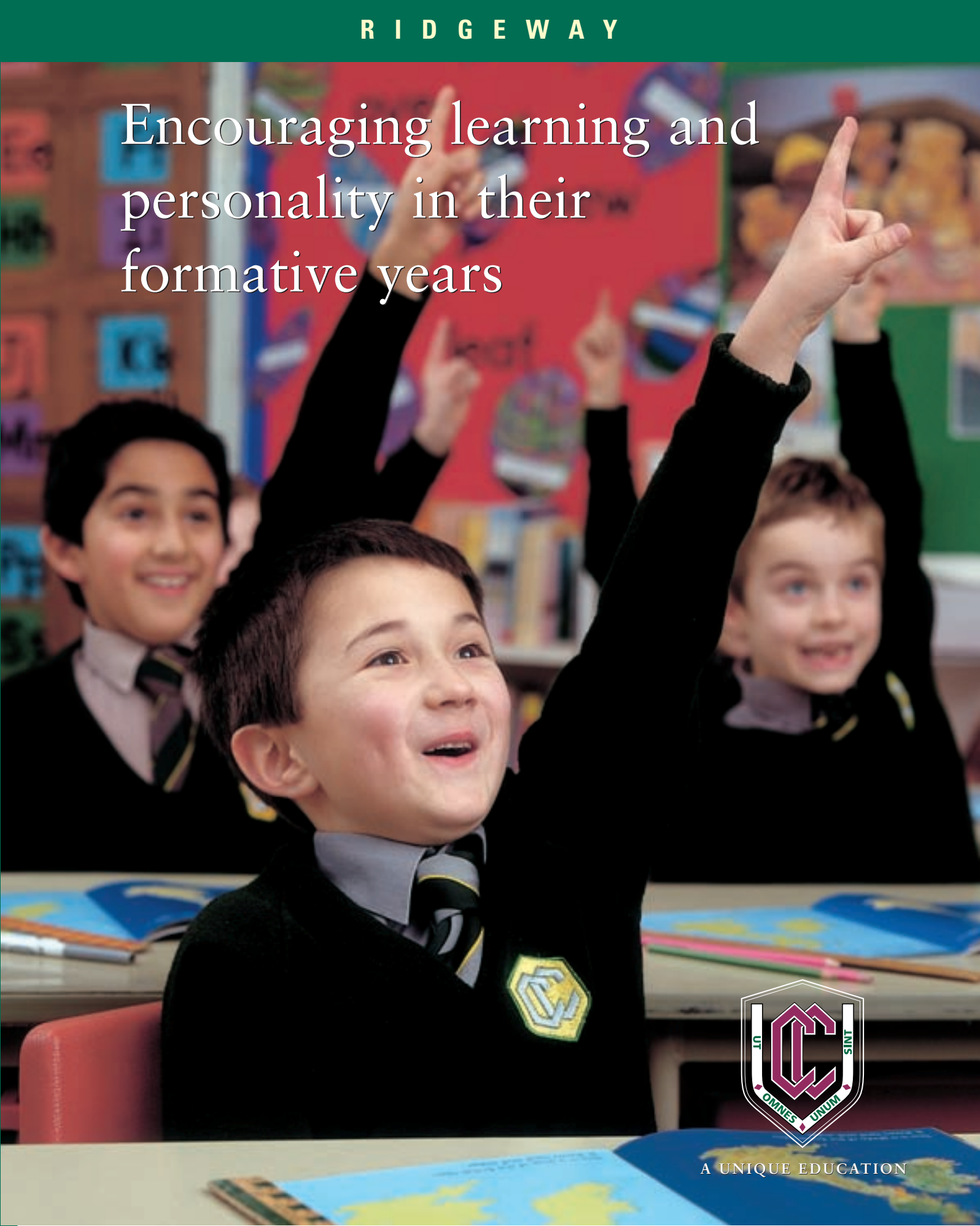


Encouraging learning and
personality in their
formative years



A word from our boys...

A competition was held during the production of this prospectus to find out the best and worst things about being at Ridgeway – what follows are the selected winning answers.



OWAN
FORM 3Y AGE 8

The best thing about Ridgeway is...

That it is good fun, You learn a lot, and it's a very nice school and my favourite subject is maths.

And the worst thing about Ridgeway is...

That you have to go home at the end of the day.



MICHAEL
FORM 4Y AGE 9

The best thing about Ridgeway is...

All the teachers and staff, they are all very kind and helpful. They make you feel like you're at home every second of school as well as teaching really well. I felt really anxious my first term at Ridgeway, but the teachers made me feel very welcome and now I feel like I never want to move school because it is so friendly.

And the worst thing about Ridgeway is...

NOTHING!



JACK
FORM 1Y AGE 5

The best thing about Ridgeway is...

Making new friends, playing games, sports and sports day and most of all learning new and exciting things.

And the worst thing about Ridgeway is...

Having to be quiet and not chatting in class and the worst thing of all is getting up early in the morning and early nights.

R I D G E W A Y

AGE 4+ - 11 YEARS

CLAIRES COURT SCHOOLS, RIDGEWAY
THE THICKET, MAIDENHEAD,
BERKSHIRE SL6 3QE
TEL: 01628 411490
FAX: 01628 411465
www.clairescourt.com



Welcome to Ridgeway



At Ridgeway we are proud to have a reputation for bringing out the best in the boys we care for and we prepare them fully for a senior education.

the sporting field or in the arts and we provide a wide range of in- and out-of-school activities in which they flourish.

an enormous range of academic and extra-curricular opportunities.

We encourage a partnership where teachers and parents work together with the pupils to ensure that their education is a success.

I hope this prospectus gives you a taste of life at Ridgeway.

If you want to find out more then visit our website at www.clairescourt.com.

The best way to experience our caring atmosphere is to come and visit during the working day. Please contact our Registrar on (01628) 411472 to arrange an appointment to visit us.

We hope to welcome you and your son soon.

Karen Rogg, Head

Information given in this prospectus is believed to be correct at the time of printing. The prospectus does not form part of any agreement between the School and current or prospective parents and no reliance should be placed upon the content. Those parents requiring information on specific matters should seek written confirmation from the School.



Ridgeway boys love coming to school – they are keen to try, to do and, above all, to learn.

We expect much from our boys- be it academically, socially, on

There are up to 280 boys on the school roll aged 4+ to 11 thus we are small enough to provide the nurturing, confidence building atmosphere that we know young boys need.

With over 10 acres of grounds we have excellent sporting and recreational facilities including a heated swimming pool, an adventure playground and extensive playing fields.

As part of the larger Claires Court Group of schools we also have the facilities to offer





Our commitment to your child

Over the last 25 years, we have invested heavily in the resources and equipment needed to provide a first class education for our boys.

Our Aims

- ◆ *To provide a modern relevant education*
- ◆ *To instil and promote a life-long love of learning*
- ◆ *To equip our boys with a range of life-skills – academic, social, musical, creative and sporting*
- ◆ *To build confidence and self-esteem and prepare our boys for the next step in their schooling*
- ◆ *To promote the spiritual development and moral welfare of each individual*
- ◆ *To generate an understanding of the need for care and consideration for others within our community and the wider world*
- ◆ *To work in partnership with parents and guardians to help our boys achieve their full potential*





Modern and relevant education is our primary aim

At Ridgeway we know how important the early school years are. The grounding boys receive with us lays the foundation for the rest of their schooling.

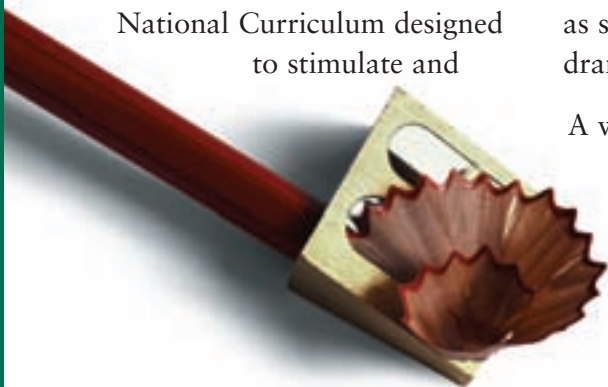
We follow an enhanced National Curriculum designed to stimulate and

challenge our boys – education should be enjoyable and relevant to the real world.

Though academic success is important, the boys are encouraged to develop talents in other key areas such as sport, music, art and drama.

A wide range of activities is offered along with a programme of outings to cities, museums and residential outward bound trips.

We maintain a strict eye on the boys' development and keep parents closely informed of their son's progress. Wherever possible we praise and encourage achievement.



PRE PREP (4⁺-7)

Key Stage 1 – Reception to Year 2

Our emphasis is very much on reading, writing and arithmetic and a large part of the timetable is devoted to acquiring these basic skills.

Our class sizes are small and are supported by caring, dedicated form teachers and classroom assistants who are backed up by a team of specialists in reading support, music, sports and French. This allows us to offer a level of personal attention that ensures boys make the best possible progress through all areas of our curriculum.

We instil good learning habits and attitudes from the start and the children are encouraged to develop self-reliance, self-discipline and self-confidence.



JUNIOR PREP (8-11)

Key Stage 2 – Year 3 to Year 6

As the work becomes increasingly challenging more specialist teaching is introduced and the boys will be setted in some subjects such as maths and languages.

Subjects as diverse as French, Latin and Design & Technology are also





introduced and the boys make extensive use of our ICT facilities. Boys also have access to a wide variety of sporting and out-of-school activities.

They will have the opportunity of taking part in outward-bound activities such as night camping in the grounds or weekends away canoeing and rock climbing. Some will also take part in skiing and the other activity holidays that we organise.

We help each boy to develop his special talents to the full. We know that success in one area will build the confidence to succeed in others. At the end of Junior Prep, our boys will move on to senior school (be it at Claires Court or elsewhere) with a secure grasp of academic principles and primary skills.





Developing fitness, leadership, competition and a sense of fun.

Welcome though they are, good exam results tell you little about a boy's leadership skills, sense of purpose, reliability, determination, self-belief, consideration for others or even common sense.

We build these qualities in our boys at Ridgeway. It is these – as much as academic ability – which help our boys succeed in the real world.

We have a strong sporting tradition and encourage all our boys to take part to the best of their ability – at class, house or school team level.

From Reception onwards boys take part in sport at least twice a week. Our main games are rugby, soccer, cricket and athletics.

On a local, regional and national level we compete regularly against other schools. Every year a number of our boys are picked to represent their county and some go on to compete in regional and national championships.

Those with a particular sporting talent or who are in one of the teams can take part in additional training sessions.





Swimming lessons also form part of the curriculum. Other sports include badminton, basketball, cross country running, hockey, golf, gymnastics, judo, outdoor pursuits, sailing and short tennis.

Sport for all

Not all our boys are destined to be sports stars but each of our boys is given the opportunity to take part at a level that suits him.



Sport teaches valuable life-lessons – about teamwork, tactical awareness, leadership and achievement. We also hope it will help build friendships and a sense of team spirit.

More than that, we hope your son will develop a life-long love of sport that will help him stay fit and healthy in a competitive world.





Creativity and Expression – key skills for life

As a parent you will have plenty of opportunity to see how much our boys enjoy performing on stage – whether acting, singing or playing in a band or orchestra.

Right from the start they put enormous amounts of enthusiasm and effort into our dramatic and musical events.

For them it's all hugely enjoyable and stimulating, building confidence and self-esteem.

Music

Music is part of the curriculum and all boys are taught to play the recorder and use percussion instruments.

In addition to their regular lessons, boys may extend their musical interest to the School choir and orchestra. Most also choose to learn another instrument from the wide range available – including



piano, violin, cello, guitar, saxophone, trumpet, trombone and many more.

Activities

There is more to life than schoolwork. Our boys work very hard to achieve academic success but it is important that they balance this with other interests and hobbies.

We offer a wide range of extra-curricular and after school activities to encourage boys to find out what they enjoy and what interests them.

Among the most popular are art, chess, computing, cookery, cycling proficiency, electronics, judo, model making, pottery, table tennis and maths and science clubs.

