

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 2021 - 2022**



**RIVERSIDE o.p.s.**

**I. CORPORATE INFORMATION**

- 1. Name:** RIVERSIDE o.p.s., address: Roztocká 9/43, Praha 6
- 2. Founders:** Brian Thompson, born 5th July 1950, United Kingdom and Sharon Jackson, born 3rd January 1960, United Kingdom
- 3. Registration number:** 262 03 812
- 4. The Company** is registered in the Business register at the Municipal Court of Prague, file O, page 191. Date of registration: 9th October 2000.
- 5. About the company:** RIVERSIDE School was founded in 1994 by two families as a Foundation. They wanted a school with a Christian Foundation providing high quality education based on the British Curriculum, which had an underlying Christian ethos and provided a limited number of scholarships to needy families. In the year 2000 the Foundation was transformed into a non-profit organisation RIVERSIDE o.p.s. (o.p.s. stands for a public beneficial company which is a type of non-profit company) and all assets of the Foundation were passed onto the new company.

The Director of Riverside o.p.s. is Peter James Daish.

The Management Board consists of these members:

Lee Ann Thompson, Chairperson  
Sharon Jackson, Member  
Brian Thompson, Member

The services provided by the publicly beneficial company are as follows: Education of children and youth – organizing of short-term and long-term lectures, courses, seminars and discussion clubs etc. with language, social, cultural, historical, philosophical, religious and other topics.

The accounting year is the school year, i.e. always the term from 1st September till 31st August of the following calendar year.

This annual report evaluates the period from 1st September 2021 till 31st August 2022.

## II. EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

### 6. RIVERSIDE SCHOOL GUIDING STATEMENTS

#### RIVERSIDE SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

Riverside School values the uniqueness of the individual, providing high quality education and skills for like 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.

#### RIVERSIDE SCHOOL PURPOSE STATEMENT

Riverside School is dedicated to providing:

- High quality education in the English language for children aged 3 to 18.
- An international approach to education based on the National Curriculum of England and Wales, the International Baccalaureate and international curricular models, adapted to facilitate each child's successful integration into Riverside School and on to their future education.
- Education underpinned by a Christian ethos, which upholds the Christian faith as the basis for a purposeful and fulfilling life.
- A service to the international and local community, within a caring multi-cultural environment.
- A limited number of scholarships to students who may otherwise be unable to attend Riverside School.

*Riverside School is a non-profit organisation, based on a high level of stewardship of funds, which does not generate any income for the Board or its Founders. All income is put into providing quality facilities, educational programmes and staff for the School.*

#### CORE VALUES

The core values for education at Riverside are set out below. These are reflected throughout the curriculum and life of the School.

#### **At Riverside School, we recognise and act to instil the principles so that**

- *Each child is valued and respected; each is unique*
- *Each child is cared for in a protective, secure, family oriented environment*
- *High quality education provides an opportunity for each child to develop their full potential*
- *The School staff are of critical importance to a successful school*
- *Children have positive relationships and attitudes to others*
- *The School, privileged with a diversity of culture, provides social bonding and support*
- *The School makes a positive impact on the wider local community*

The education provided at Riverside maintains its distinctive character and upholds these values because Christ is central to the life and work of the School.

### **CURRICULAR AIMS**

In keeping with its Aims and Objectives of Riverside School the Senior Management and staff of Riverside School aim to:

- provide high quality education in the English language;
- prepare students for higher education, the world of work and to become active citizens;
- provide a broad and balanced curriculum to nurture and strengthen each student's intellectual, spiritual, social and physical growth and development and lead to achievement for all students;
- provide students with internal and external accreditation, through internal assessment and external examinations.

Riverside School will aim to:

- provide a broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated curriculum;
- provide appropriate learning opportunities to include all students - regardless of gender, aptitude or cultural, ethnic or religious background;
- promote partnership between student, parent, teacher and community;
- ensure continuity and progression within the school and between phases of education;
- foster teaching styles which will offer and encourage a variety of relevant learning opportunities;
- encourage a respect for the school and its environment so that learning is a positive and pleasurable experience for all;
- deal with all curriculum related complaints made by parents in line with agreed procedures.

### **7. School curriculum**

The Early Years curriculum (Nursery and Reception) is based on the British model called the "Early Years Foundation Stage". The philosophy underpinning the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum is that learning should be carefully planned with an emphasis on activities that are relevant and motivating for each child. Children's learning is supported through planned play and extending and developing children's spontaneous play.

The Primary School Curriculum (years 1-6) is based on the British National Curriculum. It is adapted to provide broad, balanced and relevant international curriculum for every child, to enrich their life and to prepare him or her for the experiences, opportunities and responsibilities of adult life.

The Junior High School Curriculum (years 7-9) is based on the British National Curriculum to meet the needs of an international student body. These years are the foundation for secondary education. We build on the learning and skills acquired in Primary school and provide a broad curriculum to give students a wide range of knowledge, skills and opportunities for the future.

The High School Curriculum (years 10-13) is based on the British National Curriculum, International Baccalaureate Curriculum and international curricular styles, adapted to an international student body and designed to prepare students for high school experience in the countries to which they will relocate and also for Higher Education, through University or Colleges throughout the world. RIVERSIDE provides courses towards credits for students intending to continue their studies in North America and offers external examinations for students intending to continue their education in other areas of the world. Students sit IGCSE, International Baccalaureate, PSAT and SAT Examinations from 16 – 18.

**8. School statistics:**

School curriculum	Number of classes	Number of pupils, students
Early Years School	3	43
Primary School	14	209
Junior High School	9	135
High School	11	186
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>573</b>

**9. Facts about the teaching staff:**

School curriculum	Number of teachers	Number of teachers assistants
Early Years School	3	4
Primary School	25	11
Junior High School/High School	43	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>18</b>

**10. Professional Development Summary**

The School is supportive of and encourages professional development and training of the teaching staff. This is pursued in a number of ways;

**Appraisal:** staff appraisal enables staff and management to determine individual needs, to set career goals and identify areas of development and training.

**In House Training:** First Aid Training, Child Protection Seminars, Departmental and school discussions, Observation of peer practice, Staff access to internet and the provision of educational publications to support current knowledge of educational thinking and developments.

**In Prague training:** One to one meetings with subject teachers from other international schools. Visits to other international schools. Conferences arranged by international schools and educational association e.g. COBIS & Fieldworks. Local training courses offered for teaching EAL and the Czech curriculum. Participation in network meetings e.g. Prague Early Years Network

**Overseas Training:** Visits to Schools. International Awards. IB Diploma programme training by subject. Short Courses & Conferences.

**Advice from Associations:** NEASC, BSO, COBIS, ECIS, CIS, IBO, Adventuremark, Association for Physical Education

**On Line and Distance Learning, Specialist Visits:** A subject specialist from the UK

or US will visit for 3 days.

### **11. Buildings and Grounds:**

The teaching takes place in four buildings:

Riverside High School for years 10-13 is located on two floors of the Office Centre Hradčanska building. The floors were purposefully reconstructed and house the Riverside Arts Centre for the Visual and Performing Arts subjects. All classrooms, specialist science laboratories, and common areas are well equipped and furnished to support the range of lessons and activities. An internal staircase was installed in August 2022 to join space obtained on two additional floors of the office centre.

The Jr. High School for years 7-9 is located in Hradčanska, 200 meters from the High School building. Specialty facilities in the building include two science labs and a music recording studio. The students are also able to make use of the Arts Centre for the Visual and Performing Arts, and Design Technology subjects.

The Primary School Campus is comprised of two buildings located in Sedlec - Prague 6 and house specialty classrooms for Art, Music, and IT. The grounds include playgrounds, a sports dome, a 3G football pitch, and a volleyball pitch. A significant development was the development of a new playground surface and jungle gym

The Early Years School is located 10 minutes drive from the Sedlec site in Bubeneč - Prague 6. The grounds include an extensive garden for outdoor play.

### **12. Average number of children in the class**

School Curriculum	Average number of children in each class
Early Years School	14
Primary School	15
Junior High School	15
High School	17
Overall	<b>15</b>

### **13. Gifted and Talented Children**

The School believes that all children are gifted and talented. This is supported by the following aims:

- The raising of aspirations for all pupils
- High expectations of achievement for all students
- Greater enterprise, self-reliance and independence for all students.

In order to achieve these aims, the School ensures that all students have opportunities to develop specific skills or talents. Children who take part in the Gifted and Talented extension provision are identified through their test scores, teacher nominations, predicted test & examination results. Curricular opportunities are present to afford High School students a variety of higher level courses.

**14. Special Educational Needs – The Individual Education Plan**

Every student, identified as having special educational needs will have an individual education plan. These will be written during the first half term then reviewed. Wherever possible parental contribution to the Individual Education Plan will be sought during school interviews at parent consultation evenings or by telephone communication.

**15. Primary School Curriculum:**

- English
  - Mathematics
  - Computing
  - Science
  - Geography
  - History
  - Design and Technology
  - Art
  - Music
  - Religious Education
  - Physical Education
  - Czech
  - Drama
  - French or Spanish
  - Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) Education
- A significant amount of the timetable is centred upon the three core subjects of English, Mathematics and Information and Communication Technology.

**16. Jr. High School / High School Curriculum:**

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Biology
- Physics
- Chemistry
- Environmental Systems and Societies
- Sports, Exercise and Health Science
- Computer Science
- Information and Communication Technology
- History
- Geography
- Economics
- Business Studies & Business Management
- Psychology
- Religious Education & IB World Religions
- Visual Art
- Music & Music Technology
- Drama & Theatre Studies
- Design Technology
- Physical Education



- Spanish, French, German, Czech, Latin

### **17. Czech Education Programme, Czech for Czechs**

This programme is for students who have Czech as their first language. It enables Czech students to achieve a good standard of verbal and written Czech and to annually sit the Czech Ministry of Education examinations according to the Czech school where they are registered.

### **18. Swimming Lessons**

Swimming lessons are provided as part of the Physical Education programme from Reception upwards. The lessons take place at a local swimming pool and are taught by additional qualified instructors.

### **19. English as an Additional Language (EAL)**

An EAL programme is available for children who require support with the English language. Children are assessed by the EAL teachers at the beginning of the school year to determine the level of support required. In most cases, children are withdrawn from their class for one lesson each day.

### **20. P.E. /Sports Lessons**

The younger children have their Physical Education, apart from swimming, on the school site. Older children have their PE and Sports Lessons on the all weather surface, the school field, local gymnasiums and swimming pools. IB students have individual fitness plans and use Factory Pro fitness gymnasium regularly.

### **21. School uniform**

The School has a smart, colourful and practical uniform for students up to Junior High. The Senior High students dress up to come to school, based around a colour code.

### **22. The School Day**

The Early Years School Day commences from 8.00 and finishes at 12.00 or 14.50.  
The Primary School Day commences at 8.30 and finishes at 15.25.  
The Jr. High and Senior High School Day commence at 8.15 and finish at 15.15.

### **23. Lunches and Snacks**

Children have the option of hot lunches provided by the School or a packed lunch brought from home. The hot meals are prepared by a catering company, Fresh & Tasty. The menu consists of soup and main meal and there is a vegetarian option. Children may bring a small healthy snack to eat at morning or afternoon break.

### **24. Parent-Teacher Partnership**

The School places great emphasis upon the importance of the partnership between home and school. Parental involvement is actively encouraged by staff who share an interest in the child's intellectual, emotional, physical, spiritual, moral and social development, together with child's well-being and happiness at school. Parent Teacher Conferences are held two times during each school year.



### **25. Careers and Future Schooling**

On their entry to the High School, each student, their parents and staff contribute towards a student's Academic Profile. This is a Record of Achievement and developmentally directs the student, their parents and the school to the student's future education and a possible career pathway. A Guidance Counselor is available in the High School to help guide the students in choosing and applying to Universities.

### **26. Health and Wellbeing**

The School has a registered nurse or first-aid trained staff on each site. The School Nurse is a qualified medical nurse and responds to accidents and emergencies during the school day. The Primary School Nurse undertakes annual sight and hearing tests on all the children. The School Nurse also gives advice and first aid training to the school staff, oversees the equipment in first aid boxes and manages the School Medical Records.

Parents can ask the School Nurse questions or share their concerns regarding the health and physical welfare of their children.

The school also has two certified psychological counsellors to support students who are dealing with mental health issues.

### **27. School Events and Trips**

The School organises a number of events and trips throughout the year, often in co-operation with the parents. During the first half of the 2021-2022 school year trips and events were limited due to Covid-19. Significant events which took place were the Jr. High School Camp, Riverside Run, Sports Day, Primary and High School Graduation ceremonies, Sr. High School theatre production of "Our Town", Primary and Jr. High School Musical productions, ski trips, Festival of Music, Toys and clothes for Refugees Collection, Duke of Edinburgh Award Expeditions, and excursions to the Riverside Ranch.

### **28. Eco-education**

Eco-education has been incorporated in the School curriculum for many years. The School emphasizes a positive attitude, responsibility, and empathy towards the environment. The School recycles paper and plastic. The students have the opportunity to learn more about recycling at the Environment Club/Eco Council. There is a small organic garden available for the younger children in Early Years and the Primary School, where they grow vegetables and flowers. Riverside is certified as an Eco School through the International Program for Eco-Schools and has obtained the Silver Award through this organization.

### **29. Covid-19**

The first half of the 2021/2022 school year was significantly affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. Taking guidance from the Ministry of Education and Hygiene Department the school used distance learning when required and in-person learning where possible in line with the government regulations for each phase of education.

### III. ACCREDITATION AND MEMBERSHIP

#### 30. The School is accredited by the following organisations:

**BSO** Riverside is accredited and registered as a British School Overseas Schools.

**NEASC** RIVERSIDE is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) following a joint accreditation with the Council of International Schools (CIS)

**CIS** RIVERSIDE is accredited by the Council of International Schools following a joint accreditation with NEASC.

**IBO** Riverside is accredited by the International Baccalaureate Organisation

**AfPE** Riverside is accredited by the Association for Physical Education

**Adventuremark** Riverside is accredited by Adventuremark

#### RIVERSIDE School is in Membership with:

**AoBSO** Association of British Schools Overseas

**COBIS** RIVERSIDE is an accredited member of the Council of British International

#### 31. International Baccalaureate Diploma

The School is very proud of its membership with the International Baccalaureate Organisation. The IB Diploma opens the door to universities and colleges, including the most prestigious.

Nostrification of the IB Diploma is obtained based on individual application to the Ministry of Education and is subject to a recognition procedure in the Czech Republic and pursuant to their educational results.

With nostrification there is recognition of the IB Diploma for admission to universities and colleges in the Czech Republic including but not limited to the School of Economics, Charles University, the University of Ostrava and South Bohemia University.

IB Diploma Programme students study six subjects at higher level or standard level.

Subjects are drawn from 6 groups:

Group 1 – A First Language: English Literature, English Language and Literature, Czech Literature.

Group 2 – Modern Foreign Language: English, French, German or Spanish

Group 3 – Individuals and Society: Geography, History, Business and Management, Economics, Psychology, Environmental Systems and Societies

Group 4 - Experimental Sciences: Biology, Physics and Chemistry, Environmental Systems and Societies, Sports Health and Exercise Science, Computer Science.

Group 5: Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches, Mathematics: Applications and Interpretation

Group 6: The Arts: Visual Arts, Music, Theatre

**An Extended Essay** is a requirement for students to engage in independent research through an in-depth study of a question relating to one of the subjects they are studying.

**Theory of knowledge** is a course designed to encourage each student to reflect on the nature of knowledge by critically examining different ways of knowing (perception, emotion, language and reason) and different kinds of knowledge (scientific, artistic, mathematical and historical).

**Creativity, action, service** requires that students actively learn from the experience of doing real tasks beyond the classroom. Involvement in sport, drama, music, and community service, for example, is encouraged and accredited.

#### IV. FINAL WORD

RIVERSIDE School would like to express deep gratitude to all parents, children, teaching staff and supporting staff for all their work and co-operation on the further development of the School. Thank you for all for your efforts and support throughout the year.

In Prague, 5th December 2022



Peter Daish  
Director