



2026: College Co-Curricular Guide

Purpose of College Co-Curricular Programme

At Oakhill School, co-curricular participation is centered on the responsibility of representing the school. Every co-curricular activity, whether on the sports field, on stage, or in a cultural showcase, involves structured practices and rehearsals, with students working towards a shared goal. Co-curricular involvement at Oakhill is driven by a team culture and a commitment to collective achievement.

By joining a sports team, music ensemble, or cultural group, students work together during practices to proudly represent the school in fixtures, performances, and showcases. At Oakhill, every student plays an important role within their team, learning the value of teamwork, accountability, and supporting one another in pursuit of excellence. Through these experiences, students build character and school pride, qualities that are at the heart of Oakhill School.

Co-curricular Options

<u>Season 1: 19 January - 1 March</u>	<u>Season 2: 2 March - 23 August</u>	<u>Season 3: 23 August - 1 November</u>
<p><u>Sport</u> Cricket Tennis Water Polo Orienteering(Grade 8 & 9) Mountain Biking Archery</p> <p><u>Culture</u> Choir/Few Oaks Bands and Ensembles Production Team Art and Design E-Sport</p>	<p><u>Sport</u> Hockey Netball Soccer(Term 3) Orienteering(Grade 8 & 9) Mountain Biking Debating Chess</p> <p><u>Culture</u> Choir/Few Oaks Bands and Ensembles Production Team Art and Design E-Sport</p>	<p><u>Sport</u> Cricket Tennis Water Polo Orienteering(Grade 8 & 9) Soccer(Til end of Term 3) Mountain Biking Archery(Term 4)</p> <p><u>Culture</u> Choir/Few Oaks Bands and Ensembles Production Team Art and Design</p>



Oakhill's Co-Curricular Policy

At Oakhill, all students are required to participate in one co-curricular activity throughout the year. Students are encouraged to take part in more than 1 co-curricular where possible. Selections for co-curricular are made at the start of the year. Students are required to stay committed to their chosen co-curricular for the full season or term. Changes may only be made in cases of illness or injury. All fixtures, events and rehearsals are compulsory, including those held on weekends. Parents and students will be informed well in advance, and these should be treated as prior commitments.

Minimum Requirements of every Oakhill student

At Oakhill, all students are required to participate in at least one co-curricular activity throughout the year. Where possible, students are encouraged to take part in more than one. Grade 12 students are expected to participate in their chosen co-curricular activity until 23 August 2026.

Exemptions from co-curriculars activities will only be made in 2 scenarios:

1. Due to Outside School Activities
 - Proven track record of achievement at a high level and requiring significant time commitment.
2. Medical Exemption from Co-Curricular
 - A medical report/certificate from a registered medical practitioner is required.

Exemptions must be emailed before the start of term to our Deputy Head: Operations - Hannalie Viljoen: h.viljoen@oakhill.co.za

Sign-up and Accountability Process

Please complete the link: [Click here](#)

Accountability

From the registration link, attendance registers will be completed and submitted to the Co-curricular staff. The Deputy Head of College: Operations, Mrs Viljoen, will monitor participation and follow up with any students who are not involved in the school's Co-curricular Programme.



Co Curricular Programmes

Season 1A: [Click here](#)

Season 1B: [Click here](#)

Season 2: [Click here](#)

Grade 8 and 9 Sport slot

On Monday and Wednesday, sport will start in the last 2 periods of the academic day for all our Grade 8 and 9 students and will form part of their co-curricular programme. All Grade 8 and 9 students must do 1 of the following co-curriculars during 13:15 - 14:30:

<u>Season 1: 19 January - 1 March</u>	<u>Season 2: 2 March - 23 August</u>	<u>Season 3: 23 August - 1 November</u>
Cricket Tennis Water Polo Orienteering(Grade 8 &9)	Hockey Netball Orienteering(Grade 8 &9) Soccer(Term 3)	Cricket Tennis Water Polo Orienteering(Grade 8 &9)

For students(Only Grade 8 & 9) that take more than 1 summer/winter sport:

Water Polo and Tennis Clash

- Students must attend water polo in the Grade 8 and 9 sport slot and can practice tennis in the afternoon programme either in the intermediate or top 8 tennis slot depending on what squad they selected in.

Cricket and Tennis Clash

- Students must attend cricket in the Grade 8 and 9 sport slot and can practice tennis in the afternoon programme either in the intermediate or top 8 tennis slot depending on what squad they selected in.

Water Polo and Cricket Clash

- Students must attend water polo in the Grade 8 and 9 sport slot and can practice cricket in the afternoon programme.

Term 2: Netball and Hockey clash

- Monday: Students attend netball in the Grade 8/9 sport slot and hockey in the afternoon programme(14:45 - 16:15)
- Wednesday: Students attend hockey in the Grade 8/9 sport slot and netball in the

afternoon programme(14:45 - 16:15)

- U16/1st Hockey Player: Students will do technical skills during the Grade 8/9 sport slot.

More information on College Co-Curriculars

Culture

Choir/Few Oaks

The Oakhill Choir is a vibrant and dynamic group that brings together students from Grades 8 to 12. The choir attracts around 45 to 50 enthusiastic singers each year. Their repertoire encompasses a diverse range of songs, showcasing both contemporary and traditional styles. The choir performs regularly at school events, concerts, shows, and on tour, representing Oakhill with pride and excellence. Their harmonious sound and spirited performances make them a highlight of the school's cultural calendar.

A Few Oaks, Oakhill's newly formed boys' ensemble, rehearses on Thursdays and has quickly become a standout addition to the school's vocal program. With their unique style and energy, they bring great flair and depth to Oakhill's choral tradition.

Oakhill Bands and Ensembles

If music is your passion and you enjoy performing alongside equally inspired and talented musicians, Oakhill's bands and ensembles offer the perfect opportunity to share your love of music. With a variety of groups to choose from, there's something for every musical interest and skill level.

The College Band, now boasting over 30 members, continues to grow in size and sound each year. The Blues Band and Strings Ensemble meet on Monday mornings from 06:45. At the same time, the Brass/Wind Ensemble gathers on Friday mornings from 06:45. Both the Strings and Brass/Wind Ensembles include musicians from Grade 6 to Grade 12, giving Prep students the chance to develop their skills and seamlessly transition into the College music program. A new and exciting addition to Oakhill's ensemble family is the Marimba Band, rehearsing on Thursday afternoons. With its vibrant rhythms and infectious energy, the Marimba Band adds a lively dimension to the school's growing musical community.



Production Team

Our after-school Drama Production Club offers students the chance to deepen their understanding of live performance and stagecraft. With a strong focus on acting and physical expression, members also gain hands-on experience in lighting, sound, makeup, stage blocking, and design. This creative and collaborative environment nurtures confidence, teamwork, and artistic growth, perfect for anyone passionate about performance or curious about the world behind the curtain. The club works towards staging a full school production each year.

Art and Design

The Beginners Clay Club is the perfect space for students who are curious, creative, and eager to explore the world of clay in a relaxed, hands-on environment. No prior experience is needed, just enthusiasm and a willingness to experiment. Students will learn the basics of hand-building, shaping, and decorating clay pieces, discovering the joy of transforming simple material into something beautiful and personal. Working with clay encourages patience, problem-solving, and mindfulness, while offering a welcome break from academic pressures. It's also a wonderful way to express individuality and develop a deeper appreciation for craftsmanship. The club's friendly, supportive atmosphere allows everyone to progress at their own pace, share ideas, and take pride in creating something truly unique.

For students who already have some clay experience or a strong interest in three-dimensional art, the Advanced Ceramics and Sculpture Club offers a chance to refine skills and explore more ambitious techniques. And projects. This activity nurtures creativity, confidence, and perseverance. Beyond making beautiful and expressive pieces, members learn to think spatially, observe details closely, and appreciate the creative process from concept to completion. Regular exhibitions of creative works will be held throughout the year.

Sport

Cricket

Cricket is back! Oakhill will field both U15 and 1st Boys teams for the 2026 season. We are also seeing a growing number of girls taking up the sport, and we hope to field a girls team this year as well. With the excitement around fast-paced cricket, the T20 format will continue to feature prominently in our fixtures at the start of the year. While this will be our main focus, we remain committed to developing our players' skills in the longer format of the game too.



Tennis

Tennis continues to grow at Oakhill College, with more than 40 players participating across the College. Our programme is led by The Great Tennis Academy, providing high-quality coaching for all levels, from beginners learning the fundamentals to advanced players competing at a high standard. Our 1st Team proudly represents Oakhill in the EDEN Schools League and regularly competes in local tournaments and tours, offering valuable experience and exposure to competitive tennis.

Water Polo

Water Polo remains a key sport in our summer sports programme at Oakhill College. We field U15 and 1st Boys and Girls teams, and as interest in the sport continues to grow, we have introduced a development programme to support emerging players and newcomers to water polo. A highlight of our calendar is the Waterfront Oakhill Chukka Festivals held in February, a signature event that attracts over 100 schools. With limited local opposition, our teams regularly travel to compete in tournaments and festivals across the country, ensuring that every player gains exposure to top-level opposition.

Mountain Biking

Oakhill's Mountain Biking programme continues to attract a dedicated group of riders who train twice a week. Athletes make use of the cycle track at our Oakhill Sports Campus and also take advantage of the excellent riding terrain in the nearby Simola Forest. Mountain Biking is a sport for those who enjoy challenge and adrenaline. Our cyclists regularly compete in local races and downhill events, and also have the opportunity to participate in the Southern Cape Schools League.

Archery

Archery has quickly become popular on the Oakhill co-curricular programme, following the enthusiasm and impressive progress shown by our students in Term 4. What began as an introductory course has already laid a strong foundation, highlighting the sport's ability to develop focus, skill, and confidence in a supportive environment. All sessions will continue to be delivered in partnership with the Knysna Target Archery Club, ensuring professional, safe, and engaging coaching throughout. With archery offered in term 1 and again from the middle of Term 3 to the end of the year, students are encouraged to continue their training with the club during the winter off-season should they wish to maintain their progress and refine their skills.



Debating

Debating at Oakhill College offers students a platform to develop critical thinking, public speaking, and confident communication. Through structured weekly workshops students learn to research, construct arguments, and respond under pressure. Our debaters will represent Oakhill in winter school derby days, engaging with current issues and diverse perspectives. Whether students are new to public speaking or experienced in competitive debate, this activity provides a space to grow essential life skills.

Chess

Chess at Oakhill College supports students in developing strategic thinking, concentration, and problem-solving skills in a fun and challenging environment. The programme is open to players of all levels, from beginners learning the basics to experienced competitors refining their game. To further strengthen the programme, Oakhill is introducing a dedicated Chess Coach who will provide structured training and help prepare students for matches. With opportunities to compete locally, chess offers a rewarding space for students to represent their school.

Hockey

Hockey is one of the most popular winter sports at Oakhill College, with nine teams competing across the age groups. Oakhill proudly hosts the U16 and U18 Co-Ed Hockey Festivals, key highlights of our winter calendar. Our teams also benefit from various touring opportunities, derby days against both local and out-of-province schools, and regular fixtures as part of the EDEN A Schools League. Through a strong coaching structure and a vibrant hockey culture, Oakhill continues to provide a platform for players to thrive and enjoy the game.

Netball

Netball is a key sport in Oakhill College's winter programme, with 5 teams across the age groups. Oakhill will proudly host the inaugural Oakhill Netball Festival in 2026. Our teams also enjoy touring opportunities, derby days against local and out-of-province schools, and participate in regular fixtures as part of the EDEN Schools League. With dedicated coaching and a strong team culture, Oakhill Netball continues to offer students a platform to excel and enjoy the sport.

Soccer

Soccer is an increasingly important sport at Oakhill College, with a growing focus on supporting the development of our players. In 2026, we will run a full pre-season programme in Term 2, followed by a complete season in Term 3. Our teams will participate in derbies against local



and out-of-province schools, as well as additional weekend fixtures once the winter season concludes. The season culminates with the Oakhill Soccer Festival, which brings local academies to the Oakhill Sports Campus for a showcase of skill and competition.

Orienteering(Only for Grade 8 & 9)

Orienteering is an outdoor sport that combines physical fitness with navigation and problem-solving. Participants use a specially designed map and a compass to navigate through a course of checkpoints, known as controls, that are set out in various types of terrain. The aim is to find all the checkpoints in the correct order and in the shortest possible time. Unlike simply following a marked trail, orienteering requires careful map reading, route choice, and quick decision-making, making it both mentally and physically engaging. The sport can be enjoyed individually or in teams and caters to all ages and fitness levels.

Kind regards,

Alastair Trafford
Head of Sport: College