 2019
Aug 2019/Sept 2019 (4 weeks):	29 Mar 2019
Nov 2019/Jan 2020 (6 weeks):	31 Jul 2019
Dec 2019/Jan 2020 (4 weeks):	31 Jul 2019

## 9. REFERENCES

Our ex-participants and their parents are available for references and other information regarding their experiences with the FSA. Should you wish to contact them, please contact us for this information.

## 10. CONTACT US

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