

## **POLICY AND PROCEDURE FOR THE ADOPTION OF SCHOOLS**

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### **PREAMBLE**

The adoption of a school refers to a signed agreement that has been undertaken between a school and the Vaal University of Technology adhering to the guidelines as stipulated in the policy and with the mutual attempt of benefiting both the school and the VUT in the process of technology transfer.

The adoption of a school is recognised as a virtue which serves the needs of the extra-ordinary variety of learners whose requirements for learning must be met. The adoption process supports the mission and vision of the VUT:

*“To be a dynamic center of technology, leading in quality education for the Nation; ... by developing entrepreneurial, technological and cognitive skills ... and to create a culture of lifelong learning to empower our communities by sharing knowledge, skills and resources.”*

### **POLICY**

#### **1. Selection criteria for the adoption of a school**

- 1.1 The primary focus will be to adopt schools within the areas served by the VUT, but does not exclude any other schools that may collaborate with the VUT.
- 1.2 Secondary schools should be targeted.
- 1.3 The adoption process will normally stem from a community project with VUT-involvement. An adoption process will only be considered after a one year period in which a definite track record between the VUT and the school to be adopted is visible.
- 1.4 There should be a mutual conformity between the expertise, infrastructure and funding that can be provided by the VUT and the needs as identified by the school.
- 1.5 The adoption process should be underpinned by the same vision and mission as that of the VUT and strive to promote technology education and research.

#### **2. Role of the VUT**

- 2.1 As a University of Technology, the adoption process should support the mission of the VUT and strive to enhance the application and integration of technology, especially in the fields of IT, Maths and Science (SET).
- 2.2 A project between the school and the VUT can be launched, provided that the programmes, staff and capacity for the successful completion of such a project is available.
- 2.3 The principal and staff of the adopted schools will be added to the distribution list of the VUT and invited to selected ceremonies held at the VUT. This includes:
  - graduation;
  - academic opening; and
  - open/career days.

### **3. Role of the Adopted school**

- 3.1 The adopted school allows VUT to market itself and programmes offered at the VUT to learners from the adopted schools in order to nurture prospective students.
- 3.2 The school also has the responsibility of making resources available as determined by the nature and scope of projects initiated. These resources can, for example, include time, staff etc.

### **PROCEDURE**

1. The school should submit an official letter to the DVC Academic, requesting to be adopted.
2. The Academic Board will assign a faculty/unit to the school.
3. The faculty/unit will initiate a survey to investigate the viability of the adoption process according to the criteria outlined above.
4. If successful, the formal adoption of the school will be made official during the academic opening ceremony of the VUT.
5. The progress made in collaborative projects between the adopted school and the VUT will be monitored by the Adopted school committee of the VUT and the Governing Body from the school. Should no progress be made in a two year period, the adoption process may be terminated.
6. The faculty should identify needs and initiate collaborative projects with the adopted school. The adopted school committee should be informed of the progress and status of the projects.
7. Any funds or donations generated for adopted schools should be coordinated by the Senior Director: Corporate Affairs.