*Education for the future*

Olive Ridge School

Olive Ridge is a new school, opening in 2020 with Phase one for Pre-Primary (18 months to Grade 0) and Junior Preparatory for ages 6/7 (Grade 1).

Our school is dedicated to preparing our children for the future, helping them compete internationally and instilling the emotional intelligence to cope with the demands of a digital world.

Olive Ridge School has a unique language approach that incorporates early mother-tongue tuition.

# Our Story

Driven from the rewards we experienced in education for over 21 years and our love for children, the Edulife Group embarked on an educational project which is a first for Bloemfontein.

Central South Africa is ideally situated for a school that competes internationally. The fourth industrial revolution will demand internationally competitive skills from our young, skills that are relevant today and in the future.

Our team was motivated by the need to create a psychosocial safe learning space, in which to grow the emotional intelligence necessary to cope with the digital demands of our generation.

To establish such an institution, we needed to combine the elements of will, knowledge and opportunity. Olive Ridge School is a dream come true for our Group. We found the ideal safe environment on the Wild Olive Estate to house our new school.

Investors came aboard, expertise was sought and found and the #OliveRidgeApproach was conceptualized. The legacy we want to leave behind is a new generation equipped with the skills that instils a sense of purpose to make a difference – locally and globally.

# The Project

The school will be developed in phases. This provides our educational specialists and project managers with an ability to adapt to the growth needs of the school.

This flexible development approach also allows the opportunity for stakeholders, such as the community, parents and learners, to provide ideas and input on the needs of the project.

The second obvious advantage of the staged development of the school is that the costs of establishing such a leading school can be kept down, making a top education accessible and more affordable.

**Phase one:** Opening January 2020 – Pre-Primary (18 months to Grade 00) and Junior Preparatory 6 to 7 years (Grade 1)

**Phase two:**Opening January 2021 - Junior Preparatory up to Grade 3 (8 to 9 years) Resident facilities. / Collegiate - Ages 13 to 16 (Grade 8 and 9)

**Phase three:**Opening January 2022 – Senior Preparatory / Ages (10 to 13 years) Grades 4 to 7 and Senior Collegiate Grades (10 to 12) Resident facilities.

# Language Approach

Olive Ridge School has a unique language approach. Mother-tongue education in the early years of a child’s development has been increasingly advocated by experts in the last few years.

On the other end of the spectrum, international standards and globalisation requires excellent communication skills in a widely spoken language like English.

The Olive Ridge approach will use English as the main language of instruction but will, at the same time, provide a blended option to its Afrikaans and Sotho learners in order to bridge any stumbling blocks in their early development due to English not being their home language.

This will be achieved through individual tutoring as well as a multilingual approach in the classroom environment.  This approach will also benefit English speaking learners who will be exposed to other regional languages early in their life.

This approach will be introduced in the early years, up to Grade 3. From Grade 4 onwards, the learners will be capable to deal sufficiently in the English language to cope with the advanced curricular requirements.

# Curriculum

Our cross-curricular approach will excite you.

Learners will be introduced to their lifelong learning experience from 18 months with the International Preschool Curriculum to prepare them for the future with the International Cambridge Curriculum, IEB (Independent Examinations Board) and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) integrated focus.

The CAPS curriculum will also form part of the learning content in order to reach all outcomes.

Coding and Robotics will propel our learners into the future.

# Values

### Ethos

To treat our learners, teachers, parents and the community with dignity and respect. To promote confidence and independence in our learners through knowledge and adaptability to become world citizens. To enable the academic philosophy of “Think, Understand & Apply” by providing a world class facility in a psychologically safe environment.  To encourage our staff to utilize their expertise and skills to innovate and shape the future of our learners.

### Core Values

Responsibility  
Compassion  
Perseverance  
Self-discipline  
Greatness

### Activities

The #OliveRidgeApproach will provide an opportunity for pupils to participate in as many different activities as possible including sport. This is a vital educational function and adds to the all-round development of our learners.

### Uniform

The #OliveRidgeApproach will encourage individuality with an #OliveRidge branded mix which would instil a sense of belonging and pride, but at the same time allow for freedom of expression within acceptable boundaries.

### Discipline

At Olive Ridge we understand that education should take place in an environment of psychological safety where mutual respect underpins the way in which all learners and teachers interact with each other.