

Our vision

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

1 Corinthians 13:13



As a Christian community, we aim to provide an education which enables all members of our Ripley family to flourish academically, personally and spiritually. Through acts of faith, hope and love, we encourage our young people to live well, to serve others and to make a difference in the world.

An education for life

Our vision lived out:

1. We aim to follow the examples and teaching of Jesus Christ.
2. We draw inspiration from the vision of Julia and Thomas Ripley by continuing their work of providing care and education for all.
3. We strive for a culture of excellence in all we do and we are ambitious for all members of our community.
4. We provide a rich curriculum and co-curriculum which develops pupils in body, mind and spirit.
5. We love and care for one another, treating each other with kindness, dignity and respect.
6. We understand that the wellbeing of our pupils and staff is the key to flourishing.
7. We have a commitment to creation and the stewardship of our planet, as well as service to our community.

Our values

Faith – Hope – Love – Service

Our core verses

Our values and how we treat one another:

'And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.'

1 Corinthians 13:13

The education we provide:

'I have come that they might have life - life in all its fullness' John 10:10

Our faith gives us strength which we can draw on, even in the difficult times:

'He will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit.' Jeremiah 17 7-8

Our heritage

Our school was founded in 1864 by Thomas and Julia Ripley for the care and Christian education of 150 boys and 150 girls who were orphaned or who had lost one parent. The children at 'The Ripley Hospital' were taught a trade to prepare them for later life and the farm and kitchen garden kept the school supplied with food. Over the years, Ripley has been a teacher training institution, an army barracks, a national boys' school and, since 1966, a mixed Church of England comprehensive school when Ripley Boys' and St Thomas' Girls' schools amalgamated. The Ripleys' spirit of service, adventure, philanthropy and faith is at the core of what we do over 150 years later.