



RISEDALE SCHOOL

A family of learners

PROSPECTUS
2026-2027



Welcome

Lucy Greenwood - Headteacher

As Headteacher of Risedale School, I am proud 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 and our influence, our young people can be inspired to achieve great things in their lives. In a rapidly changing world with as many challenges as blessings, 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 these things.

At Risedale we believe in good behaviours that support learning, respect and care for each other regardless of background or belief, and we work to develop these qualities in our young people so that they can become healthy, 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 presents them with. We also enrich this curriculum with varied extra-curricular opportunities and visits.

Our staff foster close relationships with parents, whose support is invaluable - we believe that home and school working together is the key to pupil success. Serving the families of our community and them being proud of the school is important to us, and our special relationship with Catterick Garrison and our military families makes us strive even harder to make our school a place of belonging for all, however long they learn with us. Every pupil, staff member and parent/carer is part of our Risedale Family. We are committed to strong links with other stakeholders including schools, the military and civilian partners, so that Risedale pupils can flourish.

I am proud of our Risedale Family, as are our staff. Our pupils are proud to be Risedale. 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 in action!

RISEDALE SCHOOL

Hipswell
Catterick Garrison
North Yorkshire
DL9 4BD

Tel: 01748 833501 | Fax: 01748 836149

Email: enquiries@risedale.org.uk | Website: www.risedale.org.uk

Facebook / Instagram / YouTube: @RisedaleSchool @RisedaleFamily





OUR VISION & VALUES

Our aspiration is that every pupil and staff member is supported to be the **BEST** version of themselves.

Members of our Risedale family will feel a strong sense of belonging and accomplishment as a direct result of attending our school. They will accumulate knowledge, cultural capital and social skills, such as empathy and kindness, enabling them to thrive in society and enjoy healthy **RELATIONSHIPS**. All our pupils will make good progress from their starting points.

At whatever stage of their education Risedale pupils leave us, they will be well-equipped to take the next steps on their journey to becoming a **RESPONSIBLE**, **RESPECTFUL** and **RESILIENT** citizen who can embrace change and learn from mistakes.

We are 'The Risedale Family' and together we are 'A family of learners'.

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 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, keeping abreast of all current educational thinking and actively involving pupils in this learning dialogue.

Our Curriculum Principles



Our teachers are passionate about embedding our four core **Curriculum Principles** so that pupils are inspired, empowered, and ready for a world beyond the classroom:

- **Knowledge Based:** We focus on a deeper understanding of concepts, supporting pupils to become highly literate and numerate individuals who are confident in accessing complex texts and solving problems.
- **Aspirational:** Our curriculum is designed with high expectations at its core, exposing pupils to rich, challenging content that inspires ambition. We ensure our academic pathways ignite a passion for learning, empowering pupils to aim high and achieve the absolute BEST version of themselves.
- **Cumulative & Sequential:** At all stages of development, learning is intentionally structured and sequenced. This ensures a progressive, stimulating experience where knowledge builds sustainably over time.
- **Supportive of Our Values:** We actively nurture our core values of **Responsibility**, **Respect**, **Resilience**, and **Relationships**, ensuring our curriculum shapes the empathetic, confident citizens our pupils will develop into and the world they will influence.

Key Stage 3: Years 7, 8 & 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, constantly seeking to improve the range of subjects and opportunities for our young people.

Key Stage 4: Years 10 & 11

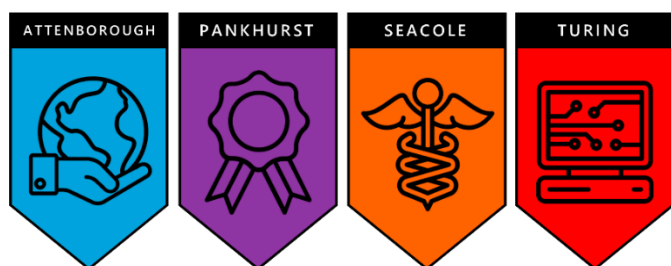
The school curriculum reflects the diversity of pupil needs; a wide range of subjects and programmes provides strong progression routes to further education. Building on the foundations at KS3, KS4 prepares pupils to succeed academically and face an ever-changing world, ensuring a positive future for 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 a 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.

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. Stamps are awarded to individuals and logged by the tutor on BROMCOM; pupils and parents/carers can keep track of their reward points via the MCAS App.



Cutting-edge technology and specialist facilities:

- We have full Wi-Fi Cloud coverage throughout the school
- Dedicated IT suites complete with network facilities and Chromebooks to support learning
- Use of Google Suite, including Google Classroom
- Photography studio
- Computerised laser cutters
- 3D printing and computer embroidery
- Virtual Reality headsets and drones
- A well-resourced Library
- Two music rooms equipped with keyboards, ukuleles and other instruments, as well as music practice rooms
- Drama studio
- Well-equipped, modern workshops and teaching kitchen
- The Hub – a space for learning support and interventions
- The Risedale Centre - a space for social and emotional support and interventions
- An on-site School Counsellor
- Fitness suite
- Gym and Sports Hall
- Canteen offering first-rate, 'cooked from scratch' food and refreshments at break and lunchtime

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).

Contact with Parents/Carers



my **child**s at school.com



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 can 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.

To facilitate this, all parents/carers must use the [MyChildAtSchool \(MCAS\)](https://www.risedale.org.uk/MyChildAtSchool) portal and app. This is our vital tool for essential communications, school letters, booking Parents' Evening appointments, and making payments for lunches and trips. Please check MCAS regularly and enable notifications for real-time updates on timetables, attendance, academic reports, and behaviour (both positive achievements and negative points).

We also communicate via email, post, 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 / 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.



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.
We encourage Risedale pupils to 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 9:00am on each day of absence. To do this, parents/carers can either telephone the school on 01748 833501 and select option 1 to report an absence OR send an email to attendance@risedale.org.uk with the necessary information.

Transport

Transport for all pupils in Years 7-11 who live more than three miles from the school is provided by North Yorkshire 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 on 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 are requirements for every pupil and is available to purchase from www.school-shop.co.uk.

SCHOOLSHOP

Catering

At Risedale, our dedicated team freshly prepares a wide variety of healthy, balanced meals each day using locally sourced Yorkshire ingredients.

The school operates a cashless system. Parents can top up from home using the [MCAS](#) app, which also allows you to check balances and view what your child has purchased to eat.

Medical Arrangements

Parents must provide medical information during admission and notify us immediately of any changes. **We require at least two emergency contact numbers on file so we can respond quickly to illness or emergencies.**

While we have qualified first aiders on-site for emergencies, we do not have a school nurse. If a pupil feels unwell, they will be assessed, and we will contact parents or emergency services as necessary.

Contacting Home

Risedale School is a phone-free environment. From 8:20am to 3:00pm, all mobile phones, smartwatches, and headphones must be switched off and kept securely at the bottom of school bags. We operate a strict "if it is seen or heard, it is confiscated" policy.

Therefore, parents must not call or text children directly. In an emergency, please ring the office, and we will contact your child. Likewise, pupils wishing to contact home must ask a member of staff to use a school phone. This prevents teaching disruption and ensures we can support you and your family safely.

Please view our full [Mobile Phone Policy](#) on the website for details.

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 after-school clubs/activities
- University visits, fieldwork trips, cultural excursions and Outdoor Education residentials
- Opportunity to join the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme
- Participation in local and national competitions

Ambassador Programme of Pupil Leadership

Pupil leadership actively reinforces our Curriculum Principles and core values, driving both personal and academic achievement. We believe learning is a collaborative partnership between adults and young people; the more engaged our pupils are in school life, the more they will thrive.

The Ambassador Programme at Risedale School empowers pupils to take an active role in shaping our community. Our ambassadors lead vital conversations around mental health and diversity, support their peers' learning, champion environmental care, and provide dedicated support for our service pupils. We want as many pupils as possible to experience leadership, becoming true ambassadors for the school and leading an effective, pupil-driven School Council.

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. 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 the Senior Leadership Team. They also receive training to develop their leadership skills. Our Senior Pupil Ambassadors can be identified by a coloured lanyard.

Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance

At Risedale School, we provide a comprehensive careers education programme for all pupils in Years 7-11, integrated into the school curriculum through tutor time. Our aim is to ensure a smooth and rewarding transition from school to adulthood by fostering essential personal, transferable, and employability skills.

Pupils actively engage in activities that build self-awareness, confidence, teamwork, and career opportunity awareness. This culminates in crucial decision-making strategies before option choices in Year 9 and Post-16 transitions in Year 11.

A key feature is our personalised support: every pupil in Years 10-11 is entitled to an interview with our Careers Adviser, who is also available for consultations with parents. Additionally, all pupils across any year group can speak to our Careers Leader, Mrs H Porritt, for advice and support around careers.

As part of the York and North Yorkshire Careers Hub, we maintain high standards of careers guidance, fulfilling our statutory duties in line with Department for Education (DfE) guidelines.

**York &
North Yorkshire**
CAREERS HUB

**THE CAREERS &
ENTERPRISE**
COMPANY

Extra-Curricular Activities for Everyone

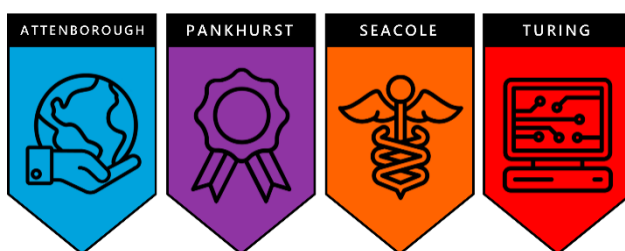
At Risedale, pupils have the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities, clubs and leadership roles. Together we are **#TeamRisedale**

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
- Enterprise
- Field trips
- Football
- Gymnastics
- Handball
- Health and Fitness
- Inter-form/Inter-house competitions
- LGBTQIA+ 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
- 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 Mental Health Ambassadors, Pride and Diversity Ambassadors, and Service Pupil Ambassadors
- 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 can participate in recreational clubs.



Learning Support

Pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

Our core belief is in providing a broad and balanced curriculum that nurtures the potential of every child. We are dedicated to ensuring all pupils receive the support they need to thrive, recognising that some may require additional tailored assistance to reach their personal BEST.

Our fantastic SEND Team, which includes our specialised teaching support staff, works closely with pupils to provide high-quality, personalised care. Much of this vital work takes place within The Risedale Centre and The Hub, our dedicated spaces for tailored interventions, academic help, and emotional guidance.

We have extensive experience and expertise in supporting a diverse range of SEND, including:

- **Speech, Language and Communication Needs**, such as Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
- **Cognition and Learning Needs**, including Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLD)
- **Sensory and/or Physical Needs**
- **Social, Emotional and Mental Health Difficulties**

Our school is designed to be fully inclusive, featuring lifts and stairlifts throughout to ensure easy and independent movement for all pupils.

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. To help incoming Year 6 pupils settle in, we host regular Open Evenings and interactive Taster Days.

The Risedale Centre and The Hub provide nurturing environments where pupils are supported during their transition, ensuring they feel happy, safe and confident as they take their next steps.

More information is available on our [Transition](#) webpage.



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 NYC 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.



RISEDALE SCHOOL

Hipswell - Catterick Garrison - North Yorkshire - DL9 4BD

Tel: 01748 833501 | Email: enquiries@risedale.org.uk

Website: www.risedale.org.uk

Facebook / Instagram / YouTube: @RisedaleSchool @RisedaleFamily