



RADLEY

Code of Conduct

November 2025

Radley College Code of Conduct

Sicut Serpentes; Sicut Columbae

'as serpents, as doves'

The college motto is a reference to an instruction that Jesus gave to his disciples when he sent them out into the world. In Matthew 10:16, he says 'be ye therefore wise as serpents and harmless as doves' (KJV translation). It is a reminder to us of the purpose of a Radley education: to prepare young men to go into the world ready to make a difference and to do so in a way that reflects the Christian qualities and values upon which the college is based.

William Sewell and Robert Singleton wished to see Radleians develop these qualities during their time here in preparation for the world that awaited them. In many ways that world has changed out of all recognition since their day but, properly understood, the fundamental values of the college motto remain deeply relevant and will serve Radleians well both at the college and beyond it.

The motto encourages us to develop a character and a purpose that embraces the very best of two principles. **We must be 'wise'**: prepared to make the best of ourselves and to embrace the challenges of the world around us. **We must be 'harmless'**: not a passive thing but rather always actively thinking of others and seeking to do good.

It is these qualities - humility, kindness, ambition and courage - that define a Radleian throughout their life.

Declaration

I understand that as a Radleian, I must:

Stand for what is right at all times

Treat all members of the community with kindness

Value and celebrate variety and difference

Take an interest in the world around me

Appreciate and embrace the opportunities I have

Take responsibility for my own actions and performance

Give of my best in all circumstances

Always be determined to improve and willing to fail

Show courtesy, respect and common sense in all I do

Develop and demonstrate a sense of duty and service to others.