



# Somerset College

## DIVERSITY STATEMENT

(SC-GOV-DIV-001)

The Board of Somerset College is committed to ensuring that all aspects of how Somerset College operates is aligned to our values: Dignity, Aspiration, Creativity and Contribution.

In this regard, it is important to recognise the strength and opportunity that diversity, in all its forms, brings to Somerset College and its community of stakeholders. It is important also to recognise the responsibility that Somerset College has to contribute constructively to the achievement of a community that flourishes in that diversity.

We value diversity highly because to do so is fundamental to the realisation of our nation's democratic ideals. It positions us in the full acknowledgement of each other's personhood, and dignity. It advances the pursuit of true excellence by crowding in divergent perspectives, enabling us to recognise that difference is a strength in developing solutions that are robust enough to operate in our increasingly complex world. In doing so, it supports the attainment of key skills such as collaboration, creativity, critical thinking and problem solving, making it possible for both our aspirations and those of others to be realised as we make the types of contributions to society that are required.

As an educational centre of excellence, our primary responsibility is to educate, and as such we are well positioned to equip our College community to flourish in this diversity. To this end, we are committed to:

- 1) building awareness of the strength, opportunity and responsibility that diversity brings to each of us as individuals, to the College and to its community of stakeholders
- 2) actively seeking to increase levels of diversity in our Board, staff and student bodies
- 3) supporting initiatives which assist in building such diversity and ensuring that all at College feel included
- 4) acting decisively against persistent bigotry where it threatens to impinge on our students' and teachers' ability to learn by making members of the College community feel marginalised or unwelcome.

The Board of Somerset College invites all stakeholders to join us in this journey of transformation as we promote diversity at Somerset College and beyond.