



Riddings Junior School

In our school everyone is valued and seen as an individual with their own strengths and talents. We aim to work together to ensure that all our children are successful, both academically and as a member of our wider society.

We strive to maintain high expectations for all, helping children to aspire to be the best they can possibly be. Our children enjoy coming to their school - they are provided with opportunities that develop a love of learning and a thirst for knowledge, to take responsibility for their own learning and, through our exciting curriculum, to increase their understanding of what it is to be a positive member of the wider world.

We place the highest priority on keeping our children safe and recognise the importance of their social and emotional well-being; we want to work closely with parents and the school's community to achieve this. Parental engagement in supporting their child's learning is crucial to ensure our children's success; the opportunities we provide to develop this, such as family learning in school and at home reflect this.

Our extensive outdoor learning areas offer scope to further enrich our children's learning, and we strive to link the physical experiences they gain through Forest School with the learning in the classroom.

Riddings Junior School joined the Embark Federation, a family of 27 schools across Derbyshire. The trust has 4 core beliefs; Family, Integrity, Teamwork and Success and works by the ethos 'Love Learning Love Life!' More information on the Trust can be found at www.embarkfederation.com

I hope that through this prospectus, by visiting our website at www.riddingsjuniorschool.org.uk and through joining us on twitter @RiddingsJnr you will learn more about the next stage of your child's learning journey.

Mr. G. Newman (Headteacher) & all the staff of Riddings Junior School.



CONTENTS

1. What is Your Child Going To Learn
2. Catering for Special Educational Needs
3. Catering for Higher Attaining Children
4. What Do We Use Our Pupil Premium Funding For
5. Behaviour
6. Attendance
7. Care and Support
8. Safeguarding our Children
9. Medicines
10. Keeping Healthy
11. School Dinners
12. Pupils Legate
13. Ways for Parents to Get Involved
14. School Clubs
15. Travelling To and From School
16. Visits and Residential
17. School Uniform
18. Jewellery
19. Admissions and Transition
20. School Times
21. Staff at School

THE AIMS OF RIDDINGS JUNIOR SCHOOL

PRIDE

P rogress through

R espect

I ndependence

D etermination

E xcellence

In our school everyone is valued and seen as individuals with their own special strengths and talents.

We work together to ensure that all children can be successful both academically and as members of society.

We strive to improve standards and maintain high expectations for all, helping children to aspire to the best they can be.

Children enjoy coming to school - they are challenged to be responsible for their own learning and through our stimulating curriculum extend their understanding of the world around them.

We work together as a community, every day, to make sure our children are fully equipped for their future, showing:

PRIDE in who they are

PRIDE in what they can achieve

PRIDE in who they may become

and

PRIDE in our shared values

1. WHAT IS YOUR CHILD GOING TO LEARN?

- ✓ The National Curriculum provides the framework for what is taught across all subjects.
- ✓ RE (which is regulated by Derbyshire), is taught in all years (parents do have the right to formally request that they withdraw their child from RE).
- ✓ In all subjects we aim to make links across the curriculum, so that the learning is meaningful for the children.
- ✓ We enrich the curriculum and experiences of the children with visits to places of interest around Derbyshire and further afield including Eyam Village, Cadbury World, as well as visits to the theatre that link to our work in English.
- ✓ We are proud that we offer the chance to experience a residential visit in Year 4, 5 and 6. Year 4 stay overnight at school, Year 5 at Whitehall Outdoor Centre in Buxton for a two-night stay and Year 6 have a fantastic time in London, staying two nights.
- ✓ All children have home learning activities every week. These range from maths to reading and practising spellings every week (we ask that your child reads three times a week as a minimum), a class homework grid, research for projects and family learning tasks that reinforce and extend learning.
- ✓ All children are set next steps targets so that they are clear what they need to do in English and Maths to progress.
- ✓ We deliver a programme of age appropriate and carefully planned sex and relationships education throughout school; parents are invited to view the material that we use before it is delivered to the children.

2. CATERING FOR SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS?

We recognise that all children are individuals, progressing at different rates, and having different learning styles and needs. We aim to provide an appropriate learning environment for all the children, catering for their emotional, social and academic development. In addition to differentiated work planned by class Teachers, Teaching Assistants also support individuals and groups. They are fully involved in the planning and review of programmes of work and deliver some interventions. As a school we engage with a range of external agencies to make sure that children are getting the very best support. Of course, we involve parents fully in determining how we support their children.

We welcome all pupils, regardless of their needs, into our school and we work closely with Riddings Infant and Nursery School, and other infant schools to ensure that the move to Junior School is fully supported for the start of Year 3. We carefully plan how to make our school accessible, and this is set out in our Disability Equality Scheme. If you or your child has specific needs, please make us aware of them so we can make the school buildings and information as accessible as possible.

The Governing Body regularly reviews our provision for children with special needs.

3. CATERING FOR HIGHER ATTAINING CHILDREN.

We both identify children in school who have gifts and talents in different areas as well as working with a child's infant school to nurture any child who is already showing particular skills. We plan to ensure that our class teaching provides suitable challenge and, wherever possible, provide quality sessions from external providers such as Derby University and sports coaches. In addition, our local family of schools aims to provide different opportunities for more able children. We also provide a variety of further experiences, such as the chance to learn a musical instrument.

4. WHAT DO WE USE PUPIL PREMIUM FUNDING FOR?

Our school receives additional funding that is known as the Pupil Premium. This is used to support children who are, or who have been, eligible for Free School Meals, as well as children who are Looked After or whose parents serve in the Armed Services. We have set up specific programmes for learning, nurture provision and enrichment activities to support progress. A copy of our Pupil Premium Strategy is available on the website.

5. BEHAVIOUR

PRIDE IS OUR WATCHWORD AND VISION.

- Good behaviour is expected from all children.
- Our high standards promote self-discipline and respect for all.
- Our positive approach aims to build self-esteem and a caring school community.
- Reward systems, including PRIDE assembly, and a recognition of positive learning behaviours underpin our approach.
- The consequences for poor learning behaviours are made clear to the children and are consistently applied in lessons.
- Parental involvement is a key part of supporting the development of positive approaches to school and to learning. We aim to inform you of any concerns as soon as they become evident.
- We are committed to an anti-bullying culture, where everyone understands what bullying is and that it is not tolerated in our school (details of appropriate policies are available on our website).

6. ATTENDANCE

- We monitor all children's attendance each term and will contact parents if we have any concerns.
- Government guidelines mean that term-time absences are only to be authorised in **exceptional** circumstances.
- Unauthorised holidays will be referred to the Local Authority for a **fixed penalty notice**.
- **Punctuality**: The school doors open at 8:40am (years 4 and 5) / 8.50am (years 3 and 6) to allow the children to prepare themselves for learning to start at 9.00am. The register is taken at 9.00am and children arriving after this time are marked as late. Persistent lateness will be referred to the Education Welfare Officer.
- **Please note there is no supervision on the playground before 8:40am.**

7. CARE AND SUPPORT

- All children should feel safe and happy in school.
- We guarantee that children will be listened to if they have a concern and we ask that parents encourage their children to share worries with their class teacher.
- We take proactive steps to support children who are vulnerable.
- We work closely with external agencies, which can provide additional advice and support.

8. SAFEGUARDING OUR CHILDREN

- We are totally committed to ensuring our children are safeguarded within school.
- We follow rigorous recruitment and induction procedures to ensure the suitability of staff.
- We take active steps to ensure the safety and security of children within school.
- Our safeguarding procedures are robust and known to all staff. If there are major concerns about children's welfare, we liaise with Social Care to determine the best way forward.
- Our first priority is always the children's welfare. There may be occasions when our concern about your child means that we have to consult other agencies even before we contact you. The procedures we follow have been laid down by the Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership. If you wish to know more about these procedures, please speak to Mr Newman or Miss Saville.

9. MEDICINES

A clear policy on the administration of medicines in our school is in place.

- If your child has a condition such as asthma, which may need medication on a long-term basis, please let us know. We can keep such medicines in school and help the child take them when needed.
- Other prescription medicines may be administered by our staff, but only by prior agreement and on completion of the appropriate form. If your child needs to take prescription medicine, please see Mrs Roberts, Miss Wolden or Mrs Morgan in the school office, to arrange for this to take place.
- For everyone's safety do not send children with medicines such as paracetamol to be kept in their bags.

10. KEEPING HEALTHY

We actively promote healthy lifestyles through:

- Encouraging children to drink water through the day
- Providing lunchtime and after-school sporting clubs
- Ensuring every child accesses two Physical Education lessons each week including, in Year 4 a swimming programme
- Employing an expert sports coach
- Celebrating sporting achievements
- Advertising and directing children towards sporting opportunities in the wider community

The Government provides some funding to enhance our provision of PE and Sport called the School Sports Premium. This is used to improve the quality of PE provision in school and to provide after school clubs and lunch time activities.

11. SCHOOL DINNERS

Many of our children choose to take a school dinner at lunchtime. Meals are cooked on site and provide a choice of hot and cold food. We teach our children to use a knife and fork properly and to eat vegetables!! Children can of course bring a packed lunch; however, we ask parents to ensure that this is healthy in its content – baked crisps which are lower in saturated fats and no chocolate or sweets.



Dinner money should be paid in advance £3.25 per day and payment is made through our parent app, Arbour.

It is hugely important that if you think you may be eligible for free school meals you ask at the office for further details. Remember that this also brings additional funding into school that can be spent on supporting the progress of your child.



Menus are displayed on the school noticeboard, or you can also view the menu at: www.myschoollunch.co.uk/derbyshire

12. PUPIL VOICE – PUPILI LEGATE (SCHOOL COUNCIL)

We regard what the children think as hugely important and ask their views on many areas of school – they all have the chance to share their views via our Pupil Voice post-boxes, which the Pupili Legate (Latin for School Council) then discuss. The Pupili Legate is made up of children from each class, and is involved in activities such as:

- *Red Nose / Children in Need*
- *Playground developments*
- *Staff recruitment interviews*
- *Determining the improvements to our school*
- *Choosing reading books for the library!*
- *Influencing the number and type of clubs that school runs*
- *Raising money to support our partnership school in Uganda*

13. WAYS FOR PARENTS TO GET INVOLVED

Our website gives parents an easy way to be informed about their children's learning. It has lots of information and links to online activities which can be shared with your child.

Other ways that parents and families can be even more involved are:

- *Family learning activities*
- *Volunteer helpers e.g. reading, school trips, swimming, special events, library etc.*
- *Supporting the curriculum e.g. Forest School / PE*
- *Supporting the school with fund-raising activities*
- *Standing for election as a Parent governor*
- *Attending special events e.g. charity fundraising, Assemblies, Concerts*
- *Family learning and parental workshops*

Please come and talk to us - Everyone can be involved in some way!

14. SCHOOL CLUBS

We aim to provide a range of lunch time and after-school clubs to enrich the children's experience. Our Sports Coach Mr Whiteman and other staff lead a variety of programme varies throughout the year, and has included:

- *Choir – this has been hugely successful and allows the children to perform at events for the community*
- *Sports – a wide range of games and activities*
- *Musical instruments*

Sporting Competitions

As a school we take part in Inter-school sporting competitions – these could include.

Kwik Cricket / Sports Hall Athletics / Athletics / Cross – country / Basketball, Football, Netball / Tag Rugby / Running / Cycling / Tennis / Squash

15. TRAVELLING TO AND FROM SCHOOL

Church Street, the road on which the school stands, gets incredibly congested, especially given that Riddings Infants School is very close. Please consider walking to school if possible or children are very welcome to travel to school on scooters or bikes - there is storage for them on the school grounds.

If you absolutely have to drive to school, please show consideration for local residents when parking in the street and observe the parking restrictions (the yellow zig-zags and cones) outside of school.

16. VISITS AND RESIDENTIALS

We aim to make learning as interesting as possible and undertake visits to special places and in the local area. All activities are planned carefully to ensure everyone's safety.

Whenever possible, school subsidises visits to reduce the costs. However, we do need to ask parents to make voluntary contributions towards the costs of transport and entrance fees. Residential visits are something that we believe strongly in. We publicise these as early as possible to allow parents to budget for the costs of these. If your child would like to attend a residential but you feel that finance is a barrier to this, please come in and talk to us about the situation.

We always try to cover the cost of workshops in school from school funds but may have to ask for voluntary contributions at times. Transport costs have risen significantly over the last few years and are always the most expensive element of any trip or visit.

17. SCHOOL UNIFORM

Our school uniform is simple and affordable and is designed to follow on from that worn at Riddings Infant and Nursery School leading to that worn at Swanwick Hall School. Governors sought the views of parents and children on uniform and now state that the wearing of it is a condition of attending the school. We take the view that if we have a uniform then everyone must wear it. We do appreciate that shoes become too small or uniform items get lost in the black hole under children's beds from time to time but please support us in maintaining our high standards.

- ❖ *Red jumper/cardigan/sweatshirt**
- ❖ *White* or red polo shirts/white shirt/blouses*
- ❖ *School grey/black skirts/pinafore dresses/
Grey/black school type trousers / grey/black dress shorts*
- ❖ *Red and white checked summer dress*
- ❖ ***Plain** black polishable shoes or boots i.e. no patterns / logos and in a sensible style please*

For PE:

- ❖ *Plain white T-shirt**
- ❖ *Plain black shorts*
- ❖ *Trainers or plimsolls*
- ❖ *Plain black jogging bottoms and top for outdoor use when necessary - optional*
- ❖ *Named drawstring PE bag**

*School uniform items with logo may be purchased online via myclothing.com

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE NAME ALL ITEMS OF CLOTHING CLEARLY

Hair styles – hair should be neat and tidy and not coloured or cut in a way that is deemed as extreme. Hair should not be styled in a way that is sculpted or includes designs e.g. tramlines/swirls. If in doubt, please ask before having hair styled.

18. JEWELLERY

We would prefer that children did not wear jewellery for school, however where children have pierced ears, one set of small studs may be worn (if your child is having their ears pierced, please make sure that this is done in the summer break so that studs are removed for PE). No chains or bracelets please.

19. ADMISSIONS AND TRANSPORT

- Applications for a school place should be made through Derbyshire County Council.
- Most of our pupils come to us from Riddings Infant School however an increasing number are joining us from other schools.
- Our intake is set at 60 children each year.
- You must apply for your child's Year 3 place by January of the year they are to transfer.
- We arrange a transition programme for children (and parents) in the summer term before the child starts Year 3. This consists of move-up days and a meeting for parents. If a child requires additional visits to help with the transition, then we are happy to arrange these.
- Our school welcomes all children and will endeavour to cater for children with any special educational needs and disabilities, thereby providing equal opportunities to learn and succeed for all.
- For a child to be admitted during the year or at the start of Years 4, 5 and 6, applications should be made via Derbyshire County Council.
- If you wish for your child to start at Riddings Junior School during the school year, then we strongly suggest that you make an appointment to look around the school with your child.

20. SCHOOL TIMES

8:40 am	Doors open for Years 4 & 5
8:50 am	Doors Open for Years 3 & 6
9:00 – 12:00 pm	Morning session with a break at 10.30 until 10.45am
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Lunch time
1:05 – Close	Afternoon session
3:20 pm	Years 4 & 5 End
3:30 pm	Years 3 & 6 End

Learning time finishes at 3.20pm / 3:30pm. Due to the design of our building, children often take a few minutes to organise themselves to leave.

21. STAFF AT SCHOOL 2025 - 26

Headteacher	Mr G Newman
Deputy Headteacher	Miss E Saville
Leadership Team	Mrs N Godfrey, Miss K. Pilling
SENCo	Mrs N Godfrey

Teachers:

Barber Class	Y3	Miss E Bailey
Oakes Class	Y3	Miss Beresford
Richards Class	Y4	Miss K Pilling
Clarke Class	Y4	Miss M Mikolajczak
Hilton Class	Y5	Miss A Jones
Parkin Class	Y5	Mrs R Bradley
Eaton Class	Y6	Miss L Punter
Townsend Class	Y6	Miss L Jarrett / Miss E Saville

PPA cover/Teacher release: Mrs N Godfrey / Mr Whiteman

Wellbeing Mentors

Mrs F Fox - (working jointly between Riddings Infant and Riddings Junior Schools)
Mrs L Patrick
Miss G Smith

PE and Outdoor Learning Coach

Mr M Whiteman

Lead Teaching Assistants for Interventions:

Mrs E Farr
Mrs B Jackson

SEN Teaching Assistants:

Mrs J Beecroft
Miss C Bradley
Mrs J Cooke
Mrs S Davis
Mrs K Godber
Mrs T Henstock
Mrs L James
Mrs L Mountain
Mrs A Pedley
Mrs P Pursglove
Mrs D Skelding
Miss J Vardy

Support Staff

School Business Manager:	Mrs S Roberts
School Business Assistant:	Miss A Wolden
School Business Assistant:	Mrs K Morgan
 Midday Supervisors:	 Miss E Beresford Mrs P Cooper Mrs S Davidson Miss B Daykin Mrs A Godber Mrs J Hole Mrs M Hussey Mrs L James Mrs L Mountain Mrs D Skelding
 Cleaners	 Miss E Beresford Mrs T Lee Miss B Daykin
 Cook	 Mrs S Holmes
Kitchen Assistants:	Mrs D Walker

School Governors:

Chair	Mrs V Neaves
Vice Chair	Mr J Crofts
Parent Governors	Mrs K Hales
Community Governors	Mr S Henstock Mrs N Maidment
Staff Governors	Mr G Newman Miss E Saville
Clerk to Governors	Mrs S Roberts

The governors play a hugely important part in shaping what happens in school and would be pleased to hear your views and pass your questions or concerns on. If you are interested in becoming a governor please let us know.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Riddings Junior School
Church Street
Riddings
Alfreton
Derbyshire
DE55 4BW

Telephone: 01773 528492

Email: info@riddings-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk

Website: www.riddingsjuniorschool.org.uk

Twitter: @RiddingsJnr

Headteacher: Mr G Newman

If you have any enquiries, Mrs Roberts, Mrs Morgan and Mrs Wolden are in the office every day from 8:30am – 4:00pm. There is also an answer phone service.

To keep parents informed of school activities we use parent App Arbor, please ensure your mobile phone numbers are kept up to date.

If you have a complaint to make about the school then we encourage you to raise this with Mr Newman in the first instance, however information is available at school about how to make a complaint to the Governing Body or Trust should you feel the need to do this.

For further information on the school see the website:

www.riddingsjuniorschool.org.uk