

ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 2024 - 2025



RIVERSIDE o.p.s.

I. CORPORATE INFORMATION

Name: RIVERSIDE o.p.s., address: Roztocká 9/43, Praha 6

Registration number: 262 03 812

The Company is registered in the Business register at the Municipal Court of Prague, file O, page 191. Date of registration: 9th October 2000.

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 2023 till 31st August 2024.

II. GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP

Founders:

Brian Thompson
Sharon Jackson

The Management Board:

Lee Ann Thompson, Chairperson
Benjamin Peter Jackson, Member
Spencer Paul Thompson, Member

The Supervisory Board:

Vladislav Vovkanič, Chairperson
Christopher Olaf Syvertsen, Member
Louise Emily Bishop, Member

The Corporate Director:

Allan John Falk

The Management Board entrusts the day-to-day management of the school to Executive Leadership Team:

Al Falk - Co-Director
Graeme Chisholm - Co-Director
Kelly Pokluda - Business Manager

Each School division is further managed by leadership on each school site:

Connie Falk - Head of Early Years
Matthew Dagan - Primary School Principal
Sarita Myers - High School Principal

III. SCHOOL OVERVIEW

History: Riverside International 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 services provided by RIVERSIDE o.p.s. are as follows: Education of children and youth – organising of short-term and long-term lectures, courses, seminars and discussion clubs etc. with language, social, cultural, historical, philosophical, religious and other topics.

Riverside o.p.s. 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.

RIVERSIDE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL GUIDING STATEMENTS

Riverside International School Mission Statement

Riverside 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.

Core Principles

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

At Riverside, we recognise and act to instil the principles:

- Each child is valued and respected; each is unique.
- The wellbeing of each child is of critical importance to the life of the individual and the school.
- Each child is cared for in a protective, secure, family oriented environment.
- High quality education provides an opportunity for each child to develop to their full potential.
- The positive impact of the school staff is of critical importance to a successful school.
- Children develop positive relationships and attitudes to others.
- The School, privileged with diversity of culture, provides a space for social connections and develops globally-minded citizens.
- The School makes a positive impact on the local and wider community.

Annual Report of RIVERSIDE o.p.s. for the year 2025

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.

Strategic Values

- Challenge
- Community
- Care

Riverside seeks to champion the ideals of Challenge, Community and Care through every aspect of the School. Riverside's Strategic Values encapsulates the Guiding Statements, including the Mission Statement and Core Principles. Decision making, including strategic planning, is underpinned by the Strategic Values.

Riverside International School Purpose Statement

Riverside 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.

Student Enrolment Statistics 2024/2025:

- Number of Students - 732
- Average # of students in each class - 16
- Number of nationalities represented - 58

School Division	# of Classes	# of Students	Average # in Each Class
Early Years School	2	48	24
Primary School	16	263	16
Secondary School	26	421	16
Whole School	44	732	16

Academic Achievements 2024/2025:

- **High School Graduation rate:** 100%
- **IB Examination results** for the Class of 2025
Riverside's Class of 2025 once again demonstrated outstanding academic achievement in the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme:

	Riverside School	World Average
Average IB Score	34.8	30.5
Average Subject Score	5.5	4.9
Overall Pass Rate	95.2%	81.3%

For students attending Riverside for 7 or more years the average IB score is 35.6 with an average subject score of 5.7. These results highlight the long-term benefits of Riverside's consistent, high-quality education, with students outperforming global averages and excelling across a wide range of subjects.

IV. EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

Curricular Aims

In keeping with its Aims and Objectives, the Senior Management and staff of Riverside International 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 International 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.

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 a 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 the future. At the centre of our Primary curriculum is an emphasis on English, Mathematics and Inquiry skills as we seek to ensure that the foundations of literacy, numeracy, scientific investigation and computer literacy are instilled in our students.

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 Senior High School Curriculum (years 10-13) is based on (I)GCSE curricula and the IB Diploma Programme curricular models, adapted to an international student body and designed to prepare students for both high school experiences in the countries to which they may relocate and for Higher Education, at Universities or Colleges around the world. Curriculum development is ongoing. High School Diploma credits are given for all courses studied to enable students to continue their studies in North America and external examinations are offered to enable students to continue their education in the United Kingdom and other areas of the world. Students sit IGCSE and IB examinations at the end of Year 11 and Year 13 respectively. They also have the opportunity to sit the PSAT and SAT examinations from 16-18.

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 worldwide, including the most prestigious.

With nostrification by the Czech Ministry of Education there is recognition of the IB Diploma for admission to universities and colleges in the Czech Republic. Nostrification of the IB Diploma is obtained based on individual application to the Czech Ministry of Education and is subject to a recognition procedure in the Czech Republic and pursuant to the student’s educational results.

Special Educational Needs – The Individual Education Plan

All students at Riverside are special and all have special educational needs. Additional provision and/or modifications to the teaching and learning process are implemented where a student has been identified as having learning difficulties and/or disabilities, or as being exceptionally gifted or talented. We aim to enable each student to progress and be appropriately challenged.

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.

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.

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.

Health and Wellbeing

The School puts an emphasis on building a culture of positive mental health and wellbeing by providing a caring environment and supportive staff. The school has a registered nurse or first-aid trained staff on each site to deal with health related issues, as well as two certified psychological counsellors to support students who may be struggling with mental health issues.

Skills For Life Programme

A distinctive feature at Riverside is our Skills For Life Programme. The programme offers a wide range of curricular and extra-curricular activities with specialist instruction to introduce skills that students will use and develop throughout their lifetime. Activities include instrumental music, sports, performing arts, technology, visual arts, and outdoor adventure.

School Events and Trips

The School organises a number of events and trips throughout the year, often in cooperation with the parents. Significant events which took place were the Jr. High School Camp, Spain Scuba Diving Trip, Croatia Climbing Trip, Riverside Run, Sports Day, Primary and High School Graduation Ceremonies, Sr. High School theatre production, Primary and Jr. High School Musical productions, Ski Trips, Festival of Music, Duke of Edinburgh Award Expeditions, and excursions to the Riverside Ranch.

Environmental Sustainability

Environmental Sustainability has been incorporated in the school curriculum for many years. The School emphasises 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 obtained the Silver Award and the highly prized Green Flag award in Early Years in 2023.

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 the child's well-being and happiness at school. Parent Teacher Conferences are held two times during each school year.

V. TEACHER OVERVIEW AND STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Teacher Overview:

School Division	Number of teachers	Number of teaching assistants
Early Years School	3	5
Primary School	38	14
Junior High/High School	58	8
Total	100	27

- **# of Nationalities Represented** - 22
- **Qualifications:**
 - 95% of Teachers and Learning Support Assistants hold a Bachelor's Degree or higher
 - 45% of teachers hold a Master's Degree or higher
- **Teacher Retention:**
 - 30% of teachers have been with Riverside for 5 years or longer.
 - 15% of teachers have been with Riverside for 10 years or longer.
 - 10% overall annual staff turnover.

Professional Development:

Riverside School is committed to supporting the professional development of its teaching staff through various initiatives:

- **Appraisal:** Regular staff appraisals to identify individual needs, set career goals, and

plan development and training.

- **In-House Training:** Programs include First Aid, Child Protection, peer observations, departmental discussions, and access to educational publications.
- **Local Training (Prague):** One-on-one meetings with subject teachers, participation in conferences and network meetings, and local courses focused on EAL and the Czech curriculum.
- **Overseas Training:** Includes international school visits, IB Diploma Programme training, and participation in short courses and conferences.
- **Advice and Support from Associations:** Ongoing guidance from NEASC, BSO, COBIS, ECIS, CIS, IBO, Adventuremark, and the Association for Physical Education.
- **Online & Distance Learning, Specialist Visits:** Subject specialists from the UK or US provide targeted training based on the school's strategic plan.

VI. FACILITIES AND DEVELOPMENTS

The teaching takes place in four buildings:

Riverside High School for years 10-13 is located within the Office Centre Hradčanska building. The floors were purposefully reconstructed and all classrooms, specialist science laboratories, and common areas are well equipped and furnished to support the range of lessons and activities.

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

The Primary School Campus is comprised of two buildings located in Sedlec - Prague 6 and house specialty classrooms for Art, Music, IT, and a Maker Space. The grounds include playgrounds, a sports dome, a 3G football pitch, and a volleyball pitch. A new playground surface and jungle gym were developed in August 2022.

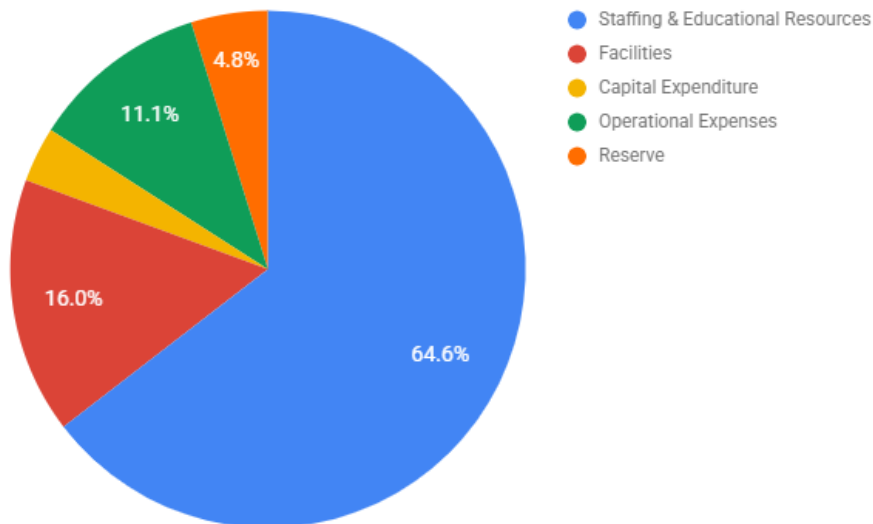
The Early Years School is located in a villa in Bubeneč - Prague 6. The grounds include an extensive garden for outdoor play.

Key capital improvements and developments during the 2024/2025 school year include:

- **Technology & Innovation Centre:** Development of space for advanced digital learning.
- **High School Capacity Expansion:** Development of new, modern classroom spaces to support our growing student body.
- **Maker Space Enhancement:** Upgraded facilities for Primary School creative projects.
- **Athletic Facility Upgrades:** Full resurfacing of the 3G sports pitch to enhance performance and safety standards.
- **Access Systems Enhancement:** Upgraded security infrastructure and lock systems.

V. FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Riverside operates as a non-profit organization, with all revenue generated from tuition fees. The school has no outstanding debts or loans, and is 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. Budget expenses for the 2024/2025 school year were allocated as follows:



VI. COMPLIANCE AND TRANSPARENCY

Riverside strives to maintain full compliance in all areas, including educational standards, safeguarding, financial transparency through annual audits published online, health and safety regulations, and building permits. To this end, and in an effort to continually improve our practice, the school regularly undergoes professional accreditations by the following organizations who help us to uphold best practice:

The School is accredited by the following organisations:

- British School Overseas (BSO): Accredited and registered as a British School Overseas.
- New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC): Joint accreditation with the Council of International Schools (CIS).
- Council of International Schools (CIS): Joint accreditation with NEASC.
- International Baccalaureate Organisation (IBO): Accredited to offer the IB Diploma Programme.
- Association for Physical Education (AfPE): Accredited for physical education standards.
- Adventuremark: Accredited for outdoor education and adventure activities.
- Czech Ministry of Education: Inspected and recognized as an international school with permission to provide compulsory education in the Czech Republic.

Additionally, Riverside is in membership with:

- Association of British Schools Overseas (AoBSO)
- Council of British International Schools (COBIS)

VII. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

As we reflect on the 2024/2025 school year, we share our sincere gratitude with the parents, staff, and students who make Riverside a strong and supportive community. We are proud of our students' outstanding academic achievements and the personal growth they have demonstrated through our Skills for Life and Outdoor Adventure programmes, as well as the technology opportunities made possible by the opening of our Innovation Center.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment and for being an essential part of our school's journey.

In Prague, 10th October 2025



Allan Falk
Director