

RIDGEWAY COLLEGE

P R O S P E C T U S



ECD • PREPARATORY • HIGH SCHOOL

Introducing Ridgeway College

Where Excellence and Self-Belief Meet

Welcome to Ridgeway College, a distinguished private independent school nestled in the heart of Makhado, Louis Trichardt.

As we embark on this shared journey, we want to pledge our unwavering commitment to your child's well-being and growth, both in mind and spirit.

Ridgeway College encompasses an Early Childhood Development (ECD) Centre, a Preparatory School, and a High School. Throughout these educational stages, we commit ourselves to providing a safe and nurturing environment for your child, ensuring their physical and psychological well-being. As three integral components of one unified institution, we are dedicated to instilling a common ethos that moulds children into kind, inclusive, collaborative, and empowered individuals.

Our motto, "Believe in yourself", is simple yet profound: we strive to instil in our learners a sense of self and empower them to believe in the attainment of their dreams. We are fortunate to be situated in a serene and harmonious environment where our students can explore and grow freely, surrounded by nature's beauty.

At Ridgeway College, we are dedicated to fostering resourceful, confident young adults with a genuine passion for learning.

We consider it a privilege to play a role in shaping young minds and are immensely grateful for the trust you place in us to develop your children holistically.

Here at Ridgeway, our learners have the opportunity to embark on a journey of personal development, exploring the world around them and discovering their true selves. These opportunities are thoughtfully planned and designed as an essential part of growth, a process that involves discipline, challenges, wonder, successes, emotions, expectations, love, and enriching experiences—all of which are at the core of the Ridgeway College's ethos.

The solid foundation and universal values of kindness and respect that our learners establish at Ridgeway College will enable them to continue growing in knowledge, spirit, and friendship as they move beyond our institution. They will understand that excellence is not about being the best but about being the best version of themselves.

We extend a warm invitation for you to visit Ridgeway College and witness the ignition, nurturing, and fueling of the flames of learning. Experience firsthand how our learners transform into curious explorers, inspired to achieve excellence through the daily wonders that surround them at our uniquely special school.

Dr Gary W Elliott
Executive Head



About

■ Our Vision, Values, Logo and Environment

Our Vision

To be a centre of academic excellence, promoting ideals of mutual respect, service, leadership, entrepreneurial thinking and an appreciation for the environment, while extending our unique influence throughout our region.

Our Values

The internal conduct, relationships with parents, teachers, and learners at Ridgeway College are all driven by a set of values and philosophies that encapsulate our vision for education:

- **Aspiration:**
We strive to inspire our students to aim for their best, reach for the stars, and realise their full potential.
- **Inspiration:**
We urge students to find inspiration from their surroundings, the achievements of others, and their own capabilities.
- **Excellence:**
Our commitment to excellence propels us to uphold high standards in all facets of education, pushing our students to achieve their best.
- **Transformation:**
We believe in the transformative power of education shaping lives, communities, and the world. Ridgeway College aims to be a catalyst for positive transformation.

Our Logo

The clear blue sky and verdant green represent our warm climate and beautiful setting in the foothills of the magnificent Soutpansberg.

The majestic baobab trees stand as firm sentinels of strength and beauty in our environment.



The hand holding a golden quill is in the foreground as it is the focus of all we do.

It symbolises education and represents the concept of education at one with nature. In keeping with this philosophy, we are an accredited Eco School.

The Beauty of our Location

Nestled against the picturesque Soutpansberg Mountains, Ridgeway College enjoys a serene and tranquil setting in the heart of Makhado/Louis Trichardt, Limpopo. The ECD, High School and Hostel campus are situated on a sprawling property that offers an enchanting backdrop for learning and growth.

The Preparatory school campus, surrounded by lush bushveld trees, is serenaded by the soothing sounds of nature, creating a peaceful and harmonious learning environment.



Discover the world of learning and playing at Ridgeway College's Early Childhood Development Centre (ECD)

Grade RR - Grade R

We prioritise play as the foundation of education, igniting a love for learning in our ECD Centre for ages 4-6.

Our Pre-Primary programme provides dynamic learning in small, nurturing classrooms. It creates that 'Big School' experience in a fun and loving environment, socially and academically preparing children for Grade 1.

The children are free to explore our well-equipped play areas, truly creating a best of both worlds for the young ones.



“Our ECD Centre goes beyond a drop-off preschool, offering a secure, stimulating environment for social, emotional, physical, and cognitive development.”

The ECD Curriculum at Ridgeway College centres on seven key areas, ensuring a comprehensive foundation aligned with Department of Education guidelines:

- Numeracy
- Physical Development
- Social & Emotional Development
- Cognitive & Perceptual Development
- Creative Arts
- Language & Literacy and
- Discovery



Enhancing Convenience with Aftercare

Our after-school programme runs Monday to Friday from 13:00 to 17:00, offering lunch and engaging activities, including Kiddies Yoga, Coding, Junior Eco Club, Arts and Crafts, and Music and Movement. Students can also choose dancing and music lessons.



Unlocking excellence in learning at Ridgeway College Preparatory School

Grade 1 - Grade 7

At Ridgeway College Preparatory School, we prioritise thinking skills as the foundation of true learning.

Our qualified educators shape the curriculum to foster individual and collaborative thinking, analytical and creative abilities, and social and environmental intelligences.

Junior Preparatory (Grade 1 - 3):

Our diverse learning environments engage young minds with small class sizes and creative teaching methods in English, Mathematics, and Life Skills. Co-curricular activities include Music, Drama, and Sport.

Students enjoy a variety of sports programmes, including chess, tennis, hockey, netball, soccer, cross country, and athletics. We believe in enriching the learning adventure through picnics, outdoor activities, and off-campus outings.

Senior Preparatory (Grade 4 - 7):

Our comprehensive curriculum is delivered by specialist subject teachers and features interactive education in every classroom. Facilities include a Computer Centre, Science and Art Centre, and a rich environment for media and research.

We follow the Limpopo Department of Education curriculum, including English, Mathematics, Natural Science, Afrikaans, Tshivenda, Social Science, Coding and Robotics, Art, Physical Education, Economic Management Sciences (grade 7 only), and Life Orientation (grade 7 only). Grade 3 and 6 students participate in annual IEB international benchmark tests for Mathematics. We ensure national assessment standards are met through Core Skills Assessments and benchmark tests for Grades 3–7.

Our holistic approach prepares students for High School, nurturing curiosity, self-confidence, and a love of learning. We encourage innovation and view mistakes as opportunities for growth.

Ridgeway Preparatory School focuses on excellence in the classroom, on the sports field, on digital platforms, and on stage, fostering creativity and collaboration in our students.



Unlocking excellence in Secondary Education at Ridgeway College

Grade 8 - Grade 12

At the Secondary School, our mission is to unlock each student's potential, nurturing their talents, equipping them with skills, knowledge, and self-confidence. We maintain high standards of education and ethics, are registered with the Limpopo Department of Education and an accredited IEB examination centre, and are recognised by Umalusi.

Empowering the Minds of Tomorrow:

Our curriculum focuses on holistic development, aiming for exceptional results while shaping well-rounded individuals. We encourage curiosity, independent thinking, innovation, and viewing mistakes as opportunities for growth.

A Comprehensive Curriculum:

Our curriculum for Grades 8 – 12, guided by specialist teachers, is supported by well-equipped facilities and adherence to the CAPS curriculum (Grades 8 – 9) and IEB curriculum (Grades 10 – 12).

Our dynamic assessment schedule and progress monitoring ensure early identification of students' successes and challenges.

Comprehensive Career Guidance:

We provide career guidance to enhance students' awareness of career paths, achievements, skills, and capabilities.

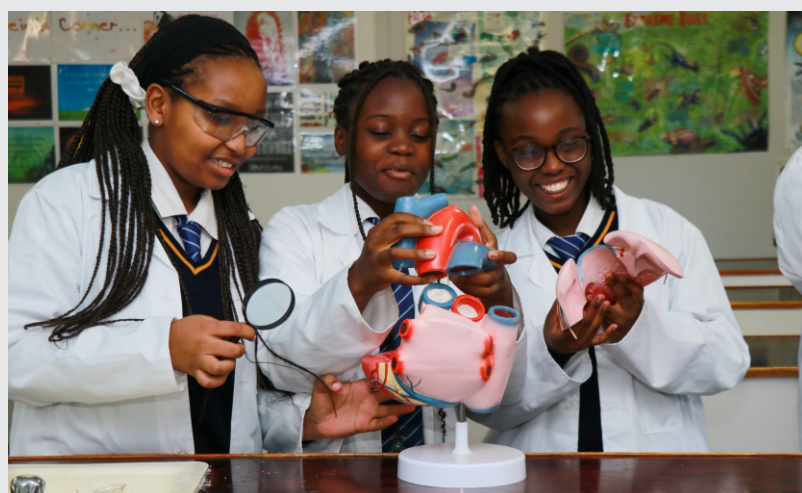
Routine career advice and interactive career planning help students make informed decisions for their future.

Students select subjects aligned with their personality, skills, and academic interests. Partnered with Eduvos, Grade 9 students receive informed guidance.

Grades 11 and 12 students engage directly with tertiary institutions during career visits.

Support with Tertiary Applications:

In Grades 11 and 12, students are afforded the opportunity to engage directly with a wide variety of tertiary institutions during meticulously planned career visits throughout the year. Support with tertiary institution applications is provided to our senior learners to ensure that their application is submitted both timeously and with the greatest prospect of a successful outcome.



Discover your **Home** Away from Home

Boarding Life of Ridgeway College

We are more than an educational institution, we are a close-knit family that nurtures and supports our students, creating strong bonds akin to family ties. Our boarding facilities reflect this commitment.

A Caring and Secure Home:

Our Boarding Houses offer a caring and secure environment for boys and girls from Grade 4 to Grade 12. With the help of dedicated Boarding Staff, we ensure structured support and a family-like atmosphere.

Your Home in Our Hostel:

We accommodate weekly and termly boarders in a year-round hostel. There are separate boys' and girls' accommodation with single bedrooms, bathrooms, a dining room, study hall, and recreational space. Laundry is done twice a week, bedding is washed every fortnight, and hostel staff manage daily housekeeping. The hostel matron is first aid-trained and takes care of the basic health care needs of the boarders.

Meals, Recreation, and Learning:

We understand the importance of nourishment, recreation, and academics in the lives of our boarders. Meals are provided three times a day in our hostel dining room, and snacks are available during break times. Our multi-purpose recreation room is equipped with TV and DVD machines for entertainment, as well as a table tennis table. Supervised prep sessions are held daily from 19:00 – 20:30. In addition, we offer computer and Wi-Fi facilities, allowing learners to complete homework and research tasks comfortably. At least once a month, we make an effort to organise weekend activities with the students, such as group braais, games nights, movie nights and various other fun activities.

Preparing for the Future:

Boarding prepares students for independence and instills identifying priorities, interpersonal skills, and initiative. In Ridgeway College Boarding, students develop essential life skills in a homely setting.

We offer a second home for boarders, fostering academic and social growth. Because we are committed to boarders' well-being, it ensures a rewarding and fulfilling boarding experience with the added benefit of lasting friendships.



Unlocking Potential: Enrichment Beyond the Ordinary at Ridgeway College

Additional Enrichment Programmes for Ridgeway Students

At Ridgeway College, we are dedicated to delivering a comprehensive and forward-looking education to our students. To achieve this goal, we offer additional enrichment programmes designed to expand their horizons and equip them with the skills needed in today's ever-evolving world.

Real Life 4 Kids:

Teaching Real Life Skills

Our Grade 6 students engage in this 3D life skills programme using a town-based board game. It is fun and engaging, offering a glimpse into real-life scenarios.



Moneytime:

Providing the tools and information to make wise financial decisions from a young age

Our Grade 7 students participate in the **Moneytime** Financial Literacy programme that simplifies complex financial concepts. This programme seamlessly combines lessons with a money management game for enjoyable learning. The game allows children to apply their acquired knowledge, experimenting with money strategies. Students earn virtual money in the game by answering questions correctly, enabling them to make choices. They can shop, donate, or invest in education and property to boost their long-term wealth. **Moneytime** educates your child on financial consequences in a risk-free, real-world simulation. In addition to the 30 course lessons, there are 13 parent-child lessons that apply financial concepts in real-life scenarios.



TechWays:

Navigating the Digital Landscape

In **TechWays**, we unveil the tech world to our Grade 8 and 9 learners, providing practical skills demanded by the job market. This e-learning course prioritises hands-on experience, building a portfolio of real-life projects for students to showcase to future employers.

The programme covers vital topics, including:

Coding: Empowering students to craft digital solutions.

Web Design: Mastering web development.

App Design: Creating mobile applications for the modern tech landscape.

MS Word and Excel: Essential productivity tools.

Data Visualisation: Effective data presentation in an information-driven world.

Cyber Security: Protecting digital assets and information in an age of data security.

Data Science: Exploring data analysis for a career in this burgeoning field.

Web Front-end and Back-end Design: Designing user interfaces and server-side aspects, crucial for web development.



Unlocking Your Potential: The Benefits of IEB Matric Examination at Ridgeway College

■ The IEB - Setting the Standard

The Independent Examinations Board (IEB) is a renowned private assessment board dedicated to delivering exceptional examination services to private schools and their students. What sets the IEB apart is its commitment to preparing students for the rigors of higher education. The IEB is known for its demanding standards, setting a stage for academic excellence that is considered a challenging but rewarding pathway to knowledge.

The Advantages of IEB Matric Examination at Ridgeway College. Here is why you should choose IEB Matric Examination :

1. Cultivating Critical Thinking: The IEB curriculum is designed to nurture critical thinking abilities that can be applied to various real-life situations. It is not just about memorising facts but about understanding and analysing the world around you.

2. University Readiness: The IEB equips you with the academic rigor and work ethic required for success in college or university. You will be well-prepared to manage the academic workload, ensuring a smooth transition to higher education.

3. Enhancing Critical Thinking Skills: The IEB curriculum encourages students to tackle problems head-on and seek creative solutions. This fosters a growth-mindset, and one of innovation, equipping you with the skills to solve complex issues.

4. International Opportunities: With your IEB Matric certificate in hand, the world is your oyster. You will have the credentials needed to pursue higher education at international universities and colleges, opening doors to global opportunities.

The IEB Matric Examination is your stepping stone to a future where excellence knows no boundaries.

Join us in shaping your future with the IEB Matric Examination and unlock the path to remarkable achievement.

*It is an investment
in your potential,
a commitment to
your dreams, and a
journey towards a
brighter tomorrow.*





RIDGEWAY COLLEGE HIGHLIGHTS

RIDGEWAY COLLEGE HIGHLIGHTS



Unlocking Potential Through Sport at Ridgeway College

Fostering Physical, Social, and Mental Well-being

At Ridgeway College, we recognise the profound importance of sport and physical activity in every student's life. It is not just a part of our curriculum; it is an essential component of our students' journey to self-discovery and personal growth.

The Heart of Our Sporting Culture

Sport is deeply ingrained at Ridgeway College and we encourage all students to participate in team sports. We emphasise skills development, a love for sport, and maintaining a healthy sense of competition.

The Journey of Sport at Ridgeway College

Physical Education begins in Grade RR and continues through to Grade 12. Sports practices commence in Grade 1, becoming more formalised in Grade 3.

Coaching Excellence

Our dedicated school sports coaches prioritise skill development, sportsmanship, and the joy of play.

A Wealth of Sporting Choices

We offer a wide range of sporting disciplines to cater to every student's passion, including athletics, basketball, chess, cricket, cross country, hockey, netball, and soccer. Even our ECD learners enjoy activities such as kiddies yoga, swimming, dancing, and horse riding, embracing well-being from an early age.

Access to Sporting Facilities

Our school features sports fields, basketball courts, tennis courts, netball courts, cricket nets, and volleyball courts, providing an inspiring environment for sporting potential.

At Ridgeway College, we nurture well-rounded individuals through sport, promoting values like teamwork, resilience, and a healthy lifestyle. Our Sport Curriculum unlocks every student's potential, encouraging them to be active, competitive, and engaged in the sporting community.



Cultural Exploration at Ridgeway College

At Ridgeway College, we consider music and performing arts essential for personal growth, creativity, and all-round development.

We passionately nurture each student's creative spirit through our Cultural Curriculum. This platform offers vibrant exploration, artistic expression, and enrichment inside and outside the classroom.

Exploring the World of *Music* at Ridgeway College

Music and Choir

We believe music is a universal language that connects hearts across boundaries. Grade RR and R students can take music lessons from an external service provider partnered with our school.

Our Cultural Curriculum offers a rich tapestry of opportunities, including choir, drama, annual play productions, cultural days, Eisteddfods, and more.

The Preparatory School choir, led by a specialised teacher, engages students in performances at assemblies and functions, promoting academic success, social skills, and emotional intelligence.

Exploring the World of *Drama* at Ridgeway College

We wholeheartedly believe that creative arts, including drama, shape well-rounded individuals.

Drama

Ridgeway College provides performance opportunities for students, promoting confidence and expression. The preparatory school hosts a bi-annual concert involving students from all grades, offering a colourful display of drama, song, and dance.

The High School Drama Production is an annual highlight, where students audition and participate in bringing a selected production to life. This fosters teamwork, confidence, and self-esteem, allowing students to shine.



Igniting **Creative** Sparks at Ridgeway College

Creative Arts

At Ridgeway College, we foster a profound sense of individual worth, encouraging our young minds to think with boundless creativity and the confidence to express themselves uniquely, exploring innovative concepts that transcend the ordinary.

The Artistry Unveiled

Our integrated art classes at Ridgeway College embark on a cherished and exciting journey of imaginative thinking and artwork creation, commencing in Grade RR and continuing all the way through to Grade 9.

As our learners progress, the artistic journey takes them to our dedicated art classes, where our specialist art teacher awaits to guide them.

Our Art Room, pulsating with creativity, and drenched in natural light, is equipped with a variety of art materials. Here, our learners are enveloped in a world of artistic exploration, embracing lessons in drawing and painting.

For our senior learners in Grade 8 and 9, the art class becomes a sanctuary for enriched, detailed, and colourful lessons, immersing them even deeper into the realms of drawing and painting.



Empowering Through Care: Ridgeway College Pupil Well-Being

At Ridgeway College, education encompasses emotional, academic, and social well-being. Our Personal Pastoral Programme is a cornerstone of our commitment to create a nurturing, positive educational environment where students can thrive.

We ensure that every pupil not only survives but thrives. Students become part of our close-knit community upon enrolment, with Grade Tutors guiding their smooth transition into Grade 8.

Holistic Development

Our dedicated staff, teaching, and non-teaching, tirelessly nurture holistic development and provide comprehensive pastoral care for every child.

Guardians of Well-Being

- Grade Tutors:

Responsible for students in their Tutor Group, serving as primary points of contact for parents and carers. Tutors and tutees meet daily to start the day positively.

- Heads of Phase:

Designated Phase Heads for specific year groups, consulting on pupil well-being.

Amplifying Student Voices

The Leader Council empowers students from all year groups to express their beliefs and perspectives, fostering a responsive and inclusive learning community.

Proactive Well-Being

We are proactive in addressing student well-being, with zero tolerance for fear and intimidation.

We educate students to communicate concerns and know whom to approach.

Resilience Curriculum: Preparing for the Future

For Grades 8 to 12, the Resilience Curriculum offers preventative education, equipping students with resilience to face adulthood's challenges and opportunities.

We engage in discussions about mental well-being, mental health, and their relevance throughout the year.

The Pupil Resilience Curriculum covers the following topics and support sessions:

Anti-Bullying Workshops, Smoke/Vape Prevention Programme, Drug Awareness Support Sessions, Internet Safety Training, Resilience Workshops, Mental Health Programmes, Self-esteem and confidence seminars, School Counsellor support, Suicide Prevention Programme, Examinations support and guidance and Respect and Tolerance for all.



Ensure High Standards
& Rigorous Instruction
for all Students



Positively Impact Student
Academic Sections, Social
Emotional Development &
College / Career Readiness



Effective Family &
Community Engagement



Partnership with Teachers,
Administrators, School Staff
Members, and Community
Based Organizations



Expanding Learning
& Professional Development
Opportunities



Positive, Trust-filled
& Welcoming School
Culture

Empowering **Tomorrow's Leaders** through Community Service and Outreach at Ridgeway College

Building a Brighter Future Together

We recognise that true education encompasses not only academic learning but also the development of well-rounded individuals who are not only responsible but also empathetic and actively engaged within their communities. This belief is at the core of our educational philosophy. Community service and outreach are not just optional add-ons for us; they are integral aspects of our educational programme.

We acknowledge that many of our students are privileged, and they have access to resources that allow them to flourish academically and personally. However, with this privilege comes a profound responsibility — a responsibility to continually assess the needs of our community and to take an active role in making our world a better place.

To fulfil this responsibility, we have established a robust social responsibility programme at Ridgeway College. This programme reaches out to various organisations and causes, making a positive impact both locally and nationally. As an Eco School, we understand the significance of environmental stewardship and social responsibility.

We believe that instilling these values should begin at an early age to create a lasting impact. Our vision for the future goes even further.

We aim to expand our involvement within our surrounding communities. We actively seek partnerships with like-minded organisations that share our passion for community engagement and environmental preservation.

By doing so, we provide our students with the valuable lesson that giving back enriches not only the recipient, but also the giver.

Ridgeway College stands as a community-centric institution deeply committed to serving the needs of our town and the broader area. Our staff and students wholeheartedly engage in community activities to strengthen connections with external organisations, local businesses, neighbouring agencies, and individuals.

We firmly believe that genuine education and school transformation hinge on building strong, authentic community connections and taking purposeful action.

Our reputation as a school at the heart of our community is characterised by an open and welcoming atmosphere where values of empathy, compassion, and understanding are deeply ingrained.

We believe that by instilling these values in our students, we empower them to be not just academically capable but also socially-conscious individuals capable of making a meaningful difference in the world.

Through fundraising activities, we vigorously participate in charity work and community support. These events regularly benefit local and national charities and non-profit organisations.

This initiative is made possible through the hard work of our students and the generous contributions of parents, carers, and the wider community.

Ridgeway College is dedicated to empowering future leaders who understand the importance of community service and outreach. Our educational philosophy extends beyond textbooks, emphasising the significance of giving back, fostering connections, and building a more compassionate, inclusive, and harmonious world. We invite you to join us on this journey to create a brighter future, together.



Ridgeway College Highlights: Shaping Bright Futures Together

■ Celebrating Achievements and Enriching Lives

Education involves a myriad of events and experiences that shape our students' minds and characters. We take pride in these highlights that make our college community unique, vibrant and dynamic.

Crayon to Pencil Ceremony: Celebrating milestones - Grade R learners transition from crayons to pencils, marking a critical step in their academic journey towards the Preparatory school.

Pen License: Bridging the gap - Grade 3 learners embark on their journey with a Pen License Ceremony, signifying the use of pens in daily activities. This prepares them for the more formal assessments in Grade 4.

Olympiad and Quiz Night: Striving for brilliance - students engage in Olympiads covering subjects like Mathematics, Afrikaans, Computers, Geography, and History. The Math Olympiad and Quiz Night inspire mathematical brilliance and problem-solving skills.

Exhibitions: Showcasing talent - Annual Art and Science exhibitions in the Intermediate Phase allow learners to present creative solutions addressing global concerns, emphasising research and the scientific process.

Orators: Developing confidence and communication - regular Orators evenings enable learners to debate important issues in a formal setting, enhancing public speaking skills, confidence, and self-esteem.

Spelling Bee: Expanding vocabulary - The Foundation Phase hosts the annual Spelling Bee, promoting vocabulary and public speaking skills while fostering friendly competition.

Grade 8 Orientation Day: Welcoming new beginnings - Grade 8 Orientation eases the transition to high school, making new members feel at home with a dedicated induction ceremony.

Fundraising Events: Sharing and Caring - annual events like the Forest Walk, Colour Run, Coffee Drive-Thru, Mr & Miss Ridgeway Pageant, and Art in the Park promote shared experiences and appreciation of the school community.

Leadership Camp: Shaping Future Leaders - The Leader Council Camp equips newly appointed leaders with skills and a compassionate mindset.

Grade 7 Formal Dinner: Passage to High School - A formal evening celebrates Grade 7 learners' growth into young adults, emphasising continued support from the Preparatory school.

Matric Farewell: Celebrating Achievements - the Matric Farewell celebrates achievements and bids farewell to seniors embarking on their next journey.

Awards Evening: Recognising Excellence - The Awards Evening acknowledges student achievements, fostering a culture of excellence and motivation.

Matric Valediction: A Fitting Farewell - the Matric Valediction celebrates Grade 12 students' school career, bidding them farewell and good luck.

Annual Field Trips: Learning Beyond the Classroom - Grade 4 through 11 learners embark on enriching field trips each year to exciting places beyond the classroom.

President's Awards: Nurturing Excellence - The President's Awards recognise excellence in academia, leadership, and community service, instilling responsibility, and celebrating accomplishment.

Outreach Programmes: Giving Back - Outreach programmes instil the importance of giving back to society through volunteer work and financial support.

Peer Support Programme: Unity Through Challenges - The Peer Support Programme manages older students mentoring and supporting younger ones, creating a supportive community.

IEB Business Simulation Workshop: Shaping Future Entrepreneurs - The IEB Business Simulation Workshop hones entrepreneurial skills and offers real-world business scenarios.

Edugro Winter Festival: Celebrating Seasons - Our Edugro Winter Festival brings students, parents, and the community together to enjoy sports and coding challenges, celebrating the season.

These events are integral to Ridgeway College, shaping us as more than just a school. We are a community dedicated to nurturing talent, fostering growth, and celebrating the achievements of every student, parent, and community member. Join us on this exciting journey!



CONTACT INFORMATION

ECD & COLLEGE
Leeu Street, Louis Trichardt, 0920

PREPARATORY SCHOOL
Roodewal Road, Louis Trichardt, 0920

015 151 0111
admin@ridgewaycollege.co.za



@ridgeway_college
@ridgeway_preparatory



Office Hours 07:00-16:00

www.ridgewaycollege.co.za