



Riverbridge Primary School



Lumen Learning Trust
Learning together for a brighter future

Prospectus



Contents

• Welcome	4
• Introduction	5
• Our Vision	5
• Starting School at Riverbridge	6
• Learning in EYFS	8
• Learning in Years 1–6	9
• Curriculum	10
• Partnership with Parents	12
• Before and After School Care	13
• The School Day	14
• Safeguarding	15
• Healthy Lunches and Snacks	16
• Behaviour	17
• After School Clubs and Curriculum Enrichment Activities	18
• Educational Visits	18
• School Journeys	19
• School Uniform	20



Welcome

Welcome to **Riverbridge Primary School.**

Riverbridge Primary School is a three form entry school that caters for children from ages 2 to 11. We are proud to serve a diverse catchment area and a vibrant community. Our highly committed team dedicate themselves to ensuring provision is right for every child.



Mr Grimwood
Headteacher



Mrs McCarthy
Executive Principal

Riverbridge Primary School is fortunate to have excellent facilities on both of our two school bases. At Knowle Green we have six main school classes and a separate Nursery building where part-time education is provided for a maximum of 44 children per session. There are fifteen classes on the Park Avenue Base. Both bases are set in spacious, well equipped surroundings and our aim is to provide a happy, secure and welcoming environment to every child who attends Riverbridge.



All our staff are committed to working with parents to promote children's learning and well-being in a happy atmosphere of play and discovery. We provide stimulating and challenging opportunities for children to learn through first-hand experiences. We aim to ensure that all children have access to a broad and balanced curriculum irrespective of gender, social origin, or any special educational need.



Riverbridge joined the Lumen Learning Trust in September 2016. This successful local multi academy trust includes Saxon Primary School, Echelford Primary School, Darley Dene Primary School and Walton Oak Primary School. Riverbridge pupils and staff have benefited greatly from working in partnership with these schools. The trust fosters an ethos of ensuring provision is right for every child and crafting this provision around their individual needs. In this way we can be confident that we are ensuring the right opportunities are made available to enable every child to excel and genuinely achieve their full potential.

Introduction

Riverbridge Primary School is a school with a wealth of experience in meeting the educational and emotional needs of our children and this is reflected in the achievement and value we place on all individuals.



We are passionate about developing a desire for learning and promoting independence within all the children in our care. We pride ourselves in providing a learning environment that is ever evolving and designed to be challenging and motivating.

We aim to build a positive partnership between home and school as we believe that your child's interests are served best when home and school work together. Should you choose Riverbridge for your child, we will look forward to a long and successful partnership.

We value the potential in all of our children and encourage a growth mindset for all. This is reflected in our vision, values and motto.

Across the school, our **8 Great Ways to Being Our Best** help the children to understand what they need to do to be and feel successful.

We regularly talk about how we are **active, ambitious, compassionate, connectors, explorers, inclusive, independent and thinkers**.



Our Vision

Building a **firm foundation** that inspires every child to **aim high** and **exceed** their own expectations on their journey to **successful adulthood**.

Our Motto

Being our best!

Starting School at Riverbridge

Whether starting in Reception or joining one of the other year groups, we understand that the transition process needs to be as smooth as possible to enable children to make the best start at Riverbridge.

Reception

For children joining us in Reception, we hold induction events for parents and carers in June. During these events we give lots of practical information to support the transition into school. We also invite parents to sign up for an individual induction session. These are a valuable opportunity to meet with you and your child to discuss anything that needs to be shared to support your child's start to school.

We also plan for further induction opportunities for children.

In September the children have a staggered start, beginning with half days leading on to full days including lunch. At the end of this period we plan for all children to be full-time however this is closely monitored as we are aware that there may be some children who find the full day attendance difficult. If this is the case, we work closely with parents and carers to identify the best way forward.

Some children find the separation from parents or carers in the morning challenging. On most of these instances, we ask that you say a clear goodbye and let us manage the upset. While it may be hard as a parent to leave your child like this, in our experience the tears soon stop. In these instances, we will always ring to confirm whether or not your child has settled soon after the beginning of the school day.



“Ambition and aspiration are at the school’s core.
The school’s motto ‘being our best’ encapsulates
staff’s high expectations for pupils.”

Ofsted, June 2019



Years 1–6

When we are made aware of a new child starting in a year group other than Reception, they are invited to our ‘Move Up’ morning. These take place at the beginning of July and give the children the chance to spend the morning in their new class with their new classmates and their new teacher. When a child transfers during the year we will arrange a mutually-convenient time for you to visit us and for your child to meet their teacher and see their classroom. This will alleviate any anxieties that the change may bring.

Teachers are available to meet with parents as necessary to ensure the transition into school is as smooth as possible.



Learning in EYFS

In Nursery and Reception we follow the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum. It sets the standards that all early years providers must meet to ensure that children learn and develop well and are kept healthy and safe. It promotes teaching and learning to ensure children's 'school readiness' and gives children the broad range of knowledge and skills that provide the right foundation for good future progress through school and life.



There are four guiding principles that should shape practice in early years settings. These are:

- every child is a unique child, who is constantly learning and can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured;
- children learn to be strong and independent through positive relationships;
- children learn and develop well in enabling environments, in which their experiences respond to their individual needs and there is a strong partnership between practitioners and parents and/or carers; and
- children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates. The framework covers the education and care of all children in early years provision, including children with special educational needs and disabilities.

In the EYFS there are three areas that are particularly crucial for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, and for building their capacity to learn, form relationships and thrive. These three areas, the prime areas, are:

- communication and language;
- physical development; and
- personal, social and emotional development.

Children are then supported in four specific areas, through which the three prime areas are strengthened and applied. The specific areas are:

- literacy;
- mathematics;
- understanding the world;
- expressive arts and design.



Learning in Years 1–6



Our Year 1 children are taught in classes on the Knowle Green Base and our children in Years 2 to 6 are taught in classes on the Park Avenue Base.

Throughout Years 1–6 the learning is focused on mastering the end of year objectives set out in the 2014 National Curriculum.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/425601/PRIMARY_national_curriculum.pdf



In Years 1 & 2 the children follow the Key Stage 1 programmes of study as outlined in the National Curriculum and in Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 they follow the Key Stage 2 programmes. The National Curriculum for both key stages consists of the core subjects: Mathematics, English, Science and Computing; and the foundation subjects; History, Geography, Design & Technology, Art and Design, Music, and P.E. The Surrey Agreed Syllabus is used for the teaching of Religious Education (R.E.). Within Key Stage 2 the pupils also get the opportunity to learn French.

At Riverbridge we believe in giving children a broad and balanced curriculum as well as aiming to equip children with the necessary skills to achieve high standards in English and Mathematics.



In line with this guidance we offer a high-quality education in English which teaches children to write and speak fluently so that they can communicate their ideas to others.

Through reading and listening to others, children can then communicate with them, and through reading particularly, pupils have a chance to develop culturally, emotionally, intellectually, socially and spiritually.

Children are taught in mixed ability classes throughout the school. They progress through the classes according to age except in very exceptional instances where the individual needs of the child make an alternative programme necessary.



Curriculum



Our school aims to support children to:

- read fluently and with good understanding;
- read for pleasure and information;
- acquire a wide range of vocabulary;
- have a good understanding of grammar and punctuation;
- acquire a good knowledge of linguistic conventions for reading;
- develop high quality writing and spoken language;
- write clearly and accurately for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences;
- use discussion in order to learn;
- become competent in the art of speaking and listening, making formal presentations and participating in debate.

In line with the 2014 National Curriculum we strongly believe in the delivery of a high-quality mathematics education which provides a foundation for understanding the world, the ability to reason mathematically, an appreciation of the power of maths, and a sense of enjoyment and curiosity about the subject.

As a school we aim to help our learners to:

- become fluent in the fundamentals of maths;
- reason mathematically;
- solve problems.

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum which enables all of our children to be successful learners, by offering differentiated learning tailored to the child's needs.

We plan for children in Year 4 to attend swimming lessons which develop their water confidence and teach life saving and survival skills.

All children have access to an extensive range of technology including iPads, laptops and coding equipment.

“Pupils benefit from the kind and encouraging culture. Staff ensure that pupils are treated as individuals and attend carefully to their different needs.”

Ofsted, June 2019



“There is a lot of *focus* on *values* and respecting each other. My children are developing well as learners as a result.”

Parent questionnaire, October 2018



Partnership with Parents



We believe the education of a child is a partnership between parents and school. It is vital, therefore, that there are good links between home and school.

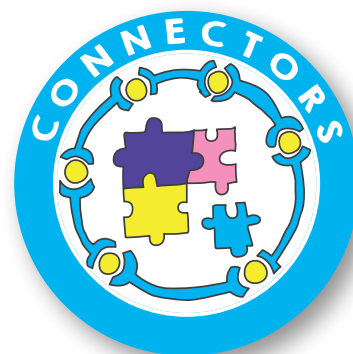
Parents are invited to a Curriculum Information meeting at the beginning of the school year where their class teacher gives them an overview of the class plans for the year as well as other more practical information about the class activities.

In the Autumn & Spring terms parents are invited to come and meet with their class teacher individually to discuss their child's progress. At the end of the school year, each child receives a written report detailing their achievements and accomplishments from that year.

The Headteacher also writes a weekly newsletter which goes to every family. From time to time parents are also invited to presentations on an area of development within the curriculum such as reading, maths, computing and so on.

Please do not let minor problems become major ones. Come in and talk to us and together we can usually sort things out. Please see your child's teacher as soon as possible to discuss your concern. If more help is needed in addressing the concern the relevant group leader, a member of the school's Senior Leadership Team, our Deputy or our Headteacher are always happy to meet with parents to discuss issues.

We continue to benefit from support from the parent body who help in a variety of different ways, e.g. hearing readers, cooking, maths games, art & craft activities – the list is endless! We welcome and value their support.



Riverbridge Parent-Teacher Association

Parents of pupils in the school automatically become members of the Riverbridge Parent-Teacher Association. Its aims are to promote the interests of the school; to promote good relationships between parents, staff and the community; to support the school in providing a first class education, and to help raise funds for the school in ways that everyone can enjoy.

Meetings and social occasions are arranged throughout the year. We try to balance hard work with fun and provide a variety of activities for all the family.

Before and After School Care

Breakfast Club

We run our own Breakfast Club from 7.35 am to 8.50 am.

This club is staffed by members of the Riverbridge team. Bookings must be made in advance by emailing office.riverbridge@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk.



After School Club

We run our own After School Club:

There are two sessions to choose from:

Short Session until 4.30 pm

Long Session until 6.00 pm.

This club is staffed by members of the Riverbridge team. Bookings must be made in advance by emailing office.riverbridge@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk.



“Parents are very *appreciative* of the school’s work. They *praise* the *improvements* that have been made since the school became an *academy*. ”

The School Day



Nursery

Morning start time	8.45 am
Lunch time	11.45 am
Afternoon start time	12.00 midday
Finish	2.45 pm (3.00 pm on Wednesdays)

Reception and Year 1

Start time	8.40 am
Break time	10.40 am
Lunch time	11.50 am – 1.00 pm
Finish	3.10 pm

Years 2 to 6

Start time	8.40 am
Break time	10.40 am
Lunch time	12.00 midday – 1.00 pm
Finish	3.20 pm



Safeguarding



At Riverbridge we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. All staff and volunteers share this commitment.

The school has a robust Safeguarding Policy and clear procedures in place that all staff are made aware of each year. We work closely with other agencies that support the education and welfare of our children.

If at any time there is a very serious concern about a child's welfare, the school's key staff will share these concerns with other agencies in line with Surrey Child Protection procedures.

The school has a number of Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) and these are coordinated successfully through the Trust's Pastoral Care team. The school's Care Committee meets regularly to ensure all is being done to safeguard the children's physical and emotional safety at Riverbridge.

All medication, including asthma inhalers, that may need to be taken during school hours must be prescribed by a doctor and accompanied by a form (available from the offices) giving instructions about dosage. All medication should be clearly labelled and

must be brought into school by a parent or other adult and handed in at the office. Children must not carry medicines to and from school. If the medication or dosage is changed or stopped, parents should inform the school as quickly as possible.

Any minor injuries requiring first aid are dealt with in school, but if children become ill or are more seriously injured, parents are contacted. We hold a record of contact addresses and telephone numbers on our admission forms. Parents should notify us immediately of any changes to home, mobile or work contact numbers. It is obviously essential that we keep this information up to date.

“The vigilance of staff keeps pupils safe. Safeguarding practice is secure and effective.”

Ofsted, June 2019



Healthy Lunches and Snacks

Our onsite catering provider offers our children high quality, fresh, nutritious and tasty food through an exciting and varied menu.

Free school meals are available to all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 in addition to the children of families in receipt of particular support payments. If you think you may be eligible for benefit related free school meals, please speak to the school office who can help with information and applications.

Your child may prefer to have packed lunches.

To support our children with various allergies, we are a nut-free school and we also ask that you support us in helping your child to make healthy choices and keep sweets, chocolates, crisps etc. down to a minimum. In this context we also ask that the children only bring low-sugar squash, juice, milk or water in their lunchboxes. For obvious reasons please do not send your child to school with thermos flasks, glass bottles or anything which easily breaks.

To help with the smooth running of our school meals service, we ask that you give half a term's notice

in writing to the school office when a child wishes

to change from packed lunches to school dinners or vice versa.



“The behaviour of the pupils is good. School Leaders have put in clear strategies to promote high standards of behaviour. Staff use these strategies consistently.”

Ofsted, June 2019

Behaviour



We have very high expectations of pupil behaviour at Riverbridge. We instil upon the children the importance of acting in a reasonable manner and to be courteous and considerate towards others. Children are reminded to consider the consequences of their actions on themselves and others. We work with parents in enabling the children to manage their behaviour in a way that is constructive and conducive to a positive learning environment.

We aim to promote positive behaviour through involving the children in establishing rules that are clearly understood and enable us to get along with each other. We use positive praise and sanctions so that children are able to take responsibility and make amends for negative choices.

The school uses a system called Stay on Green to support good behaviour choices within school. This is derived from the Restorative Approach which focuses on equipping children with the insight they need to make the right choice regarding their behaviour.

Stay on Green rewards positive choices and enables children to take pride in demonstrating positive learning behaviours too. Children are encouraged to aim towards reaching beyond 'Green' and up towards 'Gold'.

When sanctions are needed, they are measured and proportionate and always take account of the person or situation that has been adversely affected.



After School Clubs and Curriculum

We aim to offer a wide range of after school clubs and activities throughout the year. We work hard to respond to the children's interests and offer opportunities to try new activities and develop new skills.

We look to vary the range of clubs which include a variety of sports activities as well as foreign language clubs, dance clubs of different kinds and art and craft clubs. There is something for everyone!

In fulfilling our safeguarding expectations, all our outside providers undergo an enhanced DBS check.



Educational Visits

During the year we aim to take the children on at least one visit associated with a topic being studied in class. You will receive termly curriculum information in order that you can plan your own linked visits should you wish to do so. We also receive a wide variety of educational visitors, including sports specialists, musicians, dancers, and a number of others who are specialists in their fields. These activities form a valuable part of the children's learning and development, but we do depend on the financial support of parents to be able to continue organising them. However, no child will be excluded where there is a case of genuine financial need.

Curriculum Enrichment Activities



School Journeys

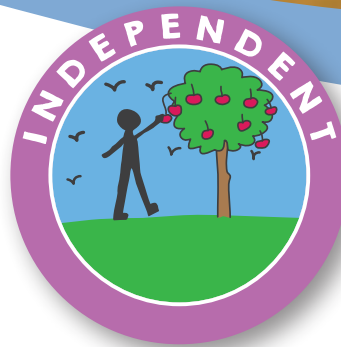
We plan these trips to ensure as many children as possible are able to attend and that all children who take part have a sense of personal achievement at the end of the journey.

For the academic year 2024-25 there will be experiences planned for a number of our junior children.

This includes a sleepover at school in Year 3 which will help the children develop their independence.

The children in Year 5 will have the opportunity to develop their skills by attending an active residential trip to a centre in Kent.

Children in Year 6 will be able to develop their understanding by attending a residential based in and around the city of Bristol. This will include cultural, team building and problem solving activities in preparation for their transition to secondary school.



School Uniform

We encourage our children to take a pride in their appearance.

To this end all pupils are expected to wear the prescribed school uniform, as we believe this is an important element in helping to develop a sense of belonging to Riverbridge. We ask parents to support us in this policy by ensuring that children are sent to school correctly dressed.

We have chosen **School Uniform Direct** as our supplier and hope that you will be pleased with both the quality and service. The nearest branch is:

Staines Branch, 23 High Street, Staines, TW18 4QY

TEL: 020 8544 5440

Website: www.schooluniformdirect.co.uk

Pre-loved uniform is available from the office at our Park Avenue base every Monday in return for a small donation to the PTA.

Our school uniform is compulsory for all pupils.



Standard uniform

- Grey trousers
- Grey shorts
- Grey skirt
- Grey pinafore dress
- Royal blue V-neck knitted jumper with school logo or
- Royal blue V-neck sweatshirt with school logo or
- Royal blue V-neck knitted cardigan with school logo
- Blue and yellow striped tie
- In summer pupils may wear royal blue and white checked royal blue (not navy blue) and white check dress
- White short/long sleeve shirts (not polo shirts)
- White or grey short or long socks
- Grey tights
- Black low-heeled shoes
- Black shoes (not trainers)



P.E. and Swimming

- Yellow round neck T-shirt or technical shirt
- Navy shorts
- Navy joggers
- Sports trainers
- Year 4 Swimming lessons
 - Girls: one piece plain, preferably royal or navy
 - Boys: plain shorts preferably royal or navy not Bermuda.

Extras

- Reversible fleece jackets
- Book bags – compulsory from Nursery to Year 2
- P.E. bags
- Backpack/rucksack – sensible sized bags are permitted for Years 3–6 or a book bag if preferred
- Summer caps
- Woolly hats
- Hair accessories, hair bands should be small and blue or neutral colours. Alice bands only in royal blue.



Please ensure that all items of clothing are clearly marked with your child's name.

We ask children who have hair which is shoulder-length or longer to tie it back off their faces with a simple hair tie. No high fashion or cult haircuts please, e.g. 'train-tracks' or 'mohicans'.



“The **strong** focus on pupils’
wellbeing is a **prominent** feature
of the school’s work.”

Ofsted, June 2019







Riverbridge Primary School



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Knowle Green, Staines-upon-Thames TW18 1AJ

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Riverbridge Primary School is part of the



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