



Overview of the National Senior Certificate (NSC) Results 2020

Introduction

The year 2020 has been marked as a year that faced many unprecedented challenges which affected the health and well-being of every person. Schools were inadvertently affected by lockdown conditions which impacted on assessments and examinations. South Africa was among 22 countries that opted to continue the Grade 12 exit level National Senior Certificate Examination. The pandemic which caused many disruptions throughout the academic year did not affect LEAP Science and Maths Schools (LEAP) main objective to deliver quality and excellence through consciousness education. As a network of six schools we have taken extraordinary measures to ensure that our learners were able to learn and study remotely when required and we implemented prevention and protection protocols to ensure that we combat the spread of the epidemic within our schools. We adopted a staggered approach for the reopening of schools and observed the novel social distancing as required. LEAP is pleased to present the results of the Matric Class of 2020. We successfully had **245 students** registered for the Grade 12 National Senior Certificate examinations.

Challenges Faced

Due to the pandemic, and dependent on the severity of the lockdown all schools were forced to close when required. In addition, we could not host matric study camps and hold overnight classes or Saturday classes instead the cohort had to quickly adapt to online lessons using platforms like WhatsApp, Zoom and IXL. We are proud of our Grade 12 cohort who adapted very quickly and persevered through online learning.

Summary of Achievements

Despite the challenges imposed with living and learning in under-resourced socio-economic environments and coupled with the pandemic on their doorstep. The achievement of the class of 2020 should be acknowledged for their resilience, perseverance and agility to ensure that 83% attained their National Senior Certificate which will serve as a foundation to their careers, entrepreneurial opportunities or tertiary studies.

- 204 students of 245 (83 %) passed matric, 6.8% higher than the national average
- The highest Bachelor pass rate of 79% since our inception in 2004
- 93% achieved access to Tertiary Institutions

INDICATOR	LEAP	NATIONAL
Pass Rate	83%	76.2, %
Bachelor Pass Rate	79%	36.4%
% Diploma Rate	14%	26%

% Eligible for Higher Education	7%	13.7%
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Table 1: LEAP's overall performance compared to the overall National performance

Performance By School

A total of 245 students sat for the 2020 NSC examinations. The overall pass rate for the LEAP 2020 cohort represents a decrease of 7% as opposed to the 2019 NSC examinations. Although there is a decrease in the pass percentage, there has been a notable increase in the number of learners that attained the National Senior Certificate. The decrease in performance can be attributed to the under-resourced socio-economic environment in which our learners find themselves and was further exacerbated by the pandemic conditions having greater impact on schooling in the rural areas.

INDICATOR	LEAP 1	LEAP 2	LEAP 3	LEAP 4	LEAP 5	LEAP 6	TOTAL
Number of learners who entered	38	61	29	41	50	26	245
Pass Rate	66%	77%	90%	97%	80%	100%	83%
Number achieved Tertiary Access	21	45	23	39	39	23	190
% Achieved Tertiary Access	55%	96%	79%	95%	78%	88%	93%
Number achieved Bachelors	17	37	16	36	38	18	162
Bachelor Rate	61%	79%	62%	90%	76%	96%	79%
Number achieved Diploma	4	8	7	3	1	5	28
Diploma Rate	11%	17%	27%	8%	2%	19%	14%
Number achieved Higher Certificate	4	2	3	1	1	3	14
Higher Certificate Rate	11%	4%	11%	3%	2%	12%	7%
Number did not achieve	13	14	3	1	10	0	41

Table 2: The overall performance of LEAP's network of six schools

The last four years have seen a systemic trend of learner achievement with an upward trajectory in the performance of our Grade 12 cohort. Table 2 above indicates that 93% of the 2020 cohort achieved access to tertiary institutions. Indicated in Table 3 below is the quality of those passes with the cohort successfully obtaining a 79% bachelors pass which is in line with the values that LEAP upholds.



Table 3: Quality of Passes (%)

LEAP's Grade 12 cohort achieved a total of 260 distinctions. This is higher than the number of distinctions recorded as our previous best in 2019 at 242 distinctions achieved. Significant improvements are recorded for Science, Maths, Life Science, Accounting and History.

SUBJECTS	LEAP 1	LEAP 2	LEAP 3	LEAP 4	LEAP 5	LEAP 6	TOTAL
Afrikaans							
Accounting		1	1	3	6	4	15
Agriculture					14		14
Business Science		2	1	1			4
English	5	4	6	23	9	5	52
History	4	3		17			24
Life Science		2	4	2	11		19
Mathematics			1	3	7	1	12
Sepedi				1	1		2
Sesotho							
Science			2	2	2	1	7
Tswana						3	3
IsiXhosa	3	1					4
IsiZulu			1				1
Life Orientation	26	30	6	18	15	8	103
Total	38	43	22	70	65	22	260

Table 5: Performance per subject of LEAP's network of six schools



Chumaninande Tshaka, LEAP 1: Achieved a Bachelor Pass

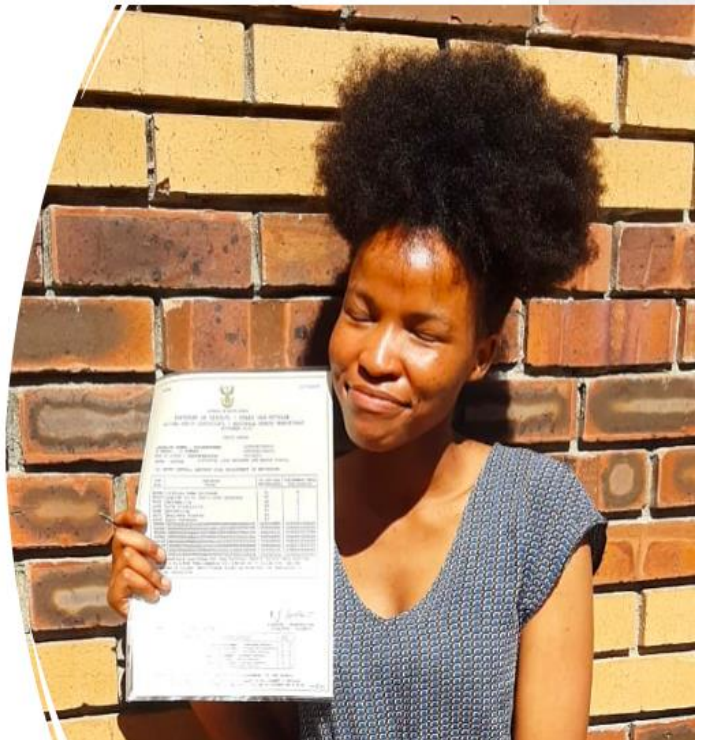
My name is Chumaninande Tshaka, I live in Langa Township, Cape Town. I'm the second top achiever in the class of 2020. I come from a family where discipline and determination is instilled from a very young age. I never imagined myself in the orange and black LEAP uniform. I came to LEAP as a very shy young girl who found it very hard to build relationships with others around me, with the help of my teachers and my fellow students I overcame that big challenge. I wouldn't have done it without them in my life. I'm very grateful for the support and love I have received from my entire LEAP family and mostly in my last year at LEAP where we were faced with COVID-19 that affected everything in life. Being the second top achiever at LEAP 1, took hard work and sleepless nights. To my LEAP Science and Maths School family, I really have no words to express the joy I feel in my heart today. Living by the LEAP code of conduct is what really made me achieve these results (73%). I will always carry it in my heart all my life.

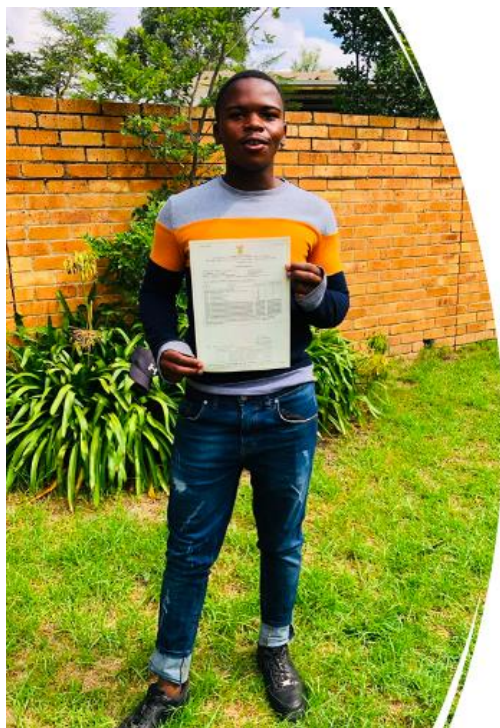
I'm planning to study BCOM Accounting this year and with my strong determination and strong belief, I can conquer anything that comes my way because I'm well-groomed by LEAP and ready to face the real world. I'm so grateful for the opportunity I got to study at LEAP, it is a great privilege. To everyone that contributed to my studies at LEAP I thank you all, may you do the same to the future LEAP generation.

Thato Npapa, LEAP 2: Achieved a Bachelor Pass

Representing the LEAP family in the 2020 national exams has been the greatest honour and I am most privileged to leave victorious. With the education that I have received, I feel that I am ready to deal with the tempests and struggles of facing adulthood. LEAP offers a complete holistic approach to education. My physical, emotional and mental powers have been thoroughly furnished. It is without a doubt that my companions and I are most suited to fill positions of trust and responsibility and become irresistible catalysts of social change. Our loving teachers are the crown for the glories the future is bright.

I hope to study medicine at Wits University. I feel that it is a great honour to work and heal sicknesses and to preserve human life. I conclude that everything good and perfect is from God and so I believe that every victory that I have earned is from Him.





Simphiwe Ndlovu, LEAP 3: Achieved a Bachelor Pass with 5 Distinctions

I am so happy that I have passed my matric with distinctions. I have achieved my goal in Maths, Physical Science and Accounting. I did not expect a distinction in English and Life Science and was thrilled when I saw these distinctions. I am exhilarated with my results especially as I achieved them during a tough time. 2020 was not easy, there were a lot of challenges, having to deal with COVID-19, the lockdowns and studying online. My results have shown me that I can get through anything in life with discipline, determination and believing in myself. I plan on studying Actuarial Science at Wits University. I will be very happy if the university accepts me to study the course of my dreams.



Dikeledi Monyepao, LEAP 4: Achieved a Bachelor Pass

My Grade 12 year was a rollercoaster ride. Grade 12 as a whole felt like a million miles away from what the previous Grades had been like. The deadlines were shorter, the workload was larger, a day seemed less than 24 hours and then, there was COVID-19. The long lockdown was difficult because the anxiety levels were high together with the fear of losing a loved one. I remember wishing and hoping that the matric class for 2020 would be cancelled and postponed to 2021. Looking back I realised how silly that idea was. The lockdown was just another bump in the road to success. I am excited about the results I have received. My advice to current and future matriculants is that they should not wait for someone to push them to do something, independence starts now. Pressure can break rocks and make diamonds. The pressure of matric has always been there and it will remain there after you, and it is up to you whether you will be the rock or the diamond.

Kgoloko Temasha, LEAP 5: Achieved a Bachelors Pass with 6 Distinctions

Words cannot even begin to explain the feelings I had when I read the message that I had passed with a bachelor's pass along with 6 beautiful distinctions. My heart was beating so fast because of the happiness and joy. I am so proud of myself and I could not sleep after receiving the results. Lord knows how hard I worked to reach this milestone. The sleepless nights and sacrifices I made paid off. I am ecstatic.

I was always optimistic about the 2020 academic year even when everything was supposed to make me feel otherwise. Even with the online learning period I had wonderful and supportive teachers who constantly motivated and encouraged me to always aim high. LEAP enabled me to be the 6 distinctions learner I am today. I am eternally grateful to the school and all my lovely teachers. Thanks to them and the hard work I put in, I will be able to pursue my dream course of BCOM Accounting Sciences with pride and honour.



Lethabo Mpye, LEAP 6: Received a Full House of 7 Distinctions

Being at LEAP has been a pleasant five-year journey. It was tough in the beginning but as time went by, I became a part of the LEAP culture and I am proud to say that going to LEAP was the best thing that happened to me. I got to learn a lot of things that changed my perception of things and inspired me to excel academically and in other aspects of my life. I was able to transform from being a shy and timid girl to being a strong, young woman.

Conclusion

Although our overall pass rate has decreased by 7% as compared to our 2019 cohort. The number of learners who sat to take the National Senior Certificate Examinations is higher than 2019 and there is a positive correlation in the percentage of Bachelor passes which is 79%. The general decline in performance can be attributed to the impact on teaching and learning brought about by the unprecedented advent of the COVID-19 pandemic. We are inspired by the overall performance of the Class of 2020 and are enlightened and motivated by their persistence, perseverance and consistency in a time of uncertainty.

We thank you for partnering and advancing the lives of the young people and building our network of schools to ensure longevity and sustainability in 2021 and beyond.