



Ribston Hall  
High School

SHARING AMBITION

Cognitive Fluency | Personal Character | Compassion & Tolerance

# Visitor Information Pack





## Contents

Welcome - page 3

Introducing Ribston Hall High School - page 4

Our Senior Leadership Team - page 5

Timing of the School Day - page 6

Arrival at Ribston - page 7

Social Media and Contact Information - page 8

School Intent - page 9

School Aims - page 10

Ribston Baccalaureate - page 11

Curriculum Organisation - page 12

Teaching and Learning - page 13

Location - page 14



## Welcome

Thank you for coming to our school to support us in helping to provide an outstanding and engaging school experience for our students.

Contact with employers and higher education establishments brings our curriculum to life for the students and shows the relevance of their classroom learning.

This document aims to answer all your questions about school day timings, use of content on social media for marketing purposes, ensuring safeguarding, car parking and hospitality.

If there is any other information you need, please ask your point of contact and they will find out for you.





## Introducing Ribston Hall High School

Ribston Hall High School was founded in 1921 and is one of the 163 remaining grammar schools in England. The school, which is situated in the heart of Gloucester, is a selective school for girls with a co-ed Sixth Form. It serves the immediate community of Gloucester, students also join us from across Gloucestershire and the other counties that sit on its borders.

Ribston Hall is a selective 11 - 18 school and admission into Year 7 is by the GL entrance test that students take when they are in Year 6 of primary school. The school admits 150 students into year groups 7 to 11 making it 5 form entry. At the end of Year 11 some of our students stay at Ribston to continue their education in our Sixth Form where they are joined by both boys and girls from other schools who want to become part of our 6th form community. The majority of our Sixth formers go on to university but some also pursue alternate pathways such as higher-level apprenticeships. We have introduced a Ribston Baccalaureate to our Sixth Form offer this year. This had been accredited by the National Baccalaureate Trust and we are very excited about the wider opportunities this will provide to our school community.

We have extensive facilities on the school site which include a recently added six laboratory science block successfully secured through £1.6 million in government funding. This funding was received in response to the schools ongoing commitment to widening access for disadvantaged students from the local area to access a grammar school education.



## Our Senior Leadership Team

As a stand-alone Academy, Ribston Hall is Governed by a Board of Trustees drawn from a variety of professional backgrounds and run by an experienced Senior Leadership Team who have clear strategic roles across the school and are currently supported by an Extended Leadership Team.

Our current Senior Leadership Team consists of:

- Mr Alec Waters - Headteacher
- Mr Andy Barnard - Assistant Headteacher (Ambition and SENCO)
- Mrs Debbie Hay - Assistant Headteacher (Culture and Ethos and DSL)
- Mr Andy Sargent - Assistant Headteacher (Academic Excellence)
- Ms Lisa Hughes - Finance and Operations Manager
- Mr Jonathan Cole - Curriculum Lead for Science and STEM
- Ms Catriona Nicklin - Lead for Sixth Form





## Timing of the School Day

Description	Start	End
Registration and Assembly	8:40 am	9 am
Period 1	9 am	10 am
Period 2	10:05 am	11:05 am
Break	11:05 am	11:25 am
Period 3	11:25 am	12:25 pm
Period 4	12:30 pm	13:30 pm
Lunch	1:30 pm	2:25 pm
Period 5	2:25 pm	3:25 pm

If you wish to arrive before school starts, perhaps to set up equipment, the site is staffed from 8 am. Please let your contact know your estimated time.

# Arrival at Ribston

## Car Parking

If you require reserved car parking, please let your point of contact know the number of spaces you require.

## Arrival at Ribston

If you arrive in a car, please press the button on the keypad near the car park barrier. This will allow you to speak to reception, who can then raise the barrier for you. You cannot be admitted to the car park unless you have spoken to reception. You should then park (in the reserved space if this has been arranged) and walk around the outside of the school to the reception desk. We do not need car registration details in advance. Whether you arrive on foot or in a vehicle you must arrive through the main doors to the school and via Reception where you will be checked-in. At reception you will be allocated a Visitors Pass.

## Safeguarding

You and your team should each bring photo ID on the day. You will need to show this to the receptionist who will then issue you with a visitor badge. You will need to be accompanied by a member of staff when moving around the school. If you or anyone in your team has been DBS checked please bring this documentation with you, you can then be issued a visitor badge that allows you to move around the school unaccompanied. While you are delivering a session to students, you will have a member of staff with you for behaviour management and safeguarding purposes.

## Hospitality

If you are spending lunchtime at the school, a hospitality lunch can be provided. Your point of contact can arrange this for you.

## Equipment Delivery

Equipment can be delivered within the hours of 8am and 4pm Monday to Friday. See the section on safeguarding for details of requirements for anyone carrying equipment through the school. Please ensure anything sent to the school is clearly marked, including the event and a point of contact name.

# Social Media use for Marketing

We are happy for you to use social media to promote your work with us. Before you do, we will need to confirm that the students in your photographs have given us photographic consent. It is important that any photos shared on social media are checked with the teacher in the classroom before you share any photos.

We are active users of Facebook and Instagram (we have approximately 2000 followers on both platforms). We occasionally use LinkedIn. Once you have checked photographic permissions, please share the information you plan on making public about your time at the school with our Marketing and Communications Officer by emailing [marketing@ribstonhall.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:marketing@ribstonhall.gloucs.sch.uk)

You can find us on social media by using the following handles:



ribstonhallhighschool



ribstonhallhighschool



ribstonhallhighschool

## Contact Information

Our central email address is [rhhs@ribstonhall.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:rhhs@ribstonhall.gloucs.sch.uk). Please feel free to use this if you need to contact the school via email and your usual contact is not available. It would be useful if you can put the person/department the email is destined for in the subject.





## School Intent



### **Cognitive Fluency**

Students become effective, autonomous learners who have developed skills that enable them to learn with cognitive fluency. They will have high aspirations and will work hard to achieve their goals.



### **Personal Character**

Students develop their personal character. They will have high expectations of themselves and their behaviour. They will show good judgement, confidence and self-belief.



### **Compassion and Tolerance**

Students develop compassion, tolerance and a strong social conscience. In both the local and global community, they will take opportunities to improve the world through their careers and relationships.

# School Aims

**Aim:** To raise standards of teaching by empowering teachers to take risks and plan effective learning opportunities that promote student discovery. By fostering an environment of...

- Sharing best practise in 'open' classrooms developing the use of teaching and learning communities.
- Risk taking when planning, avoid 'safe' lesson structures and activities.
- Guided student discovery - shift emphasis away from didactic teaching in promoted positive classroom climate.

Through a collaborative approach we have developed the key aspects of pedagogy which we feel are key components to the most effective teaching at Ribston.

This has grown into the strategic implementation of our curriculum which is to facilitate a culture of academic excellence and personal growth through enriching an infective learning experience through:

- Challenge and Deep thinking - High expectations from students and teachers with opportunities for independent learning through:
  - Modelling and Risk- Taking - Students are resilient and know how to apply knowledge and skills.
  - Questioning - 'high level' questioning so that students think hard.
  - Feedback and Metacognition for Self-Reflection – High quality, to encourage future discovery.
  - Positive Learning Climate - Embedded use of positive language.





## Ribston Baccalaureate - Our Sixth Form Offer



Our sixth form offer aims to develop the key educational and personal qualities students require to graduate to their next educational phase or employment.

The offer identifies four areas of focus:

### **Be aspirational / Aim Higher Academically**

Provide exceptional educational experiences, through high quality teaching, broad curriculum offer and aspirational academic support pathways.

### **Be unique / Develop your Brand**

Create personal development opportunities that promote exceptional experiences beyond the classroom.

### **Be Successful / Craft your Credibility**

Foster student interactions and encounters that develop exceptional leadership skills and wider community engagement.

### **Be Autonomous / Cultivate your Confidence**

Nurture a strong academic focus and community cohesion.



## Curriculum Organisation

We deliver the National Curriculum to all students 11-16 to develop a broad and balanced learning experience. At key stage 3 (years 7-9) the curriculum consists of English, Mathematics, Science, Modern Foreign Languages (French and Spanish), History, Geography, Religious Studies, Art and Design (Fine Art, 3D Design and Textiles) Food Preparation & Nutrition, Music, Computer Science, Physical Education, Dance, Drama and Personal, Social Health & Economic Education.

At Key Stage 4 (Years 10 & 11) all students follow GCSE courses in English, English Literature, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology (or Combined Science) and Religious Studies. Students choose three additional GCSE subjects from Art and Design (Fine Art or Textiles) Dance, Food Preparation and Nutrition, Drama, Geography, History, Computer Science, Psychology, Music, Physical Education, French, German and Spanish. In addition, there is a general programme involving Physical Education, Personal Social, Health, Economic Education and Private Study Time.

In the sixth form students follow A Level based curriculum and study three subjects from Art and Design (Fine art and Textiles) Biology, Business studies, Chemistry, Dance, Food Science and Nutrition, English Literature, French, Geography, Computer science, History, Mathematics, Music, Physical Education, Physics, Politics, Psychology, Philosophy & Ethics, Sociology and Spanish.



## Teaching and Learning

Our vision for Teaching and Learning at Ribston is to ensure our students become more effective autonomous learners. Through the continuing use of pedagogy and cognitive science, we support teachers in further developing their skills to enable students to learn with greater cognitive fluency. With a focus on increasing challenge, we are developing students' skills across all Key Stages to ensure they become more confident, reflective learners that enjoy challenge and deep thinking.

We have a very active Teaching and Learning group who are all members of the Chartered College of Teaching. We have a strong focus on evidence-based practice in our Teaching and Learning strategy which means that rather than chasing trends and initiatives, we evaluate current research and present findings to staff to help them reflect on their own practice. Over the past 18 months, we have developed a shared understanding of what makes the very best teaching and learning: this now forms our Effective Teaching Framework. This is the document we use when looking at Teaching and Learning and how to get the most from student learning experiences.





## Location

Gloucestershire is renowned for the Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the Forest of Dean, along with its surrounding picturesque towns and villages. Gloucester and its neighbour, Cheltenham, are not only steeped in history and architectural charm but also boast vibrant leisure, sports, and arts scenes.

Cheltenham, famous for its racing events, including the prestigious Gold Cup, hosts festivals throughout the year, such as the Literature, Jazz and Science Festivals. Meanwhile, Gloucester is a city rich in diversity, offering a unique blend of cultures. The Gloucester Docks, the most inland port in the country, stand as a testament to the city's history with its National Waterways Museum and Soldiers of Gloucestershire Museum and offers an array of culinary delights and beverages. Gloucester Cathedral and other historic sites, together with retail outlets and open spaces, contribute to the city's multifaceted appeal.

Ribston Hall High School, located in Gloucester itself, benefits from its proximity to the centre of the city and various attractions, including the Robinswood Hill Country Park. This park, just a few minutes' walk from the school, offers panoramic views of the city. The school is close to Junction 12 of the M5 motorway so is easily connected to the rest of the country including the Midlands, Wales and the South West.



WE ARE

Ribston |