



*Where everyone matters and every day counts.*

## Prospectus 2025 - 26

Riverside Primary School, Ferry Road, Hullbridge, nr Hockley, Essex, SS5 6ND  
Tel 01702 230 911 Email [admin@riverside.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@riverside.essex.sch.uk)  
[www.riversideprimary.co.uk](http://www.riversideprimary.co.uk)



# Welcome Message

*Dear Parents*

Welcome to Riverside Primary School: a vibrant and thriving school nestled in the heart of the picturesque village of Hullbridge, Essex. We are thrilled that you are considering Riverside for your child's education and are confident that our prospectus will offer you a genuine glimpse into the exceptional experience that awaits your family here.

At Riverside, we foster a nurturing, joyful, and inclusive atmosphere where every child is empowered to excel. Our school's success is built on our core STAR values: Strive, Tolerance, Achieve, and Resilience. We take great pride in cultivating happy, confident learners through a dynamic and stimulating curriculum. Our approach to education is designed to captivate young minds, guiding them on an exciting learning journey enriched by a diverse array of opportunities and inspiring experiences.

Our children enjoy our extensive and impressive grounds, including a large sports field, a swimming pool, and a wildlife garden—all just steps away from the scenic River Crouch. Inside, we offer state-of-the-art facilities, such as a dedicated computing suite, a well-stocked library, a bespoke design and technology room, and a cutting-edge 'green-screen' suite, ensuring our students have access to the very best resources.

We are deeply committed to providing a wide range of educational, cultural, and sporting opportunities. Our robust program of residential visits for the children in Key Stage Two is just one example of how we broaden our students' horizons and foster a lifelong love of learning. Our passionate and experienced staff are dedicated to ensuring that every child at Riverside reaches their full potential and enjoys an outstanding start to their educational journey.

At Riverside, education is our passion, and we strive to make every child's experience both positive and memorable. We wholeheartedly embrace our motto: 'Everyone Matters and Every Day Counts,' and we are committed to making every day count for your child.

We look forward to welcoming you to Riverside Primary School, where your child's bright future begins

Yours

*Mrs Claire Smith*  
Headteacher

# *Our School Values*

Our **STAR** values underpin all our work in school. They were devised by our school council and are embodied in the work we do throughout our school.

**Strive:** For our children to believe that through hard work and determination they can achieve the goals that they set themselves to become the best they can.

**Tolerance:** To ensure our children are respectful to others and treat everybody equally. We will offer experiences for our children which encourage them to be considerate, thoughtful and that will make them aware of and celebrate the diverse society we live in.

**Achieve:** For all of our children to make good progress from their starting points both personally and academically. We will provide experiences which broaden our children's horizons and show them the wide range of possibilities available for their future

**Resilience:** For our children to be able to work through challenges with a positive mindset; to think creatively and to problem-solve.



# School Structure

We run four phases in our school: the Early Years Foundation Stage, Key Stage One, Lower Key Stage Two and Upper Key Stage Two. The current organisation of our school can be viewed in the table.

Currently, there are 15 classes across the school. In each class pupils are of mixed ability and we carefully ensure that the work set meets the needs of each child. We offer support and challenge to all.

<u>Phases</u>	<u>Classes</u>	<u>Year Groups</u>
Early Years	Zebra Class	EYFS
	Leopard Class	EYFS
Key Stage One	Bear Class	Year 1
	Lion Class	Year 1
	Otter Class	Year 1
	Seal Class	Year 2
	Dolphin Class	Year 2
Lower Key Stage Two	Tiger Class	Year 3
	Panda Class	Year 3
	Giraffe Class	Year 4
	Turtle Class	Year 4
Upper Key Stage Two	Rhino Class	Year 5 & 6
	Meerkat Class	Year 5 & 6
	Kangaroo Class	Year 5 & 6
	Koala Class	Year 5 & 6

# Early Years Foundation Stage

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) applies to the learning and development of all children from birth to the end of the Reception Year.

Early childhood is the foundation on which children build the rest of their lives. It is not just a preparation for the next stage but is vitally important in itself.

Learning for children at Riverside is a rewarding and enjoyable experience in which they explore, investigate, discover, create, practice, rehearse, repeat, revise and consolidate their developing knowledge, skills, understanding and attitudes. During the Foundation Stage, many of these aspects of learning are brought together effectively through playing and talking.

At Riverside Primary School we aim to provide the highest quality care and education for all our children thereby giving them a strong foundation for their future learning. We create a safe and happy environment with motivating and enjoyable learning experiences that enable children to become confident and independent learners. We value the individual child and work alongside parents and carers to help every child reach their full potential.

As outlined in the 'Statutory Framework for Early Years Foundation Stage':

*'Every child deserves the best possible start in life and the support that enables them to fulfil their potential. Children develop quickly in the early years and a child's experiences between birth and age five have a major impact on their future life chances.'*



# Never Never Land



# Our Curriculum

At Riverside Primary School, we are committed to providing our children with a high quality education through which every child reaches and exceeds their full potential. Our staff have high expectations of all children regarding their academic, social, emotional and spiritual development reflected in our motto: 'Where everyone matters and every day counts'

We want our children to have big ambitions and high expectations of themselves. Our curriculum has been designed to ensure that all of our children are given the opportunities to excel, regardless of their starting points or background. We provide a curriculum that is broad and balanced and provides our pupils with opportunities to gain essential knowledge, skills and understanding which will enable them to flourish and reach their full potential both academically and personally.



# Our Curriculum

Whilst our curriculum encompasses the formal requirements of the National Curriculum, our vision is to provide our children with a range of learning experiences beyond the classroom which inspire our children and help shape their futures. Alongside teaching the requirements of the national curriculum, key drivers have been identified. We have prioritised the key knowledge, skills and aspirations we want our children to experience and develop during their time with us.



We organise the children's learning into themes which allow us to link the children's learning. Themes have exciting titles such as 'Diggin' Deep,' (Year 3) and 'Traders and Raiders' (Year 5&6) and are either history, geography or science based.

Each half term we send out our curriculum newsletters for parents so they are informed about what their children will be learning. Each newsletter also contains ideas and tips about how to support learning at home.

# Physical Education

We are proud of the opportunities for physical education and sport we are able to offer the children at Riverside, having recently been awarded the Gold Sports Award for the third successive in recognition of this achievement. From high quality PE lessons each week, we are able to enrich our offer with a range of additional sporting opportunities which take place both during and beyond the school day, including key events such as the Santa Netball Rally, District Sports and also participation in our football leagues.

We regularly welcome additional coaches such as those from Essex Cricket Club and Southend Football Club and we encourage participation at all levels. If students are unable to take part in PE, they will still need to bring their school PE kit because by wearing their PE kit, they will still be fully able to access the lesson and continue to learn. At Riverside, we believe that PE is more than just taking part practically and that students have the opportunity to develop many personal and social skills. Therefore, pupils will be encouraged to develop their officiating, leadership and coaching skills during these lessons.





# Behaviour

We have high expectations of the conduct of our children at Riverside. We actively promote self-discipline, encouraging children to be responsible for their own actions as well as to care for and respect other people and property. We endeavor to recognise good behaviour and children are rewarded with Team Points and certificates for this. The children elect Team Captains from Year 2 and Year 6 who act as ambassadors for each team. In Key Stage One, we use a positive behaviour system based on the cloud, sun and stars. In Key Stage Two, each class uses an agreed 'traffic light' system to support positive behaviour in class. Through planned curriculum activities, and collective acts of worship, children are taught tolerance of others, and to celebrate individual differences.

Our staff work hard to ensure the school is a safe and secure place for every child. They promote a caring ethos where every child feels valued; our school does not tolerate bullying behaviour. Our behaviour and anti-bullying policies are available on our school website



# Residential Visits

Riverside is committed to providing children with educational opportunities and memories which will last them a lifetime. Thus, we are proud of our residential programme which gives children the chance to to develop their team building skills, develop their resilience and deepen their friendships.

We currently offer the following trips:

- Skreens Park in Chelmsford for children in Year 3 for one night
- Overstrand Hall in Norfolk for children in Year 4 for two nights
- Bawdsey Manor in Suffolk for children in Year 6 for two nights



# Extra Curriculum Enrichment

At Riverside, we are proud to offer a wide range of clubs that reflect the variety of interests of our children. Clubs run before school, at lunchtimes and after school. Current clubs we are able to offer include multi-sports, football, netball, art, street dance, choir, kickboxing, Minecraft and drama.

All lunchtime clubs are free of charge. Clubs before or after school may incur a cost. If your child is eligible for free school meals, we are able to provide one funded club per term.

Clubs begin at 7:45am until 8:45am or 3:15pm until 4:00/4:15pm.





# Inclusion and SEND

At Riverside, we value the individuality of our children and are committed to ensure all children are given support to reach their full potential and to achieve the highest of standards, regardless of their age, gender, ethnicity, attainment or background, and make sure that all children succeed.

To ensure that all children have access to the curriculum and are appropriately supported to acquire basic literacy and numeracy skills, support is given to children with Special Educational Needs both within the classroom and in small group or individual sessions. Riverside's team of hard-working and dedicated Learning Support Assistants are essential to the success of this provision. The school's Special Educational Needs Co-Ordinator liaises with Class Teachers and Learning Support Assistants to ensure that pupils receive appropriate and effective support. We liaise with the Educational Psychology and the Speech and Language Therapy Services and other agencies.

In addition, children at Riverside are fortunate enough to benefit from the support of our Learning Mentor, should they require additional learning, emotional or behaviour support.

You are welcome to contact Miss Marshall (SENCo) or Mrs Rice (Inclusion Coordinator) or Mrs Wellington (Learning Mentor) by calling 01702 230911, email [sen@riversideprimary.co.uk](mailto:sen@riversideprimary.co.uk) or by visiting the school.

# Safeguarding

Riverside Primary School is committed to promoting the safety and welfare of its pupils. We have several policies in place which ensure we meet our safeguarding duties, including our Child Protection Policy which can be located on our website. All staff and volunteers are subject to enhanced DBS checks and attend regular child protection training and updates.

Mrs Smith is the Designated Safeguarding Lead and the nominated Governor for Child Protection is Mrs Donna Thresher.

This school has a commitment to safeguarding children that goes beyond child protection responsibilities and promotes the welfare of all children, protecting them from harm and covering such areas as:

- Child protection
- Good attendance and behaviour
- Policies to prevent bullying, including bullying members of minority ethnic groups
- Personal, social, health and economic education (PSHE)
- Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)
- The 'Healthy Schools' initiative
- Pupil health and safety issues

If you wish to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Smith, via the school office.



# Wrap Around Care

At Riverside, we understand that families often need 'wraparound' care for their children before and after school hours.

## Breakfast Club

We offer a 'Breakfast Club', which runs from 7.30am daily and is run by school staff. We supply breakfast with choices of toast, crumpets, cereal and fruit as well as water, milk or fruit juice to drink. Whilst at the club, your child can take part in many different activities including

- Art activities
- Board games and puzzles
- Books
- Card games
- Writing activities
- Outdoor games
- Use of iPads/Laptops
- When it is time for registration, your child will be accompanied by an adult and taken to their class. The cost for our breakfast club is £6.00 per session.

The current price is £6.60 per day.

## Twilight Club

We also provide an after school 'Twilight Club' which is also run by staff from within school.

Children are collected from their classes and are taken to the club.

Children are provided with a healthy snack and drink and a range of activities such as those provided during the breakfast club.

The cost of Twilight club is £8.25 for a session. The session concludes at 5pm.

For more information, please check under the Parent section of our school website.

# School Meals

Our kitchen staff are dedicated to delivering healthy, delicious and child-friendly options for lunchtime. School lunches are cooked on site and served to the children – either the hot meal of the day (vegetarian option available) or a 'grab bag' with sandwiches etc. We operate a three-week menu which can be found on our website and has a range of scrumptious choices.



Children in Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 are all eligible for a universal free school meal or they can bring a packed lunch and will also receive a fruit snack at breaktime. Children in Key Stage 2 may choose to have a school lunch or bring a packed lunch; they may bring a healthy snack into school to eat at playtime.

# Admissions

Riverside Primary School is a Local Authority maintained school and all applications for admission are made through Essex County Council Primary School Admissions. If you are registered with an Essex GP, approximately one year before your child is due to begin school, the Local Authority should send you an Application Pack. The Application Form will allow you to prioritise your choice of schools. On 16th April, you should receive an offer of a school place.

You can apply for a Reception school place at an Essex primary school between 10th November 2025 and 15th January 2026. More information can be found on the [Essex website here](#).

## Admissions Procedure

At Riverside, in the event of oversubscription, places will be allocated using the following criteria in the order given:

1. Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children;
2. Children with a sibling attending the school;
3. Children living in the priority admission area;
4. Remaining applications.

Each school has a published "Pupil Admission Number" (PAN). Riverside's number intended to admit is 60. In the event of oversubscription within any of the above criteria, priority will be determined by straight line distance from home to school; those living closest are given highest priority. Exceptional medical circumstances (supported by medical evidence) may override the above.

Application for Places - All admissions require an application form to be completed and returned to the Planning and Admissions team. Application forms can be completed online <https://www.essex.gov.uk/apply-for-a-primary-school-place> or obtained from Planning and Admissions (Planning & Admissions, Learning Services, P.O. Box 4261 Chelmsford CM1 1GS Tel: 01245 436736).

## Appeal Mechanism

Where parents are unsuccessful in securing a place at their preferred school, the following arrangements for an appeal within the terms of the 1980 Education Act and 1993 Education Act apply: Parents must notify the Area pupil services team in writing of their wish to appeal against their child's non-admission, within 14 days of being informed, in writing, that a place is not available. Arrangements will then be made for the appeal to be considered and parents informed accordingly.



# Uniform Information

At Riverside, our children wear their school uniform with pride, are proud to be members of our school and are ambassadors for us in the wider community. We feel that school uniform is an integral part of our drive to set high expectations and improve standards. Branded uniform can be purchased from Danielle's Uniform Shop: see their website at [www.daniellesshop.co.uk](http://www.daniellesshop.co.uk). In addition, several branded items can be purchased from the school office such as book bags, ties and PE bags.

Our uniform policy can be found on our website [here](#)

<u>School Uniform</u>	<u>Summer Uniform (Optional)</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Navy Trousers</li> <li>● Navy Skirt which is an appropriate length (either on the knee or just above, not mid-thigh)</li> <li>● Plain white/navy socks with shorts/skirts.</li> <li>● Navy tights with skirts.</li> <li>● Navy/black socks with trousers.</li> <li>● Navy cardigan / Navy jumper with or without the school logo</li> <li>● Light Blue Polo Shirts - Early Years Children ONLY all year</li> <li>● Light Blue Shirts and School Ties from Year 1 onwards</li> <li>● Flat, black smart school shoes/ plain black smart trainers (no bright logos, light-up soles).</li> </ul>	<p><i>Our summer uniform is <u>optional</u> and can only be worn from Easter until the October half term</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Navy Shorts</li> <li>● Navy Blue Gingham Check Summer Dresses (not playsuits)</li> <li>● Ties not to be worn during the second half of summer term (June/July)</li> </ul>	
	<th data-bbox="1025 1068 1835 1139" style="text-align: center;"><u>PE Kit</u></th>	<u>PE Kit</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● White T-shirt</li> <li>● Blue Shorts /</li> <li>● Black plimsolls</li> <li>● Long hair must be tied back and earrings must not be worn.</li> <li>● Riverside branded hoodie / plain navy hoodie</li> </ul>	

# Mid-Year Admissions Years 1-6

If you have applied and been accepted for a mid-year placement and your child is in Years 1-6, the school will contact you to confirm a start date.

The school will provide you with an application pack which you will need to complete and return prior to your child starting with us.

Should your child have any medical needs or be on the SEND register, we advise you notify us of this so that we can ensure the correct support is in place for when your child begins with us.



# EYFS Transition Dates 2026

If you apply for and accept a place at Riverside Primary School, you will hear from us shortly afterwards in April when we will send out an information pack to you. This pack will contain key dates for your child's transition.

There will also be a parent information evening on Wednesday 11th June starting at 5pm.

Session	Date	Time	Children
Stay & Play Session 1 (Parents to stay)	Friday 26th June	<b>Morning Session 1</b>	<i>Children born between 1st March to 31st August 2021</i>
		<b>Morning Session 2</b>	<i>Children born between 1st September 2021 to 28th February 2022</i>
Stay & Play Session 2 (Parents to stay)	Friday 10th July	<b>Morning Session 1</b>	<i>Children born between 1st March to 31st August 2022</i>
		<b>Morning Session 2</b>	<i>Children born between 1st September 2021 to 28th February 2022</i>

# Early Years Transition Dates 2026

	<i>Children born between 1st March to 31st August 2021</i>	<i>Children born between 1st September 2020 to 28th February 2021</i>
<b>Wednesday 2nd September to Friday 4th September</b>	Morning Session	Afternoon Session
<b>Monday 7th September to Friday 11th September</b>	Afternoon Session	Morning Session
<b>Monday 14th September</b>	Long Morning Session	Long Morning Session
<b>Tuesday 15th September</b>	Long Morning Session	Long Morning Session
<b>Wednesday 16th September</b>	Long Morning Session & Stay for lunch	Long Morning Session & stay for lunch
<b>Thursday 17th September</b>	Long Morning Session & Stay for lunch	Long Morning Session & Stay for lunch
<b>Friday 18th September</b>	Full Day	Full Day

Our transition takes place over the month of September, gradually building up the children's time in school and introducing them to the school. Children are initially grouped by age to attend for half days, building up to full time by the end of their third week. Once this transition period is completed, the children are in school full time. A successful transition sets the children up for an excellent start to their schooling.