**At Ridgewood High School We….**

**Our school motto is: Achieving Excellence Together**

**We want our students to:**

* Achieve excellent exam results across a range of high quality qualifications.
* Be happy, healthy, safe and confident about the future.
* Work hard, play hard and be kind, pleasant people.
* Enjoy healthy working partnerships with adults and know how to resolve conflict when times get tough.
* Be resilient, able to cope with struggle and be determined learners. Know what to do when they don’t know what to do.
* Shake hands with new people, get eye contact and present themselves as thoughtful, articulate young adults.
* Be selfless learners who contribute to many teams and communities.
* Be curious about the world around them and have a spirit of adventure.

**Our staff working values are:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Commitment to achieving excellence** | **Hope and positivity** | **Teamwork** | **Kindness** | **Honesty** |
| We expect high quality in every aspect of our school provision. We want and expect the best for our students and ourselves. There are no excuses, no blame and no fear in the way we work. We take responsibility for mistakes and use them to achieve a first class process and outcomes. | We believe that everyone in our school can be their best selves. We know that our roles are important in giving children choices for the future. Our talk and actions are positively framed; we build success step-by-step and use failure as necessary stepping stones in the learning process. | We know that the team is stronger than the individual and work together to get the school we want. We support each other and care, helping everyone become their best selves. We enjoy working together and use ‘with not to’ to guide our work. | We treat others as we would wish to be treated ourselves. We are kind and respectful to everyone and work hard to protect the dignity of all. | We are open to improving our own practice and the practice of others in our team. We value the feedback that we are given. Our respectful honesty helps to build trust. |

**At Ridgewood our provision is guided by the following principles:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **HIGH EXPECTATIONS** | showing belief that our students can achieve at a high level in every arena be it academic, sporting, social |
| **DYNAMIC LEADERSHIP** | highly visible and dynamic leadership whose actions have an excellent impact on provision for our students |
| **AMBITIOUS CURRICULUM** | an ambitious curriculum and an entitlement to a rich body of academic, social and cultural knowledge and skills |
| **SUPPORTIVE BEHAVIOUR CULTURE** | a supportive and optimistic culture which develops the behaviour and attitudes of determined learners using ‘Ready, Respectful and Safe’ and our ‘Determined Learners’ grid. |
| **RIGOROUS PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT** | well planned and rigorous personal development that supports and challenges every child and helps them acquire a wide range of skills and aptitudes so that they leave us confident in their abilities |
| **EXCELLENT TEACHING** | high quality responsive teaching that engages, enthuses and challenges every student in every lesson every day. |
| **CARING ETHOS** | a caring ethos which keeps students safe, happy and healthy |

**Securing excellent behaviour**

**We expect our students to be Ready, Respectful and Safe**

**Ready**

We show we are Ready by:

* Attending school every day
* Being on time for school, on time for lessons
* Looking smart and business-like in the correct uniform
* Being calm and purposeful at the beginning of a lesson
* Being well equipped with pens, pencils, ruler, rubber, sharpener, a scientific calculator,
* Being well informed and optimistic about the future
* Taking part in extra-curricular opportunities, representing the tutor group, house and the school

**Respectful**

We show respect to our school community by:

* Having positive body language, good eye contact and by speaking clearly, calmly and positively
* Listening carefully to the teacher and the views of others
* Being kind in our words and actions- we don’t use swear words, abusive or prejudicial language
* Following the instructions of adults quickly as they will be keeping students safe and focussing on their achievement,
* Looking after the learning environment, putting litter in the bin and keeping work areas clean and tidy
* Being considerate to the local community when we travel to and from school

**Safe**

We show we know how to be **Safe** by:

* Being where we should be
* Speaking to an adult if we are worried about something
* Acting safely, keeping ourselves and others from harm
* Reporting any concerns we have to a member of staff. If we see something that’s not right, we must say something.
* Walking on the left hand side of corridors, stairs and doorways
* Leaving phones switched off at the bottom of our bags and not using them in school
* Using technology safely by adjusting our privacy settings, by only writing positive messages to other students and by reporting anybody who makes us feel uncomfortable online.
* Not bringing weapons or drugs into school. These both may lead to permanent exclusion.

Ridgewood High School

**Vision for Learning and Teaching**

*Every child, learning in every lesson, every day.*

Learning lies at the heart of everything we do at Ridgewood. We know that teachers are the difference: our children deserve to have high quality, determined teachers who inspire, motivate and enthuse.

**Our teacher learners:**

* commit to excellence;
* lead and are led with knowledge and integrity;
* seek opportunity for continuous improvement;
* enthuse and inspire;
* are subject specialists;
* use research to inform our practice;
* learn from each other and lead our own learning;
* support and develop each other;
* talk about teaching; plan and evaluate our work together;
* watch each other teach without fear of judgement;
* are honest, kind and specific in our feedback;
* know that making mistakes is fundamental to learning;
* accept responsibility; we don’t make excuses;
* share common values of hope and positivity, teamwork, kindness and honesty.

Underpinning our vision is the belief and commitment that everyone can achieve. We work together to ensure we all become the best teachers and learners we can be.

**Our student learners:**

Teachers at Ridgewood inspire and nurture our children to enable them to become determined learners. We know that to be great learners our children need to be conscious of themselves as learners and the attitude they have when facing learning challenges. We believe that deep learning involves struggle and requires students to take risks.

The attitude that our children have towards learning really matters to us and so we devote time to teaching our children how to become effective learners. We expect all of our children, regardless of age and ability, to strive to be ‘determined’ learners.

Determined learners:

* are committed to excellence;
* are resilient;
* are curious about the world;
* have stamina and find pleasure in hard work;
* are selfless and know the value of team work;
* embrace struggle and know what do when they don’t know what to do;
* seek challenge and are constantly looking for ways to be even better.

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