



RISEDALE SCHOOL

A family of learners

PROSPECTUS

2023 - 2024

Welcome

Colin D Scott - Headteacher

As Headteacher of Risedale School, I am overjoyed to work alongside a community of staff, parents and governors who want our pupils to be the very best they can be. I am sure that with your support they can be inspired to achieve great things in their lives. In the ever-changing world of education, our young people need stability, purpose, care, support, direction and the very best teaching possible so that they can achieve their full potential. I am determined that our young people will get exactly that.

At Risedale we believe in good behaviours that support learning, respect and care for each other regardless of background, belief or personality and we will constantly develop these qualities with our young people so that they can become full, happy and productive citizens of the future. We aim to develop our pupils' knowledge, expertise and confidence through a broad, balanced and personalised curriculum that excites and engages them and ensures that they leave us with the skills they need to successfully grasp the opportunities the world will present them with.

Our staff build and strengthen close relationships with our parents, whose support is invaluable, as well as other partners in the local area. As an integral part of Catterick Garrison and beyond, we will ensure that our links to other local stakeholders including schools, the military and civilian partners will be further enhanced so that Risedale School truly becomes a central pillar of your community and the driver of success for your children.

I am proud of our school. Our parents, staff and pupils are proud of our school. Pupils know they are wanted and that Risedale offers them stability, purpose, care, support, direction and the very best teaching possible so that they can achieve their full potential. We will endeavour to ensure that this pride, sense of purpose and success will grow even more. Together we are *'A family of learners'*.

We welcome visits to the school by parents of prospective pupils at any time where you can see us all at work. If your child is not yet with us, come and see us!



"Pupils enjoy coming to Risedale because it is a caring community".

Ofsted 2019

RISEDALE: A FAMILY OF LEARNERS

Our Mission Statement:

The Risedale family is committed to a positive future for all through a personalised learning journey.

Our Aims:

- Celebrate success, learn from mistakes
- Build resilience, accept challenge and strive for excellence
- Shape the curriculum to discover, explore and build aspiration



RISEDALE SCHOOL

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Teaching and Learning

At Risedale we strive to provide consistently excellent teaching. The school works hard to provide an exciting, challenging and stimulating environment for learning. We want to excite and engage our pupils as we go on a learning journey together.

Our curriculum is based around 5 key 'Pillars of Success'



Our teachers are passionate about sharing the importance of developing these five key traits so that pupils are ready for a world beyond the classroom.

Our emphasis is on challenge. We want pupils to be pushed and supported to go beyond what they believe is possible. We work hard as professionals to make sure that pupils' learning experiences are the best they can be. We keep abreast of all current educational thinking and make sure the pupils are involved in this learning dialogue.

We endeavour to support pupils to be highly literate and numerate individuals, confident of accessing texts and solving problems in the classroom and beyond. Pupils form part of a Teaching and Learning Community, working together with staff to improve provision in classrooms and learning environments across the school.

Every individual is entitled to a broad, balanced, relevant, coherent, progressive and differentiated curriculum. At all stages of development, learning is structured and sequenced and should be a stimulating, enjoyable and worthwhile experience in its own right. Equality of access and opportunity underpins our provision for all. Our curriculum is not simply about the subjects our pupils study, but the people they will develop into and the world they will influence.

Years 7-9: The school offers an exciting and effectively sequenced curriculum at Key Stage 3 that both challenges and prepares our pupils for selecting options at Key Stage 4. Every year we assess the quality of provision and are constantly seeking to improve the range of subjects and opportunities for our young people.

Years 10-11: The school curriculum reflects the diversity of pupil needs; a wide range of subjects and programmes provides strong progression routes to further education courses. Building on the foundations at KS3, KS4 prepares pupils not only to succeed academically but also to be ready to face an ever-changing world. Our pupils are supported every step of the way to help them with their personalised learning journey, to ensure a positive future for all.

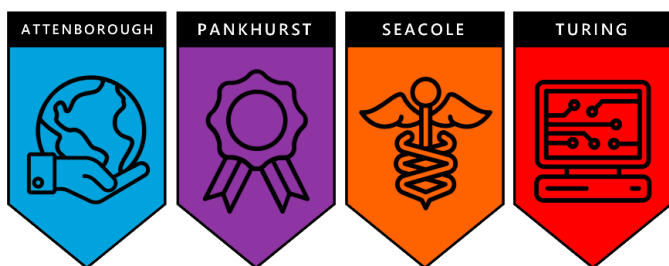
Facilities and Resources

The school shares its site with Hipswell C of E Primary School and stands within its own pleasant grounds, incorporating two hard-court playing areas.

We have extensive sports facilities separate from the school campus. These include football, hockey and rugby pitches. In the summer months, we have 400m track, long, triple and high jump areas, shot, discus and javelin throwing areas as well as rounders and cricket pitches.

Although built at different times, the school's buildings are well maintained. A programme of remodelling and refurbishment over the past few years has provided us with excellent facilities for all curriculum areas.

House System and Rewards



At Risedale we celebrate the success of all our pupils who strive to achieve their best in all aspects of life. The House System creates a sense of community and promotes healthy competition among pupils and staff. Pupils wear a tie in their house colour generating a strong sense of identity and belonging. The House System supports our pupils to develop as confident, resilient, compassionate and successful individuals as outlined in our 5 key 'Pillars of Success'.

Pupils are rewarded for exceptional work in the classroom and for taking part in inter-house competitions and extra-curricular activities, as well as for contributing to the life of the school and the wider community. House points are awarded to individuals and logged on Epraise, our online reward system; from here pupils can keep track of their personal reward points, as well as see how they have contributed to the overall points total for their particular House.



Cutting-edge technology and specialist facilities:

- Every pupil is issued with their own Chromebook to support both in-class and at-home learning
- We have full Wi-Fi Cloud coverage throughout the school
- Dedicated IT suites complete with network facilities
- Virtual Reality headsets
- Remote learning robots
- Drones
- A digital music technology recording studio
- Photography studio
- Computerised laser cutters
- 3D printing and computer embroidery
- An extensive Library Resource Centre
- Reprographics Centre
- Pupil Support and Development area with on-site School Counsellor
- The Hub – a transition and FREE community space
- Fitness suite
- Gym and Sports Hall
- Canteen offering first-rate food and refreshments

Working Together

Home School Partnership Agreement

For pupils to achieve success at school, we believe it is important that parents, pupils and school are able to work together, with each party having an equally important part to play in the partnership. To cement this partnership, pupils and parent(s)/carer(s) sign a Home School Partnership Agreement (in line with DfE policy).



my **child**s at school.com



Contact with Parents/Carers

A pupil's time at Risedale School is important and should be a purposeful and happy experience. We are committed to making our school a welcoming and productive place where everyone feels safe and valued and is able to achieve their best. We, therefore, encourage both pupils and parents to keep us informed of any matters which may affect wellbeing and achievement. Similarly, the school will contact home if the need arises.

Communication with parents is an important aspect of our work in the school; personal tutors and subject teachers are normally the first point of contact for discussions regarding pupil welfare and academic progress.

We have an online portal called [My Child at School \(MCAS\)](http://www.risedale.org.uk) which enables parents to view their child's performance at school in real-time via the web. This facility allows access to attendance, assessment and behavioural data and is a place to view academic and examination timetables, as well as for booking appointments for Parents' Evenings and consultation sessions.

We communicate regularly with parents in a number of ways; by post, email, telephone and text. In addition, lots of information can be found on our website and via our social media links:

Website: www.risedale.org.uk
Facebook / Twitter / Instagram / YouTube:
[@RisedaleSchool](#) [@RisedaleFamily](#)



Personal Tutorial System

Pupils are placed in tutor groups on entry into school. We put great trust in our personal tutor system to ensure that parents/carers have an easy first port-of-call for advice, enquiries and contact for all matters. The personal tutor is seen as a vital figure in the learning process, monitoring, mentoring and target-setting for pupils to improve their performance. The personal tutor also keeps a careful eye on each individual's general welfare, attendance, punctuality and positive attitude.



The Risedale Way

In order to establish and maintain a safe, caring and orderly learning environment pupils follow '[The Risedale Way](#)', our approach to behaviour at Risedale.

We have 3 clear expectations - all pupils will:

1. Be ready and equipped to learn
2. Respect themselves and all others
3. Always do their best



Attendance, Absence and Punctuality

We all know that good attendance matters and that regular school attendance maximises learning potential. Pupils who regularly attend school make better progress socially and academically. We want to give every young person the chance to be successful and good attendance is key to this. Regular and prompt attendance forms the basis of our [Attendance Policy](#).

**Good attendance leads to good progress and achievement.
Always aim for 100% attendance.**

It is the responsibility of the parent/carer to make sure their child is punctual and attends school every day. We monitor all pupils' attendance and punctuality closely every week.

Holidays should only be taken during school holidays. Under DfE guidance, the Headteacher may only grant a leave of absence in exceptional circumstances.



Reporting an absence: If a pupil is unwell and cannot attend school we ask that a parent/carer inform the school and leave a message before 9:00 am on each day of absence.

Pupils who need to leave the premises during the day, for any reason, will need a letter from home and must sign out at the Main Reception.

Transport

Transport for all pupils in Years 7-11 who live more than three miles from the school is provided by North Yorkshire County Council, which issues bus passes.



Where families live outside our recognised catchment area, they may be eligible for financial assistance and transport. For further information please contact North Yorkshire Council 01609 533693 or visit <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-and-college-transport>



Uniform

At Risedale we believe that our uniform helps pupils to feel part of the school. The school uniform and PE kit is a requirement for every pupil and is available to purchase from www.school-shop.co.uk

SCHOOLSHOP

Lunchtimes

At Risedale we have a dedicated team, who work hard to produce a wide variety of meals for our pupils and staff, freshly cooked each day. Ingredients are sourced locally from around the Yorkshire region and offer a healthy, balanced and varied diet.

The school operates a 'cashless system' for school meals, where pupils use money to top up their balance in school or parents can top-up from home using ['ParentPay'](#) online. By using the ParentPay facility parents are also able to check their child's balance and see what they have purchased to eat.

Medical Arrangements

All parents will be asked to provide medical information about their child during the admissions process and the school requests that parents ensure any changes are notified to the school. **Parents should ensure that the school has an address or telephone number where they can be contacted during the day.**

Whilst the school has a number of qualified first aiders who can deal with emergencies, we do not have a school nurse based on site. Pupils who report feeling ill will be assessed and, where necessary, parents will be contacted or an ambulance called.

Contacting Home

Any pupil wishing to contact their parent during the school day must ask the office staff to call on their behalf and likewise, we ask parents to ring the office if they wish to contact their child. This ensures that the school is kept informed and able to help pupils/parents in need without disrupting teaching.

Enriching Experiences

The school recognises the need to promote higher levels of achievement in pupils of all abilities. All members of the school are encouraged to recognise the value of personal achievement and to have a positive attitude towards the promotion of talent and the benefits that this can bring for both the individual and the community. We recognise and promote the abilities of our most able pupils and those with exceptional talents. We offer:

- A range of diverse and imaginative House tournaments and competitions
- A wide variety of sporting activities, including opportunities to represent the school at area, county and national level
- An extensive programme of lunchtime and afterschool clubs/activities
- University visits, fieldwork and cultural excursions including, theatre and gallery trips
- Opportunity to join the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme
- Participation in local and national competitions

Ambassador Programme of Pupil Leadership

Pupil leadership links reinforce the 5 pillars of our curriculum that contribute to pupil achievement. Learning is not something that is done to us, it is a collaborative process with adults and young people working in partnership. We know that the more engaged our pupils are in school life the more likely they are to succeed. The Ambassador Programme at Risedale School involves pupils in conversations about mental health and diversity and also allows them to take an active role in supporting others' learning, shaping the school, caring for our planet and contributing positively to our community. We want as many pupils as possible to be able to take on a leadership role and in doing so become ambassadors for the school.

Senior Pupil Ambassadors

This is the most senior pupil responsibility in the school. At the end of Year 10, pupils are invited to apply to join the Senior Pupil Ambassador Team and may be selected following an interview with SLT. This interview process also allows for the selection of a Lead and Deputy Lead Senior Pupil Ambassador. All our ambassadors are positive role models for younger pupils; they undertake duties, listen to and support fellow pupils and provide a pupil voice to SLT. They also receive training to develop their leadership skills. The Senior Pupil Ambassadors can be identified by a coloured lanyard and a shield on their blazer.

Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance

All pupils in Years 7-11 receive careers education through the Social Studies programme and tutor time as part of the school curriculum, staggered throughout the academic year. Careers education is taught within the wider context of the development of personal, transferable and employability skills, ensuring that each individual is able to make the transition from school to the adult world as smoothly and profitably as possible. Pupils work on self-awareness, building confidence, working as a team, career opportunity awareness and preparing for employability and the world of work. This culminates in decision-making strategies before option and curriculum choices in Year 9 and Post-16 transition in Year 11. Each pupil from Years 7-11 is entitled to a 1:1 interview each year with the Careers Adviser who visits the school regularly and is available to both pupils and parents for consultation.

Risedale was one of the first schools nationally to be awarded the Quality in Careers Standard by Prospects. This award recognises the high standard of careers guidance provision we offer, and that as a school we have fulfilled our statutory duty regarding Careers, Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) in line with the new careers strategy guidelines from the Department of Education (DfE) led by Mrs H Porritt as Careers Leader.



Extra-Curricular Activities for Everyone

At Risedale pupils have the opportunity to engage in some of the following activities, clubs and leadership roles **#TeamRisedale**:

Activities and Clubs

- Art and cultural visits to galleries
- Athletics
- Badminton
- Basketball
- Ceramics
- Cheerleading
- Chess Club
- Cricket
- Cross-Country
- Charity fundraising
- Duke of Edinburgh's Award
- Dodgeball
- Field trips
- Football
- Gymnastics
- Handball
- Health and Fitness
- Inter-form/Inter-house competitions
- Just Dance
- LGBTQ+ Club
- Peripatetic music lessons
- Photography Studio
- Poetry/ writing workshops
- Productions/seasonal shows and events
- Recording Studio/Media Centre
- Rounders
- Rugby
- Science Club
- Softball
- Study clubs and revision sessions
- Tchoukball
- Tennis and Table Tennis
- Textiles Club
- Theatre visits
- Trampolining
- Ukulele Group
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Work with pupils from local primary schools

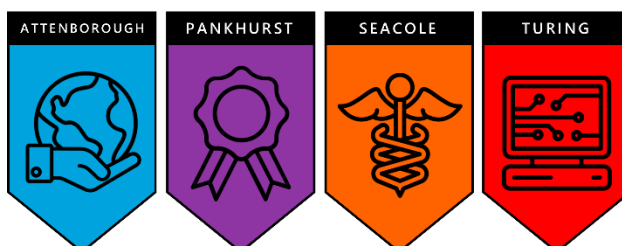
Pupil Leadership Roles

- Lead and Deputy Senior Pupil Ambassadors supported by the Senior Pupil Ambassador Team
- Pupil Ambassador Teams including; Community and Fundraising Ambassadors, Eco-schools Ambassadors, Learning Ambassadors, Mental Health Ambassadors, Pride and Diversity Ambassadors, STEM Ambassadors and Transition Ambassadors
- House Captains
- Pupil Librarians
- Literacy Leaders
- Club Captains
- Sports Coaching



Sport

The school offers extensive extra-curricular sporting opportunities. There are also inter-school fixtures with Hambleton and Richmondshire Area Sport Organisation and North Yorkshire Schools competitions. Competitive inter-school fixtures take place regularly throughout the year alongside our extra-curricular activities programme, where pupils are able to participate in recreational/leisure clubs.



Learning Support

Pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

The school's philosophy is to offer a broad and balanced curriculum for all pupils. Within this, it is recognised that some pupils will require a greater level of support to reach their potential. We aim to support pupils with the following Special Educational Needs and Disabilities:

- speech, language and communication needs, including ASD;
- cognition and learning needs, including Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLD);
- sensory and/or physical needs;
- social, emotional and mental health difficulties.

The school environment offers accessibility to all pupils and provides lifts and stairlifts for easy movement around the site.

Equal Opportunities

It is the school's vision to provide an environment in which discrimination in all its forms is deemed to be unacceptable and to treat everyone equally, irrespective of their gender, race, ethnicity, belief, age, mental or physical health, or sexual orientation. Tackling discrimination and promoting healthy relationships with people is wholly consistent with the school's desire to be fully inclusive as outlined within our mission statement.

Child Protection

The school is committed to ensuring the welfare and safety of all children in school. All North Yorkshire schools, including Risedale School, follow the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership procedures. The school will, in most circumstances, endeavour to discuss all concerns with parents about their children. However, there may be exceptional circumstances when the school will discuss concerns with Social Care and/or the Police without parental knowledge (in accordance with Child Protection procedures). The school will, of course, always aim to maintain a positive relationship with all parents. The school's Child Protection Policy is available on our website or on request.

Privacy Policy

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

Our Privacy Policy/Notice provides information for parents/carers and pupils regarding the purposes for which personal data may be collected, held and shared. A copy of this notice can be found in the [policies](#) section of our website.



Joining The Risedale Family

Transition: Moving from Year 6 to Year 7

Our staff work closely with local primary schools throughout the year to ensure an easy and smooth transfer to secondary school. Open Evenings and Taster Days are held annually for the incoming Year 6 pupils.

At Risedale, The Hub provides a nurturing environment where pupils are supported with transition so they feel happy, safe and confident to move on to the next steps in school and life. More information available on our [website](#).



Admissions: How to Apply

For information on applying for a place for your child at Risedale School, parents/carers are asked to follow the [North Yorkshire Council Admissions Procedure](#). Information can be found by contacting the NYCC Education Office on 01609 533679 or by visiting www.northyorks.gov.uk/school-admissions

We welcome all applications to the school and would advise parents living inside and outside the catchment area to consider placing Risedale School as their FIRST CHOICE. We welcome visits to the school by parents of prospective pupils at any time. For further information regarding the school please do not hesitate to contact us directly on 01748 833501 or email enquiries@risedale.org.uk



Pupils with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND)

Risedale welcomes all pupils and endeavours to ensure that appropriate provision is made to cater for their needs. All pupils with SEND play a full part in the daily life of the school and are encouraged to join in all activities. If additional provisions are necessary our parents/carers are always informed and we would ask parents to inform us of any special considerations needed for their child.



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