

Welcome to *our* world



STRATHALLAN
Opportunities for *all* to excel

Riley Prospectus
2017/18



Where the Strathallan journey begins







Welcome to our Junior House, Riley.



Riley House is a very special place. It has to be. Parents from all over the world entrust us with the care of their children during their formative years. It's a huge responsibility and it's one that the staff in Riley House, and the wider school, take very seriously.

Discreetly set within Strathallan's 153 acres of safe, outdoor space, Riley is a small, close community. With around 80 children in the House, aged between 9 and 13, it's small enough for everyone to get to know each other yet big enough to encourage diversity and healthy competition.

We welcome boys and girls, boarders and day pupils. While the House has its own separate area on campus (including classrooms) our children benefit from the extensive facilities of the whole School.

We've invested heavily in our estate in recent years and we're fortunate to have some of the best sporting and recreational facilities of any school in Scotland. It's a perfect balance: small classes, big resources. Our pupils enjoy the expertise of dedicated primary school teachers and the specialist input of subject teachers from the senior school. They have an idyllic place they can call their own while taking full advantage of the incredible resources right there on their doorstep.

All of this helps to give Riley pupils an exceptional educational experience. Specialist teaching provides a deep insight into each subject while the scale and quality of the activities programme provided within the confines of the campus allows every pupil, day or boarding, to broaden their skills and experience and discover things they'll love.

Most importantly, Riley is a home from home, full of music and laughter, where children are well looked after and carefully nurtured for the challenges that await them in the senior part of the School and beyond.

E. C. Lalani

Emma Lalani
Riley Housemistress



*Where the foundations
are set for future success*

This is the perfect environment to develop a love of learning.

A broad academic curriculum

Riley House is organised into small groups with an average class size of 12. Our two dedicated primary school teachers are attached to the two younger year groups in Riley and work alongside specialist subject-specific teachers from the senior part of the school. They're experts in their fields and deliver lessons in areas like languages, music, science and art. The older Riley pupils receive all their lessons with the specialist subject teachers in the main part of the School.

Tailored courses

Pupils join Riley House from a wide variety of backgrounds and locations. As well as local day pupils, we welcome children from much further afield - including abroad. We look closely at the needs of each pupil and tailor a course to support the transition between their previous school and their progression into senior school at the age of 13. Courses are generally based on English Key Stages Two and Three.

A good grounding

We ensure each child has a good grounding in core subjects and experience in specialist areas before moving on to further study. The gradual exposure to specialist teaching allows pupils to make good progress both in the core subjects and in the many subjects they will pursue in senior school. Classes are organised to take into account ability and previous experience to ensure each pupil is working at an appropriate level. In Form IJJ (P5) and Form IJ (P6) pupils study:

Core subjects taught by class teacher:

- English
- Mathematics
- Personal and Social Development
- History
- Geography

Specialist teachers for:

- French
- Science
- Computing
- Design Technology
- Art
- Religious Education
- Music
- Physical Education

In Form I there is one mixed ability set. In Form II pupils are streamed into three sets according to ability while Mathematics and French groups are settled independently. In these years, the curriculum covers:

- Art
- Classical Studies/Latin
- Computing
- Design Technology
- English
- French
- Geography
- History
- Mathematics
- Music
- Physical Education
- Religious Education
- Science

“The small classes, supervised prep and teaching have brought our son on in leaps and bounds. We have seen a different child since starting Riley. It is quite astonishing.”

We are a small, close knit community where learning and friendships thrive.

While school life is different from home life, it's very important to us that we create a warm 'homely' environment in Riley House. In many ways, it's like a very large, extended family. We work hard to promote a caring environment where we all look out for each other. Most importantly, all the children know who to ask for help and there are staff on hand round the clock to deal with any emergencies - including our live-in Matron who is on call at all times.

Of course for any medical matters, we have a fully-staffed health centre in the main campus with full-time nurses and regular doctors' surgeries. While most children don't need them all that often, it's reassuring to know they're there.

Healthy and happy

Riley is a supportive and nurturing environment. As a result, our pupils are confident, eager to try new things, polite and well mannered. We listen to them and ensure that they're happy and well looked after every day.

Our recent, excellent report from the Care Inspectorate is an endorsement of the high standards we set at Strathallan to make sure our children are well looked after and content when they're in our care.

For the many children who board with us, we make sure they maintain a good connection with home. They can keep in touch with their families during term times using the wifi to speak to parents and grandparents on Skype or they can text or call whenever they need to.

Additionally, the children know they can speak to their Housemistress, Matron, tutors or other staff at any time about any issue they may have. Pastoral care is extremely important and we strive at all times to reach the highest possible standards.

Learning and growing together

For most of our pupils, the best thing about Riley is the time spent with friends. The relatively small size of the house allows children to form great friendships. They also learn and grow together, enjoying unforgettable experiences that will live with them forever.

At Riley, there is a commitment to helping pupils discover things that inspire them. Through their time in the classroom with their teachers, in activities alongside senior pupils and gap year students or making the most of our exceptional sports, music and drama facilities, Riley pupils develop their interests and find the activities they'll wish to pursue throughout their school days. For many, it's the start of a journey that sees them going on to perform at the highest level.

The freedom to explore

While the scale of our activities programme is a huge benefit to everyone in Riley, we never forget that children need some time to create their own games and adventures, learning as they play. From kicking a ball around with friends to exploring 'the Valley', our safe, secure 153 acre site is a wonderful playground that the children adore.



"I feel my daughter is really safe in Riley. She is given quite a lot of responsibilities which may appear small but it is a big step to developing her future."

- All our Riley pupils participate in
- the annual bonding day at the Landmark Adventure Park, Aviemore.
 - Curriculum days taking pupils outside the classroom for a day of interactive and inventive learning
 - A variety of after school activities from photography to fly fishing
 - Inter-division competitions in music, drama and sport
- In addition:
- All our pupils learn musical instruments
 - Perform in the termly Informal Concerts
 - Take part in the end of summer Musical

Where confidence is gently nurtured



Riley at a glance

Number of pupils

75

Resident staff:
1 Housemistress
2 Residential Tutors
1 Matron

Other staff:
Team of Tutors
Domestic Staff.

Residential accommodation:
5 boys' dormitories
5 girls' dormitories
(average capacity of 4 per dorm).

9-13 Age Groups

34% Percentage of Boarders

66% Percentage of Day Pupils

Communal areas:
common room, TV snug, games room, quiet area, kitchen
and foyer snug.

2 Number of Primary School Classrooms

14 Average class size:

93% Percentage of pupils that move up to the Senior School

**based on September 2017 figures*

"At Riley, there is a commitment to helping pupils discover what inspires them. It is our responsibility to help each and every child uncover what they are passionate about. We have exceptional sports facilities and outstanding music and drama programmes as well as academic clinics for pupils to receive extra tuition. Where else can a 10-year-old go for academic support at 6pm?"

No pupil is forced to participate in activities they are not interested in. We suggest activities and they try things until they find programmes that they enjoy and wish to pursue."

Emma Lalani, Riley Housemistress



Riley show, Time Lord



Tasty Tuesdays



Riley camp, Tree Zone



Playing board games after prep



Riley sport day



Musical Showcase at Perth Concert Hall

A day in the life of Riley



Up with the larks

Our boarding pupils start the day at 7.00am with a brisk walk to a delicious breakfast in the dining hall. Our day pupils join us for roll-call at 8.10am. Chapel's on Thursday mornings before classes and the whole school has Assembly on Friday mornings.



Variety is the spice of life

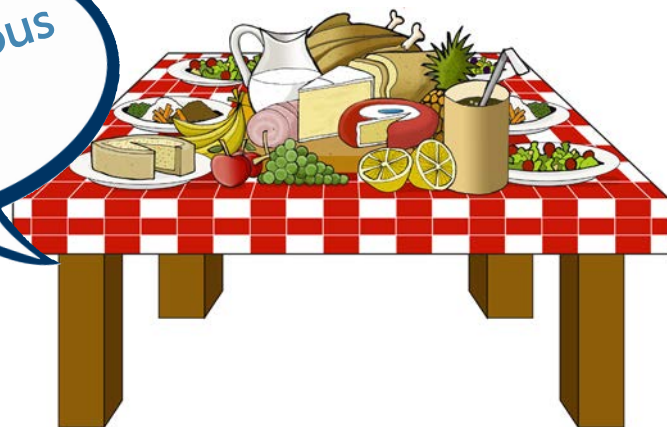
Every day is full and varied. On Mondays, Wednesday and Friday we have lessons until 1.05pm with games after lunch. On Tuesday and Thursdays, lessons run from 8.40am until 3.30pm and Saturday lessons finish at 12.10pm. When lessons finish, you can choose the things you like best from hockey, swimming and rugby, to climbing, choir, orchestra, dance, drama and everything in between. It's all happening here. We even do a huge Riley Show at the end of the summer term and everyone's involved!



Healthy bodies help healthy minds so we eat well every day. There's lots of choice – hot dishes, salads, fruit, tasty treats and something for all tastes and dietary requirements.

We get regular feedback from pupils and the Riley Pupil Council too to make sure everyone's enjoying our food. As well as mealtimes in the dining hall, there's a small kitchen in the House for toast and snacks.

Food glorious food



PREP TIME



Daily prep

Prep takes place every weekday evening between 6.15pm and 7.00pm. Our tutors are on hand to help make sure everyone gets a good understanding of every subject. After prep pupils can choose an activity or just hang out with friends. Day pupils can stay for prep - which means extra flexibility on pick-up times for busy working parents. We also have a bus for day pupils which leaves at 7.30pm every day.



Time for bed

After prep, there's time to relax, maybe play some games, watch a bit of TV, read a book, contact home, discuss the day with the House staff or just chat amongst friends before heading off to the dorms. Lights out brings another busy day to a close at 9.00pm.

Get set for the weekend



All our pupils have school on Saturday morning and there are usually sports matches in the afternoon. For our boarding pupils, there's a full programme of Sunday activities and outings so there's always something to get involved in.

See for yourself

The best way to find out if Riley is right for your child is to see it for yourself. We encourage parents and their children to visit during term time to get a real feel for life at Strathallan. We can also organise Short Stay Immersion Programmes, taster days and overnight stays allowing prospective pupils the opportunity to spend time seeing what it's like to be in Riley House.

We also host a number of Information Mornings throughout the year and you can find details of these on the Strathallan website.

Entry criteria

Our Junior House, Riley accepts applications from day and boarding pupils age 9 to 12 from all over the world. Age is recorded as at 1st September in the year of entry.

Entrance is by school report and maths and English assessments, or Scholarship held in early spring.

We welcome serious applicants to join us for a Taster Day or overnight stay.

To find out more about applications for Riley House or to arrange a visit please contact:
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Tel: (+44) 1738 815003.

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