



# The Ridge Charter

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## THE RIDGE SCHOOL

The Ridge provides a leading education. We, The Ridge community, agree that the values and ethos of The Ridge (its “soul”) are critical factors in striving towards a position of leadership and differentiate our school from others

We strive to develop the individual talents and attributes of each boy, to acknowledge and celebrate his abilities, and to provide for his well being

We provide, and involve the boys in, a broad range of opportunities across academic, sport, music, art, drama and other activities

We expect to deliver and achieve the highest standards in all pursuits, and to be at the forefront of the appropriate use of technology, teaching methods and learning support

We are a Christian school that respects and welcomes all religions

We are proud of our heritage. We protect appropriate traditions while embracing valuable change

We recognise that social and economic privilege has concomitant responsibilities

**Let us think of education as the means of developing our greatest abilities, because in each of us there is a private hope and dream which, fulfilled, can be translated into benefit for everyone and greater strength for our nation.**  
*John F. Kennedy*

## OUR VALUES

### **We value**

- Responsibility for self, property and the consequences of our actions
- Respect in all interactions with members of the school and broader community
- The pursuit of excellence
- Tenacity and competitiveness
- Equanimity in handling success and failure
- Tolerance, understanding, kindness and generosity of spirit

## THE RIDGE COMMITMENT

### **We commit ourselves to a school that**

- Pursues excellence
- Provides a balance and range of experiences
- Is diverse
- Offers education for life
- Is connected to its community

## THE RIDGE WILL PURSUE EXCELLENCE AND PROVIDE A RANGE AND BALANCE OF OPPORTUNITIES AND EXPERIENCES

- The school will offer a range of academic, sport, music, art, drama and other opportunities
- Boys will be provided with opportunities to develop their talents and grow in areas which extend their personal development
- The school will encourage an orientation that not only rewards boys' performance but also recognises and develops their tenacity and capacity to learn

## THE RIDGE WILL BE DIVERSE

The Ridge community will promote diversity in its operating structures and through its curriculum and classroom practices

- Ability
  - o All children have strengths and all children have needs. Boys of different abilities will be accommodated in a way that enables each to succeed.
  - o The school will recognise and celebrate conventional and non-conventional successes equally.
  - o Boys will learn to self-evaluate and self-affirm over their need for external recognition of achievement
- Culture
  - o The Ridge will have boys and teachers from different cultures.
  - o Boys will have opportunities to understand a range of cultural practices.
  - o The school curriculum should have cultural breadth
- Family structure
  - o The Ridge will acknowledge, and strive to accommodate, in its structure and activities the different demands that arise from varied family structures
- Gender
  - o The school will provide a balance of strong role models
  - o The school will take active steps to address and avoid gender stereotyping

- Race
  - o Provide for a diverse peer group among the boys and aspirational role models in the teaching team
  - o The Ridge's objective is to create a normalised and inclusive race experience for all
  
- Religion
  - o The Ridge will promote harmony and understanding among different belief systems, and counter religious intolerance and prejudice through a programme of education and information about the world's major religions
  
- Sexual orientation
  - o Through avoidance of stereotyping sexual orientation the school creates a neutral environment that supports the developmental and interpersonal needs of its boys
  
- Socio-economic background
  - o Fee structures and fee assistance programmes will be used to ensure that children from a range of backgrounds can access the school.
  - o All boys within the school will be equally facilitated to participate in all the school's offerings

### **THE RIDGE WILL EDUCATE BOYS FOR LIFE**

The Ridge recognises that education includes

- Accumulation of knowledge
- Development of intellectual and emotional intelligence
- The stimulation of a creative and inquisitive mind
- Promotion of critical thought
- Development of the ability to organise self and information
- The ability to make critical, responsible and effective use of technology
- The development of responsible social and interpersonal skills congruent with the values of the school

## THE RIDGE WILL BE CONNECTED TO ITS COMMUNITY

The Ridge's responsibility to the broader community is in terms of commitment and service to our environment, our community and our society

- The school will encourage, through its practices, a commitment to the environment, the broader community and to our society
- The school will sustain a programme of service that gives the boys valuable learning derived from the opportunities presented by service to and interacting with the broader community
- The Ridge will act in a way that is environmentally responsible and both promotes and demonstrates commitment to protecting and sustaining the environment

**Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world better than you found it.**

*Marian Wright Edelman*