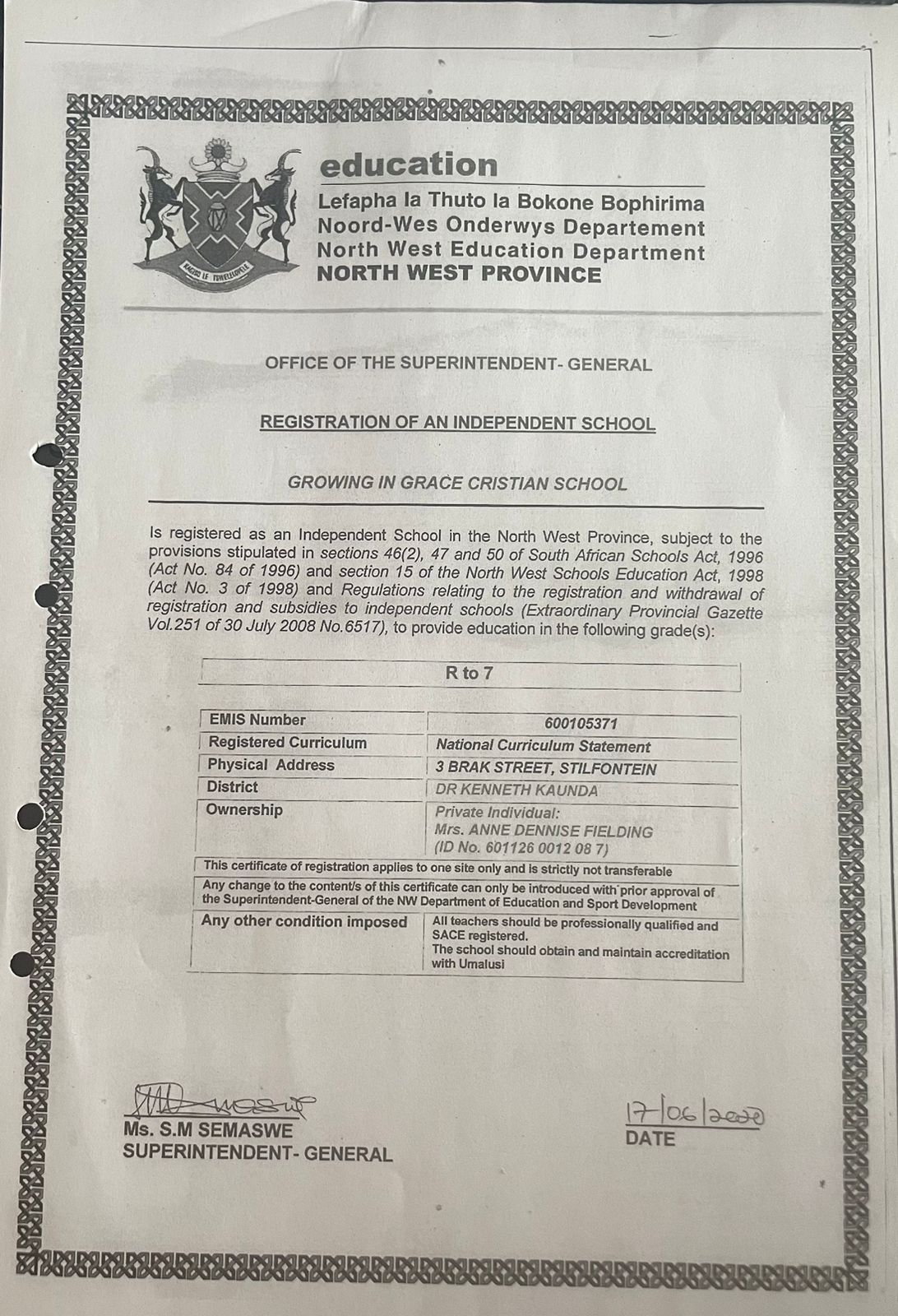
**Umalusi Registration Form**

**Criterion 1: School Ethos**

**1.1 EMIS CERTIFICATE**



**1.2**

1.2.1. **Growing in Grace Christian School Vision**

Our vision as Growing in Grace Primary School is Embracing a Christ-centered foundation, our school envisions a community where academic excellence harmoniously intertwines with spiritual growth. Dedicated to nurturing character, fostering a love for service, and instilling unwavering faith, we aspire to empower students to be compassionate, responsible, and resilient individuals who positively impact the world, guided by Christian values and a commitment to lifelong learning.

1.2.2. **Growing in Grace School Mission**

With unwavering commitment to Christian principles, our school's mission is to provide a transformative education that integrates faith, academics, and character development. We strive to cultivate a learning environment where students flourish spiritually, academically, and socially. Through rigorous academic programs, compassionate mentorship, and community engagement, we aim to equip students to lead purposeful lives, guided by Christian values, and to become responsible, compassionate citizens dedicated to serving others.

1.2.3 **Reason for the Establishment of Growing in Grace Christian School**

Growing in Grace School was the vision of the owner, Anne Fielding, who felt led to start with a creche in 2004 in the Church Yard. The creche was run with the fundamental values of our faith at the forefront of the operation and quickly grew to the capacity where it was needed for a bigger property. The Lions Club in Stilfontein was approached and an agreement was made to rent the property we are currently based at.

The creche Grew to be over 100 learners. The owner said from day one that part of the vision she was given by the Lord for the creche was to start a primary school as well. This coupled with the inherent need and want of the parents for their children to be able to continue their education with Growing in Grace lead us to pursuing the registration of the primary school and its registration was completed in 2015. We continued under the ACE Curriculum from 2015 to 2023 where we decided to be able to lower our school fees as well as get in line with the UMALUSI registration that we would need to change curriculums and move over to the NCS Curriculum and that is where we are now.

**1.3.**

**1.3.1**. **History of our school**

The School Opened in 2015, starting with only Grade R-1. We were operating under the ACE Curriculum and using the PACE system. The learners excelled in this curriculum and soon the school would make a good name for itself.

Each year the grade 1 learners would go up a grade meaning with in the next 6 years (2021) we would have our first grade 7 Class. The school did not have a sports field between 2015 and 2021, but we still offered Soccer, netball and Drama/choir as extramural activities. The learners have taken part in Spelling Bees, as well as performed in several successful Dramas at the school. The choir has performed both at the school and other venues representing the school very well.

Last year we took part in the Ashton John soccer tournament in Klerksdorp and we managed to do very well ending 4th in the tournament. We have also competed against Curro Klerksdorp in friendly soccer matches and the learners have always represented the school well.

Our school also has a vegetable garden that we maintain to help the learners understand agriculture and to provide for the less fortunate in the area. We supply food for our church’s’ soup kitchen that is held every second Thursday at the civic center in town, feeding over 150 people at times for one day.

Our School has to this day had 3 groups of grade 7 learners leave our school for high school in the area with the first grade 7 learner being promoted to high school in 2021. We still get communication from these learners and we are proud to say that they are excelling in their respective high schools. We have only had good feedback from schools who receive learners from us into other schools.

In 2023 June 3rd the governing body of the school came together after a concern being voiced at a meeting in Mafikeng for all stakeholders in the education sector brought up a concern for schools using the AEE Curriculum not being able to register with UMALUSI. At the meeting it was decided that the best way forward for the school was to change curriculums and to start the 2024 year following the CAPS curriculum. We did our research on the best teaching resources we could use and had to hire a few new staff members to help with the work load. We now have specialized teachers for each subject and we are using Platinum and All in one text books for our work with the learners for 2024.

We are now starting a debate club as well as a drama club at the school as we look to engage learners more in the public speaking and try to grow their confidence for their venture into the adult world. We have also started a recycling project at the school where the grade 7 learners are in charge and will use the funds from this to fund a camp for them at the end of the year.

1.3.2. Co-curricular activities

* Soccer
* Netball
* Drama Club
* Debate Club
* Choir Singing

**1.4.**

1.4.1.

* We Following the CAPS Curriculum Guidelines as set out by the department of education.
* Currently in communication with the Department of education for further advice

1.4.2

* We Following the CAPS Curriculum Guidelines as set out by the department of education.
* Currently in communication with the Department of education for further advice

1.4.3

* We Following the CAPS Curriculum Guidelines as set out by the department of education.
* Currently in communication with the Department of education for further advice

1.4.4.

* We Following the CAPS Curriculum Guidelines as set out by the department of education.
* Currently in communication with the Department of education for further advice

1.4.5.

* We Following the CAPS Curriculum Guidelines as set out by the department of education.
* Currently in communication with the Department of education for further advice

1.4.6.

* We Following the CAPS Curriculum Guidelines as set out by the department of education.
* Currently in communication with the Department of education for further advice

1.4.7.

* We Following the CAPS Curriculum Guidelines as set out by the department of education.
* Currently in communication with the Department of education for further advice
* We also allow high schools to communicate with learners at the school with regards to future school selection.

1.5. **Self-Evaluation.**

I definitely feel that as a principal of the school there is still a lot that I need to learn with regards to changing over to the new curriculum. I can see that there are areas that definitely need some work and I need to be in communication with the department and fellow schools to try and improve in this regard as quick as possible.

I do think the reasoning for the starting of the school and the drive that is guiding the passion for the school is a good one and the work ethic and unity between staff and learners is strong, we know we can do anything we need to with the right guidance and understanding we will be able to make this one of the great schools of the area. The school has made a good name for itself and has a strong history in the town.

There is definitely a lot of work with regards to learning the new curriculum and getting in line with the standards and expectations of the UMALUSI board. I know there Is a lot of work ahead for us and I also know that we are willing and capable to take it on and come out on top.