



## **PUPILS' EXCHANGE PROGRAMME BETWEEN GERMANY AND SOUTH AFRICA 2022**

June 2022 – July 2022 (4 weeks)  
November 2022 – January 2023 (8 weeks)  
December 2022 – January 2023 (4 weeks)

The Headmaster / Headmistress and Staff,

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

German as a school subject is not compulsory to take part in the 4-week programs.  
German as a school subject is compulsory to take part in the 8-week 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).

### **2019 top schools in the FSA programme (2020 & 2021 – as a direct result of the pandemic, no programs were offered)**

Pretoria High School for Girls, Pretoria – 15 participants  
Helpmekaar Kollege, Johannesburg - 12 participants  
Pretoria Boys' High School, Pretoria - 10 participants



To date an impressive number of 4 896 learners took part in our exchange programme from South Africa to Germany.

## 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 about South Africa in the form of a presentation in class. School attendance is compulsory when school is open. Only in exceptional cases will school be closed for the duration of visit.

### 1.3 Personal growth and development of participants

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

## 2. DETAILS ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

**2.1** Participants stay for 4 weeks or 8 weeks with a German host family, depending on the relevant programme. 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-week programs do not formally participate in tuition, school attendance is compulsory when schools are open. Participants attend a local German school to experience the difference in educational systems. Participants in the 8-week 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 the programme.

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

## 3. CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

**3.1** The FSA is a cultural exchange programme and not a travel agency. Our participants stay with ordinary German families. The allocation of participants to families is done by the FSA. **We do not offer a tour to Europe**. Participants are not allowed to use the families for free accommodation while travelling through Europe/Germany. 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. **To accommodate those students who could not take part in the programme as a result of the pandemic, we will consider applications, as a once off exception, from students who completed gr 12 in 2020 and 2021.**

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

**3.4** It is impossible for a 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 only younger children. Participants must be prepared to stay either in a city or in the country 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 participant should be able to handle these situations without withdrawing himself/herself.

**3.6** Participants must be well informed about South Africa and Germany. Good communication skills are necessary.

**3.7** Participants must be fluent in English. German as a school subject is not compulsory for the 4-week programs. **It is compulsory for the 8-week programme.**

**3.8** Participants will act as a 'Young Ambassadors' for South Africa. The relevant headmaster / mistress therefore needs to approve the participation of candidates. 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 are seen as members of a family and participants need to accept and live with pets.

**3.11** Participants share the German cuisine and **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.

Participants have to host a German FSA-participant during the same year as own participation for the same period of time, or provide a suitable host family. A surcharge of R3 500.00 will be levied if you are not available to host an FSA German exchange student.

**Hostel learners:** The surcharge is levied.

**Gr 12 participants:** If it is impossible for you to host before own participation, the surcharge of R3 5000.00 will be levied automatically.

**Post-gr 12 participants:** No surcharge applies.

### **3.15 Covid-19 vaccination**

Only candidates vaccinated with a Covid-19 vaccine recognised in Germany, can be considered for the programme. The following vaccines are currently (21.10) recognised in Germany:

**BioNTech/Pfizer Manufacturing GmbH,  
Janssen-Cilag International  
Moderna Biotech Spain  
AstraZeneca AB**

**3.16** With Covid-19 the requirements to travel (e.g., negative PCR-test) change constantly and we find ourselves in uncharted territory. We will have to manage the situation as it plays out.

## **4. PROGRAMME DATES**

### **June/July**

23/06/2022 – 20/07/2022\*

### **November/January (8 weeks)**

10/11/2022 – 06/01/2023\*

### **December/January (4 weeks)**

08/12/2022 – 06/01/2023 \*

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

## **5. THE COST**

The final cost of the flight ticket will be available closer to the departure dates. The quote is based on estimates and we distinguish between programme cost (fixed) and flight ticket cost (estimate).

### **Programme costs**

**4-weeks programme** R 6 500.00

**8-weeks programme** R 7 000.00

(Deposit of R 1 000.00 included)

**Return 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 (+/- R 975);
- The prescribed medical and personal liability **insurance**;
- **Domestic flights** within South Africa, if you have to fly to Johannesburg;
- **Spending money** (2019 recommendation ranged between Euro 30 – 60 per week);
- Your **train ticket** from Frankfurt airport to/from your host family/ies (2019 the cost of a single train ticket ranged between Euro 45 – 115 with an average of Euro 70);
- **Bus ticket** to/from the school (2019 ranged between Euro 50 – 100 per month);
- Cost of **Schengen (German) visa** approx. Euro 90;
- Any eventual **increase** in international **airfare**.
- **All Covid-19 related matters (vaccines, tests, etc.)**

## 6. DEPOSIT AND CANCELLATION FEES

A **non-refundable** deposit of R 1 000.00 must accompany all applications. The deposit is re-funded only to **unsuccessful** candidates. 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.

**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 card payments.

## 8. CLOSING DATES 2022

June 2022/July 2022 (4 weeks)	4 March 2022
Nov 2022/Jan 2023 (8 weeks)	30 June 2022
Dec 2022/Jan 2023 (4 weeks)	31 July 2022

## 9. REFERENCE

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

## 10. CONTACT US

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