

RISHWORTH SCHOOL

A co-educational day and boarding school for children aged 3-18



Welcome to Rishworth School

As you step through our doors, you will immediately feel that Rishworth is more than just an incredible school, it is a true community. As a co-educational day and boarding school, we welcome students from the age of three to eighteen. In my twenty-two years of working at the school, I have witnessed first-hand how each member of our community embodies a sense of purpose and a deep desire to make the most of the wide range of experiences and opportunities available and I am proud to lead Rishworth in its new era as the first female Head.

At Rishworth School, we encourage students to foster a deep love of learning, to build their confidence and courage to grow, to be an individual, whilst embracing the warmth and unity of our community.

Imaginations thrive throughout Rishworth, with a well-deserved reputation for nurturing the Creative and Performing Arts, and every student benefiting from specialist teaching from our Nursery onwards. We are proud to be recognised as one of the leading schools in the region for Sports, offering a wide range of scholarships every year, students flourish with an international standard of coaching. Programs such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award and the Extended Project Qualification are integral to our wider focus on service, leadership, and character building, preparing Rishworth students to become well-rounded, successful contributors to modern society.

I warmly invite you to take a virtual tour or schedule a visit to the school in person. At Rishworth, every day is an open day, and we would love for you and your family to join us on the most exciting journey of all, the growth and development of the next generation.

Mrs Jessica Sheldrick
Head of Rishworth School



Who we *are*

Rishworth School was founded in 1724 to educate girls and boys from the local community. Set in 140 acres of countryside in the beautiful Ryburn Valley, today, as a modern day and boarding school, Rishworth continues to play an important role in the immediate community, as well as being home to students from across the world.

Rishworth School offers a nurturing and personalised educational experience, enhanced by its broad, engaging curriculum and paired with a forward thinking and innovative pastoral system. Our vision is for each student to flourish in every aspect of their lives, developing the self-knowledge and self-reliance to find purpose and enjoy every opportunity in their lives.

At Rishworth School, we aim to create an environment in which the full potential of all students is realised and their achievements celebrated. To be a space where relationships are strong and the sense of community is constantly developed. To foster a respect for learning in all students, with a desire to understand and appreciate our world.

With that, comes our core values: Curiosity, Valour, Kindness and Individuality. We encourage students to seek new opportunities for learning and discovery, safeguard our community, environment and values, conduct themselves with dignity, respect for all and humility, as well as being unafraid to show initiative, to take a stand and do the right thing.

Read about our history here:

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Introduction to *Nursery*

At Rishworth Nursery, we lay the foundations for a lifelong love of learning in a warm, caring, and stimulating environment. Nestled within the beautiful grounds of Rishworth Prep, our Nursery offers a safe and inspiring space where children from aged 3 can thrive.

Our dedicated Early Years team supports each child's individual development through a balance of structured play, exploration and nurturing guidance. With an emphasis on outdoor learning, creative discovery and strong pastoral care, every child is encouraged to grow in confidence, curiosity, and independence.

Children benefit from specialist teaching in areas such as Music, PE, and French and take full advantage of our extensive outdoor spaces and Forest School provision. Whether building friendships, learning new skills or simply enjoying the wonder of the world around them, our Nursery children flourish in a happy, secure and enriching environment.

Find out more about Nursery here:

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Introduction to *Preparatory*





Our Pre-Prep and Prep years provide a joyful, enriching and ambitious start to a child's educational journey. From Reception through to Year 6, we combine academic excellence with a nurturing environment where every child is known, valued, and inspired to achieve their personal best.

Our broad and engaging curriculum is delivered by passionate class teachers and specialist subject staff, enabling children to develop strong foundations in core subjects alongside enriched experiences in Music, Sport, Languages and the Creative Arts. We foster curiosity, confidence and resilience, encouraging pupils to ask questions, take risks, and develop a lifelong love of learning.

With small class sizes and personalised support, each child's progress is carefully nurtured and their strengths celebrated. Whether exploring the great outdoors, performing on stage or working collaboratively in the classroom, children thrive in an environment that balances high standards with happiness and care.

Find out more about Prep School here:

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Introduction to Senior School





At Rishworth School, our location, facilities, and extra-curricular offerings enable students to learn in their own way and discover their passions, ensuring they become the best version of themselves.

We are known for our prowess on the sports pitch and many of our students have representational honours.
Rishworth students embrace the 'Rishworth Spirit' and are kind, community spirited members of the school.

Our motto 'Res non Verba' (Deeds not Words) exemplifies our no-nonsense approach to decision-making and action, allowing our students to become resilient young people.

All students and staff belong to one of four houses: Baitings, Boothwood, Ringstone or Scammonden, named after local reservoirs. Throughout the year students partake in inter-house competitions, and each house raises money for their chosen charity.

Find out more about Senior School here:

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Senior School *Curriculum*

Our curriculum is thoughtfully designed to be exciting, challenging and innovative, tailored to meet the unique needs of each student. Rishworth students consistently achieve outstanding results in public examinations, allowing them to progress to their first-choice destinations.

Students forge lasting friendships and positive relations with their teachers and mentors. When the time comes for them to leave Rishworth, our students do so as excellent decision makers with the confidence to meet the world and the challenges it places before them.

Rishworth students have gained places at Oxbridge, and all who have applied to study medicine have achieved their place. Many others have progressed on to Universities including Cambridge, Kings College London, Bristol, Durham, Exeter, Leeds, Liverpool, Warwick and York. Some students venture straight into the workplace post-GCSEs, gaining sought after apprenticeships in Engineering, Set Design and much more.



Introduction to *Sixth Form*



The Sixth Form is very much a part of the whole school community at Rishworth.

Students join the Sixth Form with many goals: the fulfilment of their academic potential; the focus of their cultural pursuits and artistic talents; a challenge for their sporting interests; the development of life-long friendships; a growth in character and confidence; enrichment from a variety of views and experiences. Students will be encouraged, and have opportunities, to achieve these goals.

Our new Sixth Form Centre opened its doors in September 2024 and encompasses a state-of-the-art science lab, interactive equipment and study spaces for individual and group learning. The Sixth Form is a community where students can develop academically, culturally and personally. With our dedicated staff, small class sizes, and extensive extra-curricular options, their future starts here!



Find out more about Sixth Form here:

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Rishworth Boarding





Boarding at Rishworth School provides a safe, caring and happy environment where students develop life-long friendships. Learning and living together, boarders become part of a warm and caring community, where every individual feels comfortable and accepted and where everyone is encouraged to discover and reach their full potential. Our boarders represent fourteen nationalities and bring diversity, fresh perspectives, and a cultural richness to Rishworth School.

The boarding areas provide modern facilities whilst preserving the original character of the grand and delightful historic stone buildings which house our boarders.

Our staff communicate regularly to create positive relationships with our boarding families and the school provide regular grades and reports ensuring parents and guardians can track the welfare and the progress of students.

During the evenings and weekends, boarding students have a variety of activities to choose from, such as trips to the Trafford Centre, Go Ape, paintballing, creative workshops, cinema, indoor skiing and restaurant visits.

Find out more about boarding here:

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Enrichment & Extension



Life at Rishworth School is about more than academic excellence. It is also about discovery of self, finding new passions and being adventurous. We offer a stimulating and diverse programme of approximately 130 enrichment and extension activities that are available to students per term. From a weekly Skiing club through to Jazz Band, Karate and F1 in Schools, these opportunities are a great way to learn new skills and make new friends.

The following is a sample of what is available to students throughout the year: The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Medical Society, Young Farmer Club, Snowsports Club, Karate, Rock Climbing, Warhammer Club, Dungeons and Dragons Club, F1 in Schools, Robotics Club, Coding Club, Swimming, LAMDA, Triathlon Club, Careers Planning, Further Maths, Latin, Higher Project Qualification (HPQ) and International English Language Testing System (IELTS).







Sport

Sport is an integral part of Rishworth's curriculum, as well as featuring intensely on our enrichment and extension programme, before school, during lunch and after school. Our sport-for-all policy challenges students of all abilities to strive for their goals. Our extensive range of high-quality sports and facilities ensures all students can find their niche.

Our sports teams compete in over 400 fixtures each year. Our bespoke coaching programme has resulted in students representing the school at county and international level.



Rishworth International Football Academy

Based at Rishworth School, Rishworth International Football Academy (RIFA) is an elite football training programme for both boys and girls which combines football with academic excellence to give young players the best start to their career in or out of football.

Our academy is built from industry experts both in the footballing and coaching professions to educational environments. Combined, our team have over a century of experience and knowledge to be able to guide students on the right path.



Creative & Performing Arts

At Rishworth School, the Creative and Performing Arts are a vital part of school life, providing every pupil with the opportunity to explore their imagination, develop artistic confidence, and express themselves through a wide variety of disciplines. Whether on stage, behind the camera, or in the studio, creativity thrives at Rishworth.

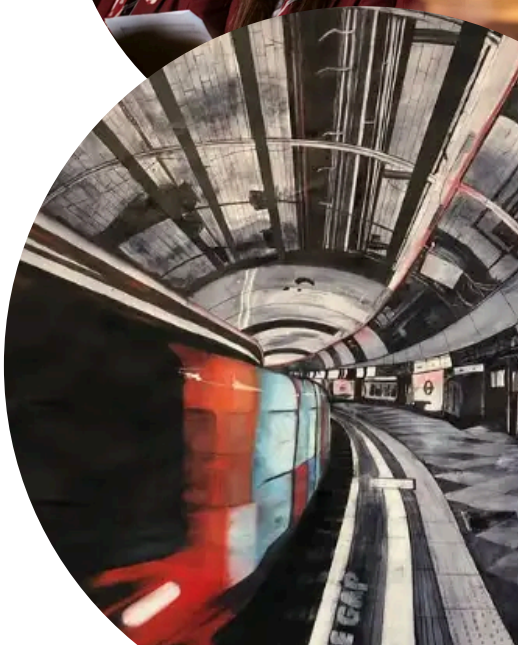
Our approach is inclusive, ambitious and exciting. From their very first day, pupils are encouraged to take creative risks, discover their voice, and celebrate the joy of performance and artistic expression.

Drama, Music and Art and Design are dynamic and inspiring parts of the Rishworth experience. Through timetabled lessons, co-curricular opportunities and public performances, pupils develop confidence, creativity and collaboration through the joyful, diverse and inclusive experiences.

Find out more here:

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Location & Facilities

Founded in 1724, the school occupies many of the original Georgian buildings which have been updated with 21st century facilities. Nestled within 140 acres of picturesque Yorkshire countryside in the village of Rishworth, our school offers a secure and nurturing environment. With access to our own river, Forget-Me-Not sensory garden, eco classroom and outdoor music area, these natural environments allow for experiential learning through outdoor education helping to build perseverance and resilience.

At Rishworth, we are proud to offer the following facilities to enhance our students' learning experiences:



300-year-old Chapel
Top Pitch & Viewing Pavilion
Performing Arts Centre
Music School & Practice Rooms
Swimming Pool
Squash Courts
Outdoor Teaching Space (The Dingle)
Tennis Courts
Sports Hall
Cardio-vascular Suite
Strength & Conditioning Suite
Wellbeing Hub



Testimonials

A very special place that our children are proud to be able to call their school. Their Rishworth journey is helping to shape them into independent and confident young people.

My child has flourished at Rishworth Prep. The teachers care and my son loves school. I couldn't ask for anything more.

Rishworth School is truly the best environment for any child. It is safe, warming, and nurturing. My child has been at Rishworth since Nursery and they have become not only a wonderful child, but a well-rounded individual who I know will thrive.











Admissions:

The Next Steps

We welcome applications to Rishworth School throughout the year.

Places for day pupils are available across most years of the school, as well as a range of boarding options from Year 6 through to Sixth Form.

How to apply

1) Complete our online application form.
2) Submit supplementary documentation: your child's most recent school report, colour copy of your child's passport and a copy of your child's birth certificate.
3) Sit the Rishworth Assessment (Years 7 upwards only).
4) Have a taster day.
5) Admissions decision made - informed by email.
6) Return acceptance form and deposit to secure your place.



RISHWORTH
SCHOOL

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