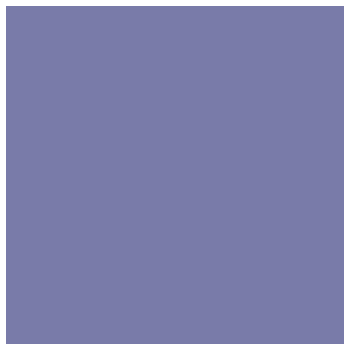
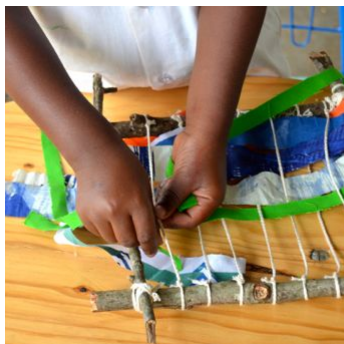


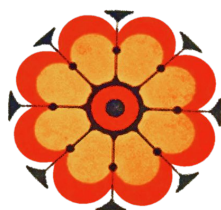


# Guba Farm Playschool

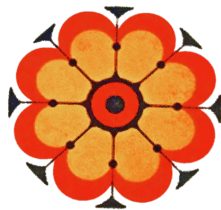
*Our vision is of a natural, holistic, child-centered, & fun learning environment that empowers & inspires our children to be creative, innovative, & conscientious.*



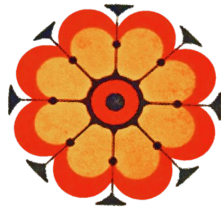
## Learn to play. Play to learn.



We believe it is our responsibility to take a more sustainable approach to the management of the Earth & ourselves - education is the key starting point. At the Guba Farm Playschool we know that ample time for play in early childhood sets a foundation for lifelong health & happiness, as well as later school success.



Increasingly, educational research validates the critical role of imaginative play in children's healthy development & later academic success. Our play-based Playschool stimulates children's imaginations while advancing social skills, teamwork, physical skills & dexterity, & lays the foundations for literacy & numeracy - facilitating a smooth transition to the next level of learning at primary school.



Our curriculum follows the Montessori approach & is inspired by a number of other compatible educational methods promoting learning through play & nurture in nature, from Waldorf Steiner

to Forest Schools & the Green School (Bali). It is underpinned by the permaculture ethics: care of people, care of the Earth & fair share. It combines the academic essential core subjects of English, Maths & Science with hands-on experiential learning of permaculture & creative arts.

We also engage children in meaningful work, like making smoothies, setting the table & cleaning up. All this is set against a multicultural environment where culture is creatively explored & nurtured.

We are committed to keeping our Playschool small & intimate, keeping the ratio of teacher to child to a maximum of 7 to 1.

Children graduating from the Guba Farm Playschool will have an ideal preparation for their next steps in schooling, prepared to invest heart & soul in their schoolwork, better positioned to cooperate with peers, eager to listen & learn.







## Learning in nature, from nature.

Playing in nature has a huge positive impact on the learning process. It affects children's conduct & encourages sensitive behaviour towards one another. It also helps those youngsters who are easily distracted in conventional classrooms to focus much more easily on their tasks.

The Playschool forms a part of the Guba permaculture farm, where we practice holistic solutions to the everyday challenges of life following the permaculture ethics of care for the Earth, care for people & fair share as decision-making guidelines.

Food for the Playschool will always be harvested from our productive organic farm when possible. We boast a food forest, multiple cropping areas, kitchen garden, & medicinal herb garden, which is all ploughed by our industrious animals ranging from chickens & ducks to pigs. The farm serves as a superb living classroom.

By participating in engaging, motivating & achievable tasks & activities in a beautiful environment, each child has an

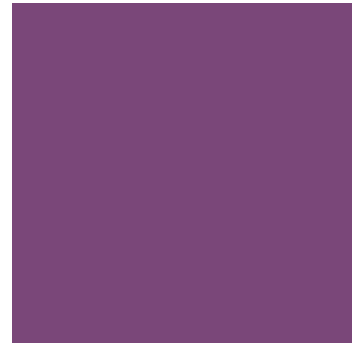
opportunity to develop intrinsic motivation, sound emotional & social skills. Through self-awareness these skills can be developed to reach individual potential.

Preparation for life includes the development of the well-rounded person. Our approach has as its ideal a person who is knowledgeable about the world, human history & culture, who has many varied practical & artistic abilities, who feels a deep reverence for & communion with the natural world, & who can act with initiative & in freedom in the face of economic & political pressures.

Nature is important to a child's development in every major way - intellectually, emotionally, socially, spiritually & physically.

Children will be smarter, better able to get along with others, healthier & happier when they have regular opportunities for free, unstructured & structured play in nature.





# Guba Farm Playschool Services

Our Playschool day begins at 7:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The ages of the children attending range from 2½ to 6 years of age.

Morning activities include:

- ✂ A 3-hour work cycle which involve children learning through play in science, history, geography, zoology, maths, language, life skills, creative arts & music.
- ✂ Preparing foods like soup or smoothies
- ✂ Free play
- ✂ Snacks
- ✂ Games to develop gross motor skills, teamwork & fun!
- ✂ Circle time with story, song & music
- ✂ Clean-up, chores, practical life tasks
- ✂ Lunch

We work with each child on a one-on-one basis as much as possible to ensure they are learning through play at their own pace & ability level. For this reason, there will be a maximum of 25 children at one time with a minimum of 4 teachers.



# Investing in the future.

Tuition fees are set on a sliding scale to ensure the Playschool is accessible to people who have fewer economic resources. We aim to shake up conventional thinking & become a beacon of sustainability & equity education in Swaziland.



1.

Fees are assessed according to parental gross monthly income in order to enable children from a range of economic situations to attend the preschool. To calculate termly fees for your child, proof of parental gross monthly income is required with this application form. If parental gross monthly income is E15,000.00 (fifteen thousand) or more you are not required to provide proof of income, you will automatically qualify for Tier 5 fees which is in-line with private preschools in Swaziland. Tiers 1 & 2 fees are in-line with local community preschool fees.

2.

If your application is successful, you will receive an sms confirming your placement & fee Tier. School fees are required to be paid in full (for the term or year) on your child's first day of school. If you need to stagger payments, please note that 50% of the total fees is required on your child's first day, while the remaining 50% can be paid by midway through the term.

3.

Please make sure that your child starts school promptly (0745) having had a healthy breakfast, wearing suitable clothing for outdoor play (sunhat, raincoat, etc.), has a spare set of clothing comes with their birth certificate & immunisation records.

4.

Please make sure that your child comes to school with their birth certificate & immunisation papers for our records.

**Please note:** You are also welcome to pay the fees for the entire year.

#### **Late Payments:**

1. Interest at prime plus 5% may be charged on any overdue accounts.
2. The school may refuse admission &/or attendance to the child should fees & charges not be paid by the first week of each term.
3. In the event of there being outstanding monies at the end of any term, the Playschool shall have the unfettered right to withhold the results & any certificates of the child until full payment of outstanding monies has been made.





## Learning for a sustainable future

Guba Farm Playschool is promoting sustainability, equity & quality within preschool education in Swaziland. We aim to make the school financially sustainable & socially just.

### What does that mean?

- ✂ The Playschool generates enough income to cover all the costs involved in running it, including paying the staff a living wage & bringing quality educators to our school.
- ✂ The Playschool generates most of the income needed rather than relying solely on grants or donations.
- ✂ The price of the Playschool reflects the actual cost & value of the Playschool.
- ✂ The Playschool is accessible to people from different socio-economic backgrounds by using a sliding scale approach to the school fees.

These four criteria shape the Guba Farm Playschool budget & sliding scale fee options.



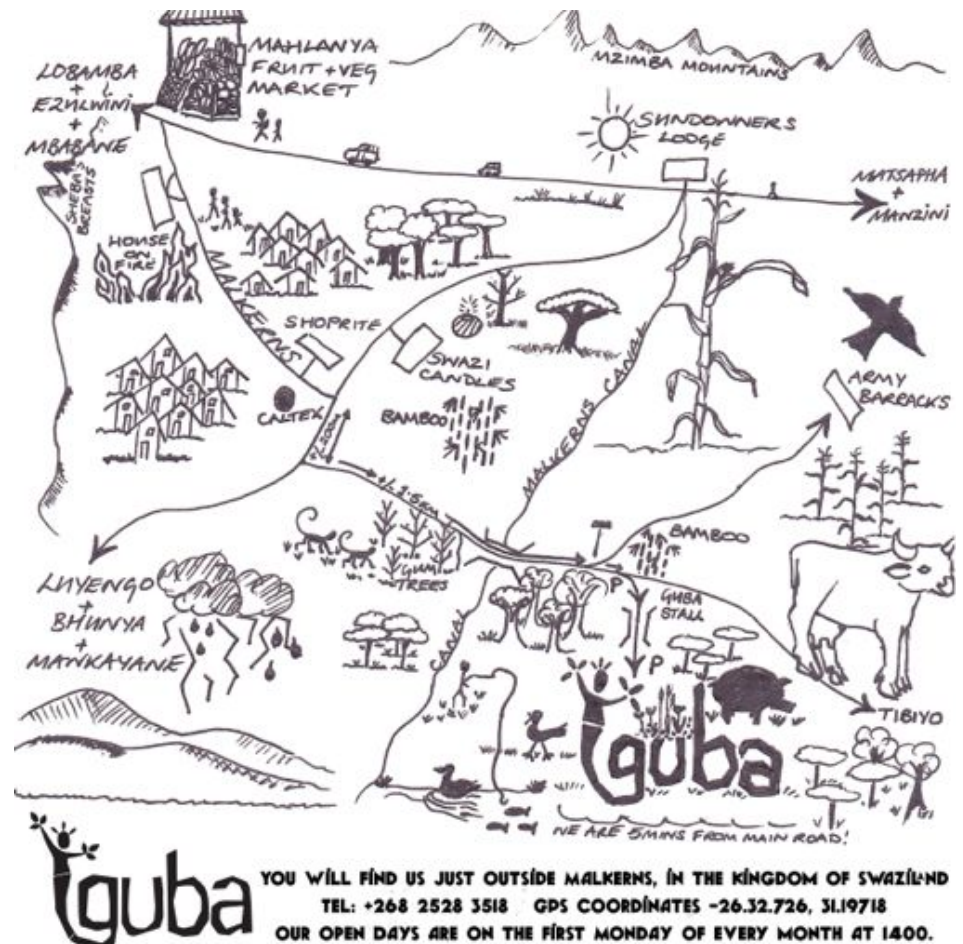
## Food policy

To promote an optimal learning environment, the Guba Farm Playschool is committed to providing healthy, nutritional food for our children.

A healthy snack will be provided during morning & a hearty lunch will be provided for all children at lunchtime.

Parents are expected to provide a wholesome breakfast for their children so that they are best positioned to start the day alert & able.

No snacks or juice bottles allowed on the premises please.



# Your commitment

By enrolling your child or children into the Playschool, you are committing to the following agreement:

- ✂ Paying school fees on the first day of school (for each term or year)
- ✂ Collecting your child in a timely fashion (repeated late collection of children - more than 15 minutes - will result in financial penalties)
- ✂ Feeding your child a healthy balanced breakfast each day before they attend the Playschool
- ✂ Ensuring your child is well washed, has clean clothes & always carries a complete change of clothes
- ✂ If your child has head lice, you will withdraw them from the Playschool until they are successfully treated
- ✂ If your child has a contagious illness, you will withdraw them from the Playschool until they are no longer contagious
- ✂ Ensuring your child does not bring snacks or juice bottles to school
- ✂ Ensuring your child wears suitable clothing for outside play (sunhat & cool clothes for hot days, waterproofs for wet days, & warm clothes for cold days) – the Playschool will provide waterproof boots if necessary
- ✂ If any Guba Farm Playschool equipment &/or toys are found at home, parents/guardians must return them as soon as possible
- ✂ Parents/guardians must be certain that their child no longer requires nappies & can ably feed themselves to be eligible for admission.

The Playschool reserves the right to withdraw a child's place without reimbursing any outstanding fees if these criteria are not met.

## + Our commitment

- ✂ We commit to embracing & bridging the cultural, linguistic & financial diversity that exists in Swaziland
- ✂ We foster a fertile ground for our community to express itself so that it continues to flourish vibrantly
- ✂ We embrace every opportunity to encourage respect for our living planet & seize every moment to educate & practice sound sustainable environmental practices
- ✂ We invite imagination, inspiration & intuition to flow freely & abundantly
- ✂ We honour the unique destiny of each child, supporting them to negotiate obstacles where necessary, so that they may reach the highest & fullest potential of their being.



We follow government issued school term dates for 2016:

Term 1

Start: Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January

End: Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April

Term 2

Start: Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May

End: Friday 12<sup>th</sup> August

Term 3

Start: Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September

End: Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December



# Guba Farm Playschool

Contact Emma Granville to enroll your child or for more information:

[info@gubaswaziland.org](mailto:info@gubaswaziland.org)

+268 2528 3518

or for more information concerning the school approach please call the Principle  
Bunmi Abiodun on +268 7603 7300

Guba  
Malkerns, Swaziland

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