



RIVERSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL PROSPECTUS

I am delighted to offer you a very warm welcome to Riverside Primary School.

This prospectus has been put together to give you a snapshot picture of what our school has to offer you and your child. We pride ourselves on being a caring and a happy school; a safe community where everyone learns together.

At Riverside, we offer every opportunity to all of our children to learn in an environment which is stimulating, challenging, and supportive. We have high ambitions for our children where we enable them to learn and achieve as they grow and develop.

We are recognised within our community for being a warm, friendly and welcoming school and our children are recognised for their courtesy and respectful ways.

We are extremely proud of our school and all that our children achieve during their time with us.

We aim, at all times, to do our very best for your child and we have a strong reputation for the care, guidance and support we provide for our families.

You are welcome to contact the school office to answer any queries you may have. We are always happy to help.

Yours faithfully

A. Yilmaz

Mrs A Yilmaz
Headteacher

STATEMENT OF OUR VISION

At Riverside Primary School, our vision is to create a safe, secure and stimulating environment in which all pupils develop their capacity to grow as learners in order to achieve success.

MISSION STATEMENT

At Riverside Primary School, we strive to ensure our children reach their full potential and are given opportunities to grow and develop through a broad and balanced curriculum.

We promote an ethos in which all are valued and relationships are built on respect, honesty and trust.

We believe children become effective learners through independent activities which encourage the curiosity to develop the skills already taught.

We provide a caring, happy and nurturing environment where everyone is valued and is made to feel important.

We aim to equip our children with skills for lifelong learning so that once their journey with us is complete, they are ready to face their next challenges with determination, resilience, and optimism.

STATEMENTS OF AIMS

- We will strive to achieve the highest standards in all we do for the children in our school so that they achieve their full potential in all areas: academically, socially, physically and emotionally.
- We will ensure that our children have an entitlement to a broad, balanced and relevant and challenging curriculum at all times.
- We will strive to inspire in our children a love of learning.
- We will strive to ensure that the children in our care are supported in becoming physically, mentally and emotionally healthy and are well equipped to make decisions in order to live a healthy lifestyle.
- We will endeavour to ensure that our school is a secure environment where all of the school's members are safe from bullying and discrimination.
- We will support children in making a positive contribution to school life by engaging in decision-making, developing positive relationships with other children and staff and developing self-confidence.

At Riverside Primary School, children can expect to:

- Learn in a safe, warm, caring, sensitive, well ordered, attractive, friendly and stimulating environment.
- Be respected for their personal qualities, valued for their achievements and acknowledged for their individual needs.
- Achieve in all aspects of their development: academic, social, physical and emotional.
- Be encouraged to become confident, enthusiastic, self motivated and independent learners, who enjoy attending school, so preparing them well for their next stage of learning.
- Be supported in becoming physically, mentally and emotionally healthy and be well equipped to lead a healthy lifestyle.
- Be encouraged to make a positive contribution to school life by developing positive relationships, engaging in decision making and working with others as part of the school community.

GOVERNORS

NAME

GOVERNOR TYPE

Mr Stephen Lonsdale

Chair / Co-opted

Mr Peter Dixon

Vice Chair / Co-opted

Mrs Carol Greatbatch

Co-opted

Miss Samantha Berry

Co-opted

Miss Kate Crawford

Co-opted

Miss Haley Barber

Parent

Vacancy

Parent

Mrs Angela Yilmaz

Headteacher

Mrs Alice Ready

Staff

OUR SCHOOL

General Details

Type of School:	Community Primary School with Nursery
Address:	Minton Lane North Shields NE29 6DQ
Telephone:	0191 296 3586
Website:	www.riversideprimary.org.uk
E-mail:	office@riversideprimary.org.uk
Pupil Ages:	Nursery - 3 to 4+ years School – 4 to 11+ years
School Roll (June 2025):	Main school: 137 Nursery - 27
School Day:	Morning session 8.50 am - 12.00 pm Afternoon session 12.50 pm - 3.20 pm
Total Teaching Time per week:	25 hrs (KS1 & KS2) 15 hrs (Nursery)
Local Education Authority:	North Tyneside Council Quadrant The Silverlink North Cobalt Business Park North Tyneside NE27 0BY Telephone: 0345 2000 101
Head of Service: Education and Inclusion	Lisa Ramshaw
Director of Children's Services	Julie Firth

TEACHING STAFF (September 2025)

Mrs Angela Yilmaz	Headteacher
Mrs Alice Ready	Deputy Headteacher (EYFS & KS1 Leader)
Mrs Jacqui Roll	Teacher (part-time)
Miss Abbie Green	Teacher
Miss Kate Beattie	Teacher
Miss Abi Bates	Teacher
Miss Holly Cooper	Teacher
(Maternity leave)	
Miss Leanne Macdougall	Teacher
(Maternity Cover)	Teacher
Mrs Laura O'Malley	Teacher (part-time)
Mr Denis Fadden	Teacher
Mrs Laura Hall	Teacher (part-time) / SENCo

SUPPORT STAFF (September 2025)

Mrs Amanda Patterson	Teaching Assistant (part-time)
Mrs Andrea Burston	Teaching Assistant
Ms Clare Hill	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Becky Cox	Teaching Assistant (part-time)
Mrs Karen Brough	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Cathy McLeod	Teaching Assistant
Miss Sarah Woodcock	Teaching Assistant
Miss Kay Cameron	Pupil Welfare Officer
Miss Gemma Barry	Teaching Assistant (SEN Support)
Miss Macy Badminton	Teaching Assistant (SEN Support)
Ms Katy Taylor	School Business Manager
Miss Barbara Clay	Administration Assistant
Miss Susan Ashcroft	Senior Midday Supervisor
Miss Anne Marie Richardson	Midday Supervisor
Miss Sarah Gray	Midday Supervisor
Mrs Natalie Brannon	Midday Supervisor
Mrs Christine Shannon	School Cook
Mrs Michelle Toby	Kitchen Assistant
Miss Christina Lee	Kitchen Assistant
Mr Graham Newman	Caretaker
Miss Lisa Stronach	Cleaner
Mrs Linda Armstrong	Cleaner
Miss Caroline Neesam	Cleaner

THE SCHOOL BUILDING

Riverside Primary School opened in September 2001.

Our purpose built modern building has spacious, light and airy classrooms and a single hall which is used for assemblies, physical education lessons and performances as well as being used as a dinner hall. Other facilities include a computer suite and an annexe called the Retreat which contains two break-out rooms: The Hut and The Cabin

ORGANISATION

The school has seven full time teachers (including the Headteacher) and three part time teachers. Children are divided into six Primary Curriculum classes (Year 1 – Year 6) each with a class teacher in charge. The Early Years Foundation Stage is divided into Nursery and Reception classes both led by a Teacher and supported by a Teaching Assistant. Non-statutory school aged pupils (age 3-4) attend 15 hours per week, as three hours daily in our Nursery, and statutory school aged children (age 4-5) attend the Reception Class for the full day. All the registration classes throughout the school are single year groups. Mrs Ready is the Deputy Headteacher. Mrs Hall is the school's SENCO and SEND teacher.

We run a free Breakfast Club to all Riverside pupils from Nursery to Year 6. The Breakfast Club runs every day from 8:20am until 8:50am and takes place in the school hall. Children are then taken by school staff to their registration classes.

ADMISSIONS POLICY

Children of Reception Class age ie, those whose fifth birthday falls within the academic year, will begin school in the autumn term. We do not operate a staggered intake for Reception Class and all children start school, full time, on the first day of the new school year in September. Parents who wish to apply for a Nursery place should contact the School Office. Children are admitted once they have reached their third birthday. We provide 15 hours, currently, and only morning sessions are available (9.00 am – 12.00 pm).

Our admission arrangements comply with all other relevant Equalities legislation.

All parents considering sending their children to our school are more than welcome to visit beforehand for a tour of the school with the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher and to have an opportunity to ask questions. Please contact the School Office if you would like to make an appointment. It is our usual school procedure to arrange a home visit for any child admitted via an 'in-year transfer' so that our Pupil Welfare Officer can meet with the parents in their own home to answer any questions and to discuss any concerns. This is in addition to the visit to school with the child and parents/carers.

CURRICULUM INTENT

Each class teacher is responsible for the delivery of the National Curriculum at the appropriate level to the children in their care. Copies of all curriculum policies are available for parents upon request. There is a wealth of information on all subjects of our curriculum on the school's website, including long term plans which outline the units of work – or topics – the children will study.

Each class follows its own timetable so that all aspects of the National Curriculum subjects and RE are covered appropriately. We believe the core subjects of Reading, Writing and Mathematics to be essential to our children and particular emphasis is placed on them, with these core subjects being taught in the morning lessons. Children in Key Stage 2 learn French. Foundation subjects, such as Geography and Design Technology are taught through single subject disciplines, although there is every effort to ensure there are themes running through combined topics. Literacy and numeracy skills are a 'golden thread' across other curriculum subjects so that children have the opportunity to develop and apply what they have learned.

ENGLISH

The importance of English in the curriculum is far reaching, affecting all other subjects. Children need to learn to read before they can read to learn. We deliver a highly effective Phonics programme called Read, Write, Inc where children are taught with others of similar abilities. Details of the Phonics Scheme are available on the school website. We place a high priority on developing reading skills in our school and every effort is made to ensure that each child reaches as high a standard as possible in all aspects of English. We believe that the ability to read, write and speak well with understanding is of the utmost importance, enabling children to access, advance and secure their learning in all areas, enhancing their future prosperity.

MATHEMATICS

In teaching Mathematics, we aim to ensure that all pupils become fluent in the fundamentals of mathematics so that they develop an understanding of concepts and the ability to recall and apply knowledge rapidly and accurately. Pupils are required to reason mathematically, carry out enquiries and develop generalisations, using mathematical language throughout. Children will be expected to solve problems by applying their mathematical knowledge and persevering in seeking solutions. Children will also apply their mathematical knowledge to science and other subjects. Our Primary Mathematics Mastery Curriculum enables teachers to focus on the most impactful teaching while building maths subject expertise and confidence.

SCIENCE

Science allows the children to develop an understanding of the world. They will build a foundation of subject knowledge and, through practical investigations, they develop a sense of awe and curiosity about the world around them. They will discover how science can explain everyday occurrences and make predictions about what might happen. We hold the Primary Science Quality Mark in recognition of our commitment to excellence in primary science.

MUSIC

All children are taught music to meet National Curriculum objectives by the class teacher. Often, a specialist music teacher from the Local Authority will teach a unit of work. The children learn a broad and balanced mixture of instrumental, vocal and theory skills in Music which quite often links into other subjects and events which take place across the school year.

COMPUTING

We have a computer suite with thirty workstations, sufficient for whole class use at any one time. We have class sets of both Ipads and laptops, which are used within the classroom learning environment enabling pupils to enhance their learning and make progress in a rapidly accelerating technological world. Our ICT hardware is regularly updated to reflect technological advances in the world of ICT. Pupils are taught ICT skills in discrete lessons, following the National Curriculum. ICT skills are developed within Theme work in a cross-curricular approach as well as further opportunities planned which encourage pupils to develop basic Literacy and Numeracy skills. Age-appropriate ICT skills are taught, practised, applied, monitored and assessed.

ART and DESIGN

Art, craft and design allows for the highest forms of creativity. Our curriculum for the subject inspires, engages and challenges all our pupils to experiment, invent and create. Children develop skills in drawing, painting, sculpture and other art, craft and design techniques. In learning how art and design reflect and shape our history and culture, pupils will learn about great artists, craft makers and designers. As artists themselves, they learn how to evaluate and analyse their creative works using technical language.

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Design Technology is an inspiring and practical subject. Pupils design and make products that solve real and relevant problems within a variety of contexts, using their creativity and imagination. Design technology allows for children to apply skills learned in maths, science, computing and art. The design, make and evaluate process allows pupils to take risks and to become resourceful and innovative. As well as developing expertise and building up a repertoire of skills, pupils evaluate and test the ideas and products of themselves and others. Pupils also learn about the principles of nutrition and learn how to cook.

GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY

Children in the Early Years study History and Geography (Understanding the World) through a range of continuous and enhanced learning activities and experiences based on a topic centred around the children's' interests.

In the Early Years, children learn about the world around them. They find out about the past through talking to parents, grandparents and friends. They develop an interest in the stories about their family. This helps develop an understanding of the past and helps them understand how other people are different from them.

Understanding the World develops as children take notice of everything around them including places and features in the local environment. They will discover how environments vary from one to another and is developed by visiting places and finding out about the environment.

Geography

Geography inspires in pupils a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people that remains with them for the rest of their lives. Through our carefully structured curriculum, pupils will be equipped with knowledge about diverse places, people and environments together with a deep understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes. Their growing knowledge about the world deepens their understanding of the formation and use of landscapes and environments and an explanation of the interconnection between the Earth's features.

History

History helps pupils gain knowledge and understanding of past life in Britain and the wider world. Through our carefully structured curriculum, we inspire pupils' curiosity to know more about the past. We teach our children to ask questions, weigh evidence and develop perspective and judgement. Our history curriculum helps pupils to understand the complexity of people's lives, the process of change, the diversity of societies and relationships between different groups, as well as their own identity.

RE

Religious Education is taught in accordance with North Tyneside's Agreed Syllabus 2020. A Daily Act of Collective Worship takes place every day as part of a whole school assembly. RE takes place in each classroom on a planned basis as part of the Curriculum determined by the local SACRE (Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education,) which is responsible for producing the locally agreed syllabus for RE. Children learn *about* and *from* religious beliefs, develop a sense of 'Awe and Wonder' and their spiritual and moral understanding of the lives of people in a diverse society is explored.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY (SEND)

A member of staff – Mrs Hall - is specifically designated as the co-ordinator for special educational needs, named as the SENCO. She monitors the children, along with the class teacher, in order to attempt to meet their needs. Procedures are in place for identifying such children and, if appropriate, the necessary support agencies will be involved. All details are highlighted in the Special Needs Policy and SEN Information

Report which are available to view on our website. The school follows the current SEN Code of Practice (2014).

Steps are put in place to prevent disabled pupils being treated less favourably than other pupils. This is achieved by staff differentiating work and sharing relevant successes and concerns with the SENCO. In lessons, teaching assistants are deployed to make sure that individual pupil's needs are met and to overcome any impairment that may prevent a pupil with a disability from being successful or completing a task. To assist access to the school by pupils with disabilities, all areas are easily accessible and disabled toilets are provided in various locations around the building. Riverside Primary School is an inclusive and supportive school enabling all pupils to have equal access to learning.

HEALTH EDUCATION

Health Education is taught within the Science topics and on a cross curricular basis. Where relevant, external visitors from health related professions are invited in to support the teaching and learning.

RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION

The school follows the statutory guidance document: 'Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education' published by the DfE, compulsory from September, 2020.

From the academic year 2020/21, under the Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019, made under sections 34 and 35 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017:

- It is compulsory for all primary schools to provide Relationships education. Primary schools may also choose to provide sex education other than that covered by the science curriculum. *Riverside Primary school has chosen to provide an element of age-appropriate sex education to our Year 5 and year 6 pupils*
- It is compulsory for all schools including academies and free schools, but not independent schools, to provide Health education. However, personal, social, health and economic education (PSHE) continues to be compulsory in independent schools.

Relationships Education covers the following topics: 'Families and people who care for me'; 'Caring friendships and respectful relationships'; 'Online relationships and internet safety and harms' and 'Being safe'.

Parents are able, on request and after discussion with the headteacher, to withdraw their children from this. However, parents may not withdraw their children from any part of relationships education nor the national curriculum in science.

Objectives and targets

The objective of relationships education at Riverside Primary school is to teach, in an age-appropriate way, the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of healthy relationships with friends, family and other people in order to help our pupils build an inclusive, tolerant society.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND THE SINGLE EQUALITY SCHEME

Our aim is to offer an education appropriate to each individual pupil's needs, regardless of their race, colour, ethnic or national origins, gender, sexual orientation, disability or religious beliefs. We aim to ensure that everyone at the school is afforded the basic rights of freedom and access to opportunity, including freedom from all sorts of harassment or bullying. All pupils are valued for themselves and will be given the opportunity in the classroom to discuss, identify and understand racism, disability and other forms of prejudice.

CHARGES AND REMISSIONS POLICY

No charges will be made for any transport, materials or equipment. Cost for these, in most part, will be paid for by the school. However, for all trips, a voluntary contribution will be requested and for pupils who attend weekly swimming lessons, a nominal contribution towards transport is requested. There is no obligation to contribute and no pupil in the group will be excluded from the activity. If, however, insufficient contributions are received in advance of an educational visit, the trip will be cancelled.

Please note that if a child is responsible for wilful damage to school property as a result of a deliberate action, then parents will be expected to meet the necessary cost of replacement or repair.

SCHOOL DRESS

We believe that a standard form of school dress or uniform is important, in that it helps to give children a sense of belonging to the school. Looking smart in a distinctive uniform can play its part in maintaining high standards of work and behaviour and we would ask all parents to support us on this matter when planning the purchase of children's clothing.

- Plain white polo shirt or white shirt with a collar.
- Official purple school jumper or cardigan with the school logo
- Plain grey/black trousers or skirt.
- Black 'school' shoes or plain black trainers. Coloured trainers or trainers with logos and different coloured soles are NOT permitted.
- Black plimsolls for inside school and for indoor PE lessons

We discourage our children from wearing jewellery for safety reasons. However, one pair of stud earrings is allowed, plus a watch.

Children must not come to school with dyed hair, nail varnish or temporary skin tattoos.

All school staff are expected to follow the school's staff policy of an acceptable dress code. Children, in turn are expected to follow the school dress code for pupils. Parents are asked to co-operate fully with the school dress code.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION KIT

In order to ensure that the children can fully participate in PE it is essential that they have the correct kit.

Black PE shorts

White t-shirt (school logo PE t-shirts can be worn)

Trainers

Tracksuit top and bottoms (plain as possible) (KS2 only)

Please note: Pupils are not permitted to wear Club Strips for PE, for example, football shirts.

Children should come to school dressed in the correct PE kit on their PE days. However, school can provide spare kit if required.

DISCIPLINE

All pupils are expected to behave in a responsible manner both to themselves and others, showing consideration, courtesy and respect for other people at all times.

A copy of our Behaviour Policy is available to view on the school website.

School rules are based on obvious common sense, concerning safety, or the maintenance of a good atmosphere for work, or the protection of the school premises. All pupils are expected to abide by the 'Riverside Rules' which are displayed in all classrooms and around the school.

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICINE

Pupils who are unwell should not be sent to school. School should be advised of the reason for absence, and the likely duration, on the child's first day of absence. School has no legal duty to administer any medication to any pupil, however, should a child be prescribed medication by a GP or other medical practitioner, parents must complete an Administration of Medicine form, available from the school office. For instances of non-prescribed medication on a temporary basis, parents must speak first to the Headteacher.

A copy of the Administration of Medicine policy is available for parents on request.

MOBILE PHONES

Only pupils in Years 5 and 6 who walk to and from school by themselves are permitted to bring their mobile phone to school. Pupils who are permitted to bring phones to school are NOT permitted to use them during school hours. *Pupils in Year Groups below Year 5 and 6 are NOT permitted to bring mobile phones into school.* On arrival to school, pupils will ensure the mobile phone is switched off. All phones must be clearly marked with the child's name. Pupils are NOT permitted to switch on their phone until they have exited the school gates. Pupils must adhere to the school's Acceptable Use Agreement for mobile phone use and parents MUST complete and return the Parental Consent Form before a child is permitted to bring their phone to school.

SECONDARY TRANSFER

Pupils in Year 6 transfer to a range of High Schools within the local area, for example, Norham, John Spence, Marden and St Thomas More. Once pupils have applied (usually in the autumn term) and are then offered their school place on National Offers Day in March, many transition events take place for the Year 6 pupils at their secured school. These are usually in the latter half of the Summer Term. Parents must complete and submit a request for a secondary school place to the Local Authority by the deadline given. The Appeals process is detailed in the pack given to Year 6 pupils in the autumn term.

TERM TIME HOLIDAYS

The Governing Body of Riverside Primary School does not authorise holidays taken during term time.

Requests for withdrawing pupils from school during term-time must be made to the Headteacher in writing. Leave will only be granted in 'Exceptional Circumstances'. A family holiday during term time is not considered 'Exceptional' and so will be recorded as an unauthorised absence. Government Legislation outlines the consequences of families taking children out of school for holidays during term-time.

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

Dealing with Complaints

At Riverside Primary School, we aim to work in partnership with parents and carers. We recognise the need to be clear about the difference between a concern and a complaint. We aim to ensure that concerns are handled, if at all possible, without the need for formal procedures. Our formal complaints procedure is only necessary if efforts to resolve the concern informally are unsuccessful. A copy of the Complaints Policy is available at the school office and both the policy, a complaints form as well as a guidance leaflet for raising concerns and complaints are on the school website.

SPORT

At Riverside Primary School we strive to ensure that all children are physically confident and are inspired to continue with sporting activities as they become young adults. By enabling children to fully participate in a diverse range of sporting activities, school promotes a healthy and active lifestyle which we hope will extend beyond school and into adult life. We understand that a child needs to be taught balance, coordination, core movements and agility in order to achieve and succeed in sport and we ensure that all children are learning these key skills throughout their time at Riverside. In Reception and KS1, pupils learn core skills and how to work as a team and as they progress through KS1, they learn how to master these skills within number of different sports and activities. Throughout KS2, children continue to develop these skills within primary adapted sports such as netball, football, tag rugby and cricket.

We strongly believe that through competition, both within school and between other local schools, our children have an opportunity to showcase their talents and learn more about the dynamics of participation in sport.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We offer a range of lunchtime and after-school clubs (mainly sport-focused, based on pupil views) and to all pupils except those in the Nursery. Many clubs prove very popular and can be over-subscribed but children have the opportunity to re-apply every term and those on a reserve list are given priority.

IN CONCLUSION

We hope you have found this prospectus informative and useful. Obviously, we have not been able to include everything that we do but we hope it has given you an insight in to who we are, our ethos and values, our provision and our strive to maintain the highest standards at all times.

However, as with any written document, it can soon become outdated as some things may change throughout the year. The school continues to embrace new initiatives and details of these and our recent activities can be found on our regularly updated website: www.riversideprimary.org.uk. Staff are always happy to help so please feel free to get in touch.

Finally, we believe it is important that parents and teachers work together to create an environment of trust, belief and confidence so that our pupils develop into life-long learners.

I look forward to welcoming you to Riverside Primary School.