

Formal Report on Star College Matriculation Performance: 2019–2023

1. Introduction

This report presents a comprehensive analysis of Star College's matriculation performance over five consecutive years, from 2019 through 2023. The evaluation draws from official school posters recognizing the academic achievements of matriculants and staff, highlighting total distinctions, pass rates, top achievers, and fields of study. The report aims to assess trends, identify patterns of excellence, and benchmark Star College's growth and consistency as a leading independent school in KwaZulu-Natal (KZN), South Africa.

2. Overview of Academic Performance by Year

2.1. Matric 2019

- Number of Matriculants: 111
- Total Distinctions: 319
- Average Distinctions per Learner: Approx. 2.87

- **Pass Rate:** 100% (maintained since 2002)
- **Top Positions in KZN:** 2nd, 4th, and 5th
- **Notable Top Achievers:**
 - *Yashlen N Odayar* – 10 distinctions – Medicine (Stellenbosch University)
 - *Keshava S Rampersad* – 9 distinctions – Medicine (UCT)
 - *Seyurs Maidoo* – 9 distinctions – Medicine (UKZN)
 - Others with 7 to 8 distinctions primarily in Medicine, Engineering, Actuarial Science, Veterinary Science, and Computer Science.

2.2. Matric 2020

- **Number of Matriculants: 100**
- **Total Distinctions: 322**
- **Average Distinctions per Learner: 3.22**
- **Pass Rate: 100%**
- **Ranking: No 1 Best Performing Independent School in KZN**
- **Notable Top Achievers:**
 - *Shaunesh Pillay* – 9 distinctions – Actuarial Science (UCT)
 - *Shaun Pillay* – 9 distinctions – Medicine (Rhodes University)

- *Ethan Moodley* – 9 distinctions – Medicine (Rhodes University)
- High achievers in Mechanical Engineering, Medicine, Actuarial Science, and Computer Science.

2.3. Matric 2021

- **Number of Matriculants:** 103
- **Total Distinctions:** 314
- **Average Distinctions per Learner:** 3.05
- **Pass Rate:** 100%
- **Ranking:** No 5 Top School in KZN

- **Academic Aggregates:** 32 A aggregates (above 80%), 37 B aggregates (above 70%)
- **Notable Top Achievers:**
 - *Kaylin Naidoo* – 9 distinctions – Computer Engineering (UP)
 - *Samuel Soodyall* – 9 distinctions – Medicine (UKZN)
 - *Kailen E Govender* – 9 distinctions – Actuarial Science (WITS)
 - Diverse achievers in Medicine, Engineering, Pharmacy, Business Science, and Computer Science.

2.4. Matric 2022

- **Number of Matriculants:** 113

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Total Distinctions: 344

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Average Distinctions per Learner: 3.04

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Pass Rate: 100% since inception

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Academic Aggregates: 33 A aggregates, 37 B aggregates

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Notable Top Achievers:

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Shivaak Singh – 8 distinctions – Medicine (UP)

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Tiara Chetty – 8 distinctions – Veterinary Science

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Dinal Bhoola – 7 distinctions – Actuarial Science

- Many achievers with 6 to 8 distinctions in Medicine, Computer Engineering, Dentistry, and Business Science.

2.5. Matric 2023

- **Number of Matriculants:** 126
- **Total Distinctions:** 421 (highest in 5-year span)
- **Average Distinctions per Learner:** 3.34 (highest)
- **Pass Rate:** 100% since inception
- **Academic Aggregates:** 31 A aggregates, 45 B aggregates
- **Ranking:** Top Learner No 1 in KZN

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Notable Top Achievers:

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Sarah Chetty – 10 distinctions – Medicine & Surgery (UKZN) – top learner

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Paveshan Naidu – 9 distinctions – Medicine (UKZN)

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Yurav Hirachund – 9 distinctions – Medicine (UKZN)

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Numerous students with 6 to 9 distinctions across Medicine, Engineering, Computer Science, Actuarial Science, and Astrophysics.

3. Academic Trends and Insights

3.1. Pass Rate Consistency

Across all years analyzed, Star College maintained an impeccable 100% pass rate, illustrating robust academic standards and support systems ensuring every student’s success.

3.2. Total Distinctions and Learner Averages

Year	Matriculants	Total Distinctions	Avg Distinctions per Learner
2019	111	319	2.87
2020	100	322	3.22
2021	103	314	3.05
2022	113	344	3.04
2023	126	421	3.34

- The highest total distinctions and per learner averages were recorded in 2023.
- The 2020 cohort showed marked improvement over 2019, particularly in distinctions per learner.
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The dip in 2021 was marginal and followed by steady improvement in 2022 and significant gains in 2023.

3.3. Academic Diversity and Fields of Study

- Medicine remains the most popular and highest-achieving field across all years, with numerous students pursuing degrees at universities such as UKZN, UCT, WITS, and Rhodes University.
- Actuarial Science and Engineering (Mechanical, Civil, Computer, Chemical) have shown increasing representation.
- Emerging fields in Astrophysics, Pharmacy, Business Science, Dentistry, and Veterinary Science reflect the broadening academic scope.
- Students with 7 or more distinctions are often linked to competitive, high-demand programs, indicating the school's ability to prepare students for top-tier university courses.

3.4. Top Achiever Highlights

- The 2019 cohort's top performer, *Yashlen N Odayar*, achieved 10 distinctions in Medicine.

- In 2020, multiple students achieved 9 distinctions, highlighting a strong competitive group.
 - The 2023 cohort's *Sarah Chetty* attained 10 distinctions in Medicine & Surgery, surpassing earlier top achievers and marking the best individual achievement across these years.
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4. Vision, Mission, Ethos, and Values

Star College's vision and mission statements emphasize a **holistic educational approach** nurturing moral, physical, and educational well-being, grounded in equity and opportunity for all students regardless of background.

- The **Vision** focuses on quality education fostering broad worldviews and respect for human values.
- The **Mission** includes developing globally competitive individuals skilled in STEM and leadership.
- The **Ethos** stresses motivation, participation, and balance between academic success and extracurricular involvement.

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The **Values** poster visually articulates core principles such as compassion, unity, leadership, respect, dignity, and ubuntu, anchoring the school's culture and student development.

These pillars contribute to the sustained academic excellence and character-building evidenced by the matriculation results.

5. Comparative Yearly Performance Summary

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Best Overall Performance: The 2023 cohort stands out with the highest total distinctions (421), highest average distinctions per learner (3.34), and the top learner in KZN, representing a significant academic peak.

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Strong Growth: The 2020 and 2022 cohorts also showed strong distinctions per learner above 3.0, demonstrating consistent high achievement.

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Consistency: All years maintained a 100% pass rate, demonstrating the school's effective academic support and teaching standards.

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Top Students: The progression from 10 distinctions by the top student in 2019 to 10 distinctions in 2023 indicates sustained elite performance.

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Academic Breadth: Increasing representation in diverse university courses beyond Medicine, including Actuarial Science, Engineering, and Business Science, marks an expanding academic horizon.

6. Conclusion

Over the five-year period from 2019 to 2023, Star College has demonstrated unwavering academic excellence and consistent student success. The 2023 cohort achieved the highest distinctions and per-learner average, marking the school's peak performance while maintaining a perfect pass rate since inception. The emphasis on holistic development, as outlined in the vision, mission, ethos, and values, has evidently translated into both academic success and strong character formation.

This comprehensive record reflects Star College's position as a leading independent school in KwaZulu-Natal, with a proven track record of preparing students for high-demand university courses and careers. The school's continuous improvement and ability to nurture top-performing students across a range of disciplines reinforce its mission to foster innovation, global competitiveness, and social responsibility.