



Welcome

to the **Early Years**
information booklet

FOR THE NATIONS














mission statement

Riverside School values the uniqueness of the individual, providing high-quality education and skills for life to students of diverse cultures, within a Christian ethos and supportive family environment.

The staff team is dedicated to impacting students by building positive relationships and preparing them to become accomplished, global citizens.

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our school day

Children may be dropped off in their classrooms starting at 8:00am. This first session is designed to give the children an opportunity to ease into their day, in a non-academic setting. Children who participate in EAL lessons may meet individually, or in small group settings during this same period of time.

Our busy academic day begins at 9:00 am, and ends at 3:00 pm each afternoon for both Nursery and Reception, where children will be dismissed to their parents or caregivers. Optional after school clubs begin promptly after school, and run until 3:45 pm. Clubs run daily, and change each term. Please note that additional fees may apply for some after school clubs. Optional extended day care begins at 3:00 pm for those who are not involved in a club, and ends at 5:00pm. Extended day costs 100kc each hour.

We appreciate your support in making sure your child arrives on time each day, as well as being picked up promptly at the end of the school day.

daily schedule

	8:00 am - 9:00 am	drop off and play activities
	9:00 am	school begins
	9:00 am - 12:00 am	indoor and outdoor learning
	12:00 pm - 12:30 pm	lunch
	12:30 pm - 1:00 pm	outside play or nap time
	1:00 pm - 1:30 pm	reception and nursery quiet time
	1:30 pm - 2:40 pm	topic time
	2:40 pm - 3:00 pm	snack/story
	3:00 pm	end of school/collection and buses
	3:00 pm - 3:45 pm	skills for life (after school clubs); optional
	3:00 pm - 5:00 pm	extended day; optional



classroom expectations

At Early Years, our goal is to develop each child emotionally, socially and academically. We spend a great deal of time learning through social interaction and play. The children are encouraged to openly share their thoughts and ideas. We also practise using kind words and manners with the children on a daily basis, as well as sharing toys and materials, and finding ways to solve any misunderstandings that may arise. Specific behaviour concerns are worked on individually with teachers and parents.

We encourage self-care skills amongst the children, including feeding themselves, putting on shoes, buttoning and zipping jackets, and preparing for inclement weather by putting on wet weather or snow clothing. Children are also encouraged to blow their own noses and take care of themselves while using the toilet.



uniforms

Boys

- red sweatshirt with school logo
- red/navy blue polo shirt with school logo
- navy blue shorts (solid; not denim)
- navy blue jogging pants/trousers (not denim)
- Riverside PE kit

Girls

- red sweatshirt with school logo
- red/navy blue polo shirt with school logo
- navy blue shorts (not denim)
- navy blue jogging pants/leggings
- navy blue pleated skirt
- red/white or blue/white striped summer dress
- navy blue logo pinafore; worn with red, white or blue plain shirt underneath
- Riverside PE kit

All students are required to bring separate footwear for both indoors and outdoors, as well as a pair of trainers for PE which can be left at school.

All items of clothing should be clearly labeled with your child's name, and all clothing should be neat in appearance with no holes.



learning opportunities

The curriculum at Riverside Early Years School is based on the British model, the Early Years Foundation Stage. Following its guiding principles, our curriculum is developed to meet the needs of our international student body. A strong emphasis is made on educational play, where a child is able to explore a range of materials. Students begin to play individually and alongside others before beginning to socially interact and integrate with teachers and with each other. Social skills are developed through this process, and children become accustomed to patterns, routines and the disciplines of the school day.

As a child begins to move towards a more formal education, a greater emphasis is placed upon acquiring and developing basic skills in reading, writing, numeracy and practical investigation. Integrated topics or themes provide a focus for learning across the curriculum.

learning opportunities

English as an Additional Language

Due to our culturally diverse student population, many of our Early Years children are learning the English language. As a staff we are very intentional about supporting all Nursery and Reception children with their language acquisition. Most of the children's language will develop through play and as they form relationships with their peers and their teachers. However, our Reception students may qualify to receive additional support through our EAL programme. The EAL provision may be additional support within the classroom or a pull-out programme, or a combination of both, depending on the specific needs of each child.

Show and Share

Our classes make time each Friday for 'show and share', We encourage each child to tell us a few details about what they have brought to school. This is an important opportunity for your child to express themselves verbally in front of a group, also building confidence and language ability. Please help your child to choose just one item to bring to school.

Aside from our weekly 'show and share', we ask that other toys be left at home during the week, as toys are easily lost or left behind.



continuous provision

Each learning centre is stocked with carefully chosen, high-quality resources that are available for children to access independently at different times throughout the school day. This is called 'continuous provision'. Continuous provision enables children to explore recent learning, practise new skills and follow their own interests.

Extended Learning

- horse vaulting
- rock climbing
- swimming lessons
- art classes
- library time
- music class
- physical education
- Czech lessons



student health

If a child becomes unwell during the day, the school will contact the parent by telephone so that, if need be, they can be collected from school. Please be sure to update phone numbers, as well as provide the school with emergency contact information to ensure that you can be reached by staff.

Prescribed and over-the-counter medication may be administered by approved members of staff with a signed parental consent form. Please keep your child's medical form updated, so that we can give your child over-the-counter medication if required.

Here are some examples of scenarios when your child should stay home from school:

- fever
- vomiting
- diarrhoea

If in doubt, please contact the school for excludable conditions.



lunch and snacks

Each day we will provide your child with a healthy morning and afternoon snack. We involve the children in the food preparation process as much as possible, teaching them how to wash, cut and peel foods, as well as pouring drinks and serving snacks. We will introduce the children to a variety of different fruits and vegetables, as well as meats, cheeses and breads. We will also ask that children try new foods.

Each family will be asked to pay a fee at the beginning of each term, or a single payment at the beginning of the school year to cover the cost of daily snacks for their child's class. Please do not send additional snacks to school with your child.

Hot lunches can be ordered through Fresh and Tasty, the meal service provided by Riverside, but children can also bring a packed lunch if desired. Since we are trying to teach the children healthy eating habits, please do not send sweets or crisps in their packed lunches. We are a nut-free school.



communication

Our desire is to work closely with you to help make your child's first school experience as positive as possible. Teachers use class websites, information boards and e-mails to communicate about everyday information, as well as special events. A school newsletter is also sent home each weekend, informing families about the upcoming week. Please be looking in your child's book bag or tray for pertinent information. Please also check the parent board for additional information.

If your child will not be at school on a given day, the school's secretary can be called or e-mailed, so that your child's teacher will be aware of their absence that particular day. Please let us know if you intend to pick your child up early from school.

At Riverside we place great emphasis upon the importance of the partnership between home and school, which is why parental involvement is actively encouraged by staff.



contacts

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Riverside School
Prague

Early Years

"Pojď sem, synu, uč se moudrým býti."

"Come here, son, and learn to be wise."

J. A. Komenský (1592 - 1670)

