



12th August 2025

Dear King David Parents

In the coming weeks, we will be sending regular updates about the proposed unification of the King David Schools. We are aware and understand that the meeting and announcement last week around the potential closure of the VP Campus has caused much sadness and an out-pouring of emotion. The purpose of these updates is to ensure transparency and openly communicate to our KD community.

STAFF UPDATE

Our staff is core to our purpose and mission and will be critical in the success of the proposed unification.

The SABJE is still in the process of consulting with the Victory Park staff. We are committed to retaining as many teaching staff as we can but will only be able to finalise the details once this week of consultation has concluded. We know that the Victory Park students and parents care deeply about the wellbeing of the staff, which speaks to the sense of community at KDVP.

On Thursday and Friday Rabbi Seeff addressed the staff at Linksfield High and Primary Schools as well as at Sandton Primary. Rabbi Seeff will address the Pre-Primary School staff in the coming week.

STUDENT SUPPORT

Subsequent to the parent meeting last week, students in all Grades at KDVP High were addressed by Mrs Gruzd, regarding the proposed closure. In addition, Mrs Gruzd and Rabbi Seeff held a conversation with the Grade 11s and matrics to explain the proposal and to hear their concerns.

Rabbi Seeff and Ms Srage will address the KDL High students during this week.

SABJE has established an Integration Committee which has begun developing a plan for a comprehensive integration process for students across both campuses. Additional psycho-social support will also be provided on campus for students who require it.

Whilst there is anxiety amongst the student population, there is also a sense that with the right approach the unification promises to be an exciting and groundbreaking opportunity for the community. Our students will play a critical role in this and to this end, SABJE is planning a retreat for the student leadership committees from both schools in early September.

Students are encouraged to continue using the email hotline (onekd@kingdavid.org.za) to send through their concerns and suggestions.



PARENT UPDATE

The heads of schools and Rabbi Seeff have begun one-on-one meetings with Victory Park parents. We encourage parents to reach out to the PAs to arrange a time for these very important meetings. Schools will also be reaching out to parents so that we can address any concerns.

In the coming week, Victory Park parents will be invited to attend grade specific focus groups to address specific concerns and for ideas. Dates of these group discussions will be communicated shortly.

While our immediate priority was to engage with the VP parents, all our King David families are important. There will be webinars for our other campuses to explain the rationale for the proposed decision and to show the vision for the future of KD. Please save the dates below, links to sign up will be sent out this week.

King David Sandton, Minnie Bersohn and Rosabelle Klein: Sunday 17 August at 19:00

King David Linksfield Campus: Monday 18 August at 19:00

In the meantime, should you require further information, please reach out to your heads and set up a meeting.

MOVING FORWARD

The SABJE has set up various work streams to proactively manage parent engagement, academics, integration, culture and policy planning around matters such as awards and traditions, and to ensure a seamless transition.

MYTH BUSTERS

A community move of this magnitude has generated a large number of rumours and speculation. A number of these misconceptions are addressed below:

- King David Sandton Primary School will remain open and is an excellent option for VP parents looking for a growing but smaller more intimate primary school. The pipeline at Sandton is strong and the Grade R and Grade 1 numbers are growing every day, and the future of the campus looks bright.
- The ONE King David vision is about building ONE King David COMMUNITY for the future. This proposed decision will enable SABJE together with the King David Schools' Foundation to invest heavily in excellence the coming years in all of our schools.
- We are still in consultation with staff and while the SABJE has made their proposal, no final decision has been made.



- The VP campus has not been sold and has not yet been put on the market. SABJE will only begin engaging on the potential sale in the coming weeks.
- The SABJE has ensured that there is enough space to accommodate all VP kids across our schools. Our intention is for class sizes to remain between 18 and 22 students per class in both primary and high school and classes will not go beyond 25 students per class.
- The SABJE met with the Victory Park Shul leadership last week and reiterated its support and will endeavour to do whatever is necessary to assist the shul in creating a vibrant future for its congregants and the broader area.

A comprehensive and accurate list of questions and answers can be found on the website:
one.kingdavid.org.za

Rabbi Seeff spoke to Chai FM about the proposed VP closure, click here to listen:
<https://bit.ly/45cIFvG>

REASONS FOR OPTIMISM

- The reaction and outpouring of a multitude of emotions speaks to the special community that is KDVP. It is easy to focus on the negative but there are many parents and community members who have shown understanding and expressed their excitement and support for the proposal.
- We have had over 240 bookings for our Open Days.
- Our email hotline has been inundated with incredible suggestions and ideas from parents, staff and students.

Open Day bookings and meetings with Heads of schools can be booked through the website and we encourage you to send any questions you may have to onekd@kingdavid.org.za

If we can come together as a community, we can create the best Jewish School in the world and we remain committed to delivering on this mission.

Sincerely

RABBI RICKY SEEFF
General Director