

A Better Medway Schools Award Platinum Winner

Award review



School:	Riverside Primary	Reviewed by:	Jodie Miller	Date of review:	28/04/23
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Riverside Primary is part of the Rainham Mark Education Trust. Growing to become a two-form entry school by September 2024. An overall 'Good' rating was achieved in the last Ofsted inspection in November 2019, with outstanding judgements for Behaviour and Personal Development. Riverside is a mainstream school with two integrated special provisions, one for children with ASD and one for children with VI. Riverside is a Flagship school under the Inclusion Quality Mark. The school's vision was developed by all staff and governors and pupils developed our school motto of "Happy, Helpful and Hard-working" to support the vision. Our school values have recently been updated to reflect our whole Trust ambition to develop 'CHARACTER' in all our pupils. The school values and ethos are key features in every classroom across all phases. There is an open-door policy for all staff and students creating a nurturing supportive safe environment. This enables children and adults to receive support and feel supported with access to co-regulating adults. There is a plethora of resources for all children to develop emotional literacy skills and build on their resilience and coping strategies. Children with SEND needs have individual workstations within the classroom as well as dedicated spaces outside of the classroom to ground themselves and access other therapeutic resources to enable them to regulate and receive support to deescalate any overwhelming emotions. Riverside is a beacon for best practice approaches and examples for trauma informed practice. Staff clearly are passionate about inclusion and have created a setting that enables all children to feel valued and invested in with no limits to their abilities to achieve. There are displays around the school promoting growth mindset with inspirational examples of celebrities that have achieved great things that live with health conditions or learning needs as well as beautiful displays of students work and boards for things, they are proud of achieved. Its evident across the setting how important student voice is to all staff. Staff are passionate about providing support to all their students and actively greet or celebrate positive attributes about all children they interact with. SLT know the names of all students and create a nurturing family like environment for the whole school community. Parents shared how well supported they are by the school and shared how empowered their children feel to speak about at school about their needs and any resources they feel enable them to be comfortable whilst at school. I witness several students accessing additional resources directly from Mrs Huggett's office whilst remembering the rules around utilising such resources and feeling validated and accepted for the need to access them. Its evidence from the school environment, discussions and feel within the school that emotional health and wellbeing comes first. Once children feel comfortable and safe their learning experience takes place. Healthy snacks are available to all students including porridge at breaktime. The school have cookery classes for students which includes growing and using their own produce from the bio dome as well as invite parents into every tri class to support healthier meals for the whole family. There are further initiatives for being environmentally friending with a school uniform swap shop as well as encouraging active travel to school. Staff go above and beyond for all students to feel safe, supported and included within their school community to truly feel part of the Riverside family, this is evident with staff creating bespoke resources, to choosing CPD choices to align with the needs of students for example a member of staff has learnt brail to develop reading resources for a visually impaired child that

enable class mates to include them in the giving and receiving of Christmas cards, an idea the students came up with demonstrating the Riverside values being truly embedded across the curriculum and staff approach. Funding has been sorted to offer various breaktime activities for children to have various options and areas to spend their free time in from a soft play area, reading area to a sensory garden. Riverside staff have support from SLT and each other and work well to notice when others may need that additional support maintaining mutually satisfying respectful strong relationships across the setting. Staff surveys report 100% satisfaction and pride in working at Riverside. This was apparent by all the happy and nurturing staff met whilst on site and the interactions they had with all students. The school most certainly has CHARACTER underpinning the values of Curiosity, Happiness, Aspiration, Respect, Articulacy, Community, Teamwork, Equality, and Resilience. Congratulations on all your fabulous work.

Parents feedback:

Parent surveys (January 2023): 98% say their child is happy at school, 100% say their child gets effective SEN support, 94% would recommend the school to another parent.

“My child loves coming to school and is making fantastic progress.”

“I can’t praise the school highly enough for always supporting my son and his needs.”

“A fantastic school and very supportive staff team.”

“My child is extremely happy at school.”

“My child has had a great start to school and loves it at Riverside.”

Theme 1: Personal Social Health Economic Education(PSHE) including Relationship and Sex Education (RSE)		2023
Standard 1: Leadership & Management	PSHE SL has left – SLT now holding	
Standard 2: Curriculum: Weekly pshe lesson jigsaw / overview docs on website	Jigsaw and RSE curriculum Safeguarding Calendar under development Life Skills eg. cookery being built in to rest of curriculum (skills map being developed)	
Standard 3: Pupil progress and assessment (dojo system	Assessment data - Sonar Jigsaw Journals	
Standard 4: Staff development & training (bluesky portal)	Staff meetings/INSET – TIP, ZoR	
Standard 5: Resources & external services	HSSW EWST Family Solutions	
Standard 6: Pupil voice (pupil curriculum leaders	School Council Eco Committee Pupil Surveys	
Standard 7: Parent Voice (you said we did / parent gov /consultation)	Parent surveys IQM assessment	

Theme 2: Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing	2023	
Standard 1: Leadership & Management (flagship action plan? WSA thrive mapping?)	SMHL training Previous IQM Plan was focused on this	
Standard 2: Environment (pupil wellbeing lead/ MHST / art therapy sessions / yoga / mindfulness / eco art whole school project / daily check ins /school therapy dog / emotional 1st aid / lego therapy	TIP Zones of Regulation starting from EYFS through all KS worry boxes	
Standard 3: Building resilience (riverside rangers/CBT/ MH policy? / SH policy?	School values – Dojo Growth Mindsets Displays eg. FAIL	
Standard 4: Early identification (Riverside tots/ TIP? Implementation?)	Nursery ISR – Nursery staff included in all training Transition links with PVI	
Standard 5: Targeted Support (SEND Gov / bio dome / sensory room / Counsellor	Drawing and Talking ELSA EWST Counsellor	
Standard 6: Staff wellbeing (compliment slips / feel good folders / peer 2 peer support? / IQM staff interviews	Trust offer – ‘Help’s Available’, Benenden, Care First 1:1 check-ins – Line Managers/SLT Staff surveys Staff events Weekly briefings	
Standard 7: Pupil Voice (pupil empowerment champ / compliment sheet peer 2 peer	Pupil surveys Play Leaders Compliments jar	
Standard 8: Parent Voice (parents in partnership prog / time to talk sessions / IQM report focus group	FORPS Time to Talk Parent surveys IQM assesment	

Theme 3: Healthy Eating		2022
Standard 1: Leadership and Management	Food provider discussions Cookery curriculum development	
Standard 2: Curriculum	Cookery skills map Biodome Change for Life Fun, Fit, Food, Cookery Club, Quorn foods Assemblies linked to being healthy	
Standard 3: Staff development and training	Educare Food Hygiene	
Standard 4: Food in School	Healthy lunchboxes, water, fruit/veg snacks, milk Porridge	
Standard 5: Resources and external services	BASC HSSW Healthy Eating course	
Standard 6: Pupil Voice	PSHE 'Healthy Me' work	
Standard 7: Parent Voice	HSSW sessions Parents interview	

Theme 4: Physical Activity	2022	
Standard 1: Leadership and Management	PE SL developed curriculum overview and planning resources.	
Standard 2: Curriculum	Daily Mile, Moki bands Forest school and developing outdoor provision for EYFS HSSP support	
Standard 3: Pupil progress & assessment	PE data on Sonar SL monitoring	
Standard 4: Staff development and training	Team Teaching with Howard School Sports Partnership Yoga	
Standard 5: Resources and external services	Yoga Extra-curricular clubs MYG Visitors eg. disabled athlete	
Standard 6: Pupil Voice	Pupil surveys SL monitoring Feedback surveys eg. Yoga	
Standard 7: Parent Voice	Parent surveys	

There continues to be a strong focus on & continuous investment in Health and Wellbeing at Riverside continuing to meet the criteria for Platinum status.

Future development will focus on the strand of Environment/climate change work e.g. Through the Eco-committee. Some work has already been carried out in this area eg. sustainable art projects, DT themed week upcycling challenge, uniform recycling.

Parents interview:

<p>Leadership & Management: How would you describe the leadership of the school? i.e. accessible, friendly, trauma informed?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff are always available at the gate / door this enables early intervention for any issues escalating, i.e. a child having a tough start to the day or family issues. • Dojo enables messaging with quick responses to parent /carers its also used for sharing resources. • Special events to invite whole school community to connect with staff including SLT & celebration events where SLT volunteer their free time to host & be part of i.e. summer fete • All staff are happy, and you can tell they enjoy their jobs
<p>Curriculum: Do you feel that the curriculum is inclusive of PSHE that's supportive of your children's needs & level of understanding?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resources have been tailored to meet my daughters needs high % of students have SEND needs • Key vocab is shared & opportunities to flag any concerns from parents with teachers regularly • Resources are shared with parents before children access them so parents know what their children are experiencing and learning so they can have wrap around conversations to support their learning and appreciate the building of knowledge each year • Workshops were offered when the statutory requirements came in and development of the PSHE curriculum for parents to have input • All parents knew the school used Jigsaw resources & referenced other resources i.e. NSPCC Pants
<p>Pupil progress & Assessment: How would you describe the process in the school?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SATs practice papers are individually marked and guidance tailored. • 2 parents evenings a year Oct baseline then later to determine progress • Parents receive reports with RAG rating indicators. • DOJOs offer awards and reports too • Children are celebrating in assemblies for various projects & progress.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer exhibition where all students have their work showcased around the hall to invite parent / carers to see. Children are excited to also showcase their peers work and it's a whole school celebration reinforcing the ethos of no pupil feels any lesser. • Book vending machine to encourage reading and celebrate children's reading progress.
Staff training & wellbeing: Do you have a sense of staff being supported within the setting? What evidence do you have that supports this?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When staff interact with parents & pupils its always with warmth • It feels like staff can be themselves in school and are open with one another and us parents • They're all amazing and always happy to adapt the way they work to meet the children's needs • Even the office staff are trauma informed and so friendly • Staff nurture the needs of all the children enabling them to thrive • All staff seem happy and to truly care about the pupils and us parents you can be yourself and honest with them not worrying about being judged • Staff retention speaks volumes • SLT support all staff and they too appear friendly and happy
Resources for students / families: What resources are you aware of or have you accessed that's supported your child's educational and or health needs? What other resources are available for the wider school community?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lots of courses are held in school from cookery to ASD support from external providers • Workshops for online safety / PSHE / sats / curriculum • Residential trips • Parent carer time to talk coffee mornings • Riverside attitudes certificates • 1-2-1 sessions with Miss Wood • Books on certain topics i.e. SEMH / puberty • Shield presentations from governors • Transition events • Stress management for students for tests • Putty / fidget toys / colouring club • Counsellor available twice weekly • Home support sessions

Pupil voice: What opportunities are you aware of that enables your children to have their voice heard at school?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eco committee • School council • Pupil surveys • Open door policy for children to access leads / slt when they need to • Pupil voice to adapt resources to align with needs are encouraged.
Parent voice: What opportunities are there for parents to be heard and consulted with on the curriculum and conduct within school?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent surveys • Dojo • PTA
Environment: If you were to describe the learning environment in 3 words which, would you choose? What is it about the school environment that you feel works well in nurturing the learning and growth potential of your children?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supportive • Nurturing • Amazing • A safe space where everyone is valued • It's a family • "You're always listened to by staff" • Lockdown was so hard because we wasn't coming here, the people have your back and that's from the front desk right up to Mrs Wilmot"
Other celebrations / strong points you feel is valuable to mention:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play leaders. • Sports day older pupils running activities, coaching younger children • Even with the school growing in size the support and achievements haven't fallen • Teachers dance with students at the disco and volunteer their free time to support school events & extracurricular activities • Fire service support events • Breakfast is provided for all on SATs week • Covid transition approach supported parents & children with the process

Award Level Met:	28/04/23	Authorised by:	Jodie Miller	Date of award:	28/04/23
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