



# Sky Vale School

Supportive and specialist education

# About us

## Location



Bristol

## Capacity



45

## Gender



Mixed

## Age Range



6-18

## Ofsted



Pending

## Five Rivers Child Care



### Education

Five Rivers Child Care schools provide a therapeutic educational framework that promotes emotional growth alongside academic success and so encourages holistic child development. Our education provision is fully integrated with our other services.



### Clinical Services

We formulate our individually tailored education plans with input from our team of clinicians. They support the children experiencing therapeutic intervention and prepare them for any transitions in their care.



### Residential

Children in residential care have access to onsite registered schools or receive tailored one to one support through our outreach service 1 ACE.



### Fostering

Children in our care have access to our tailored one to one educational support through our outreach service 1 ACE..

## Our School



We believe that a happy child is a successful one. We are committed to providing a positive, safe, and stimulating environment for children to learn, and feel valued. We intend for all children to enjoy their learning, achieve, and become independent life-long learners.

## Our Mission

- To empower children to become happy, confident learners with a strong sense of belonging.
- To support children to develop self-esteem, confidence and self-belief, providing opportunities to succeed in school, work, and life.

## Values

As part of the Five Rivers community, our RAISE values permeate everything that we do.

### We are:

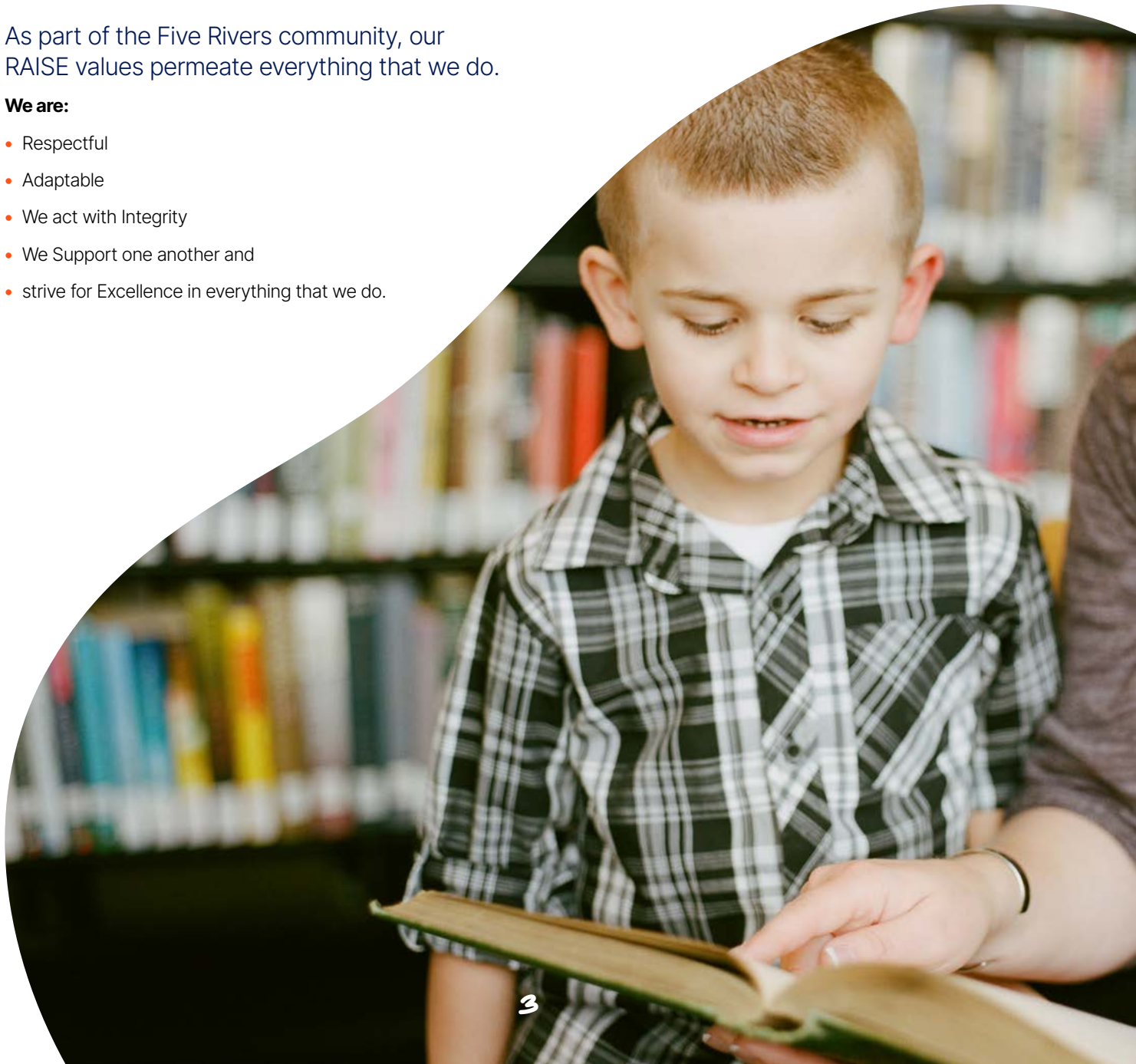
- Respectful
- Adaptable
- We act with Integrity
- We Support one another and
- strive for Excellence in everything that we do.

## Facilities

We are located in a beautiful rural setting with excellent links to Bristol and North Somerset. The school has been purposefully designed to foster a calm, happy, trauma – informed environment where pupils feel safe, supported and ready to learn. We have a number of learning areas with traditional classrooms alongside breakout and therapeutic spaces, a swimming pool, and exciting opportunities to design, develop and grow into our wonderful school.

## Trauma Responsive

Sky Vale staff are trained to work therapeutically, using trauma-informed strategies with pupils, to recognise potential triggers for the individual children they work with. We have a therapist who attends our site weekly, providing direct therapy to pupils who require it. In addition, our therapist offers consultations and reflective practice to our staff team and facilitates some of our team training.



# The school day



The timetable for each child will be designed with their specific needs in mind.

We believe that it is essential to build routine into the lives of our children and therefore will make sure that there are briefings and check-ins at regular periods of the day with key staff within the programmed structure of the day.

## Curriculum information

At Sky Vale School, we believe every pupil can make positive progress with the guidance and support of our team.

We provide a personalised curriculum that is tailored to the needs of each pupil, while offering a broad and balanced education. Following the national curriculum, alongside a range of accredited pathways, pupils have opportunities to gain GCSE qualifications and develop the knowledge, skills and confidence needed for their next steps and life beyond school.

Our location allows easy access to the city of Bristol and the countryside. We use these invaluable resources to allow children access to the vibrancy and historic diversity of Bristol, and the calm beauty of the North Somerset countryside.

## Example timetable

|                                                      | Monday                               | Tuesday    | Wednesday       | Thursday            | Friday               |
|------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 9.00 – 9.15<br>15 minutes                            | Welcome and plan for the day         |            |                 |                     |                      |
| 9.15 – 9.45<br>45 minutes                            | Reading                              | Reading    | Reading         | Reading             | Celebration assembly |
| 9.45 – 10.30<br>45 minutes                           | English                              | Science    | Mathematics     | English             | The World Around Us  |
| 10.30 – 11.15<br>45 minutes                          | Mathematics                          | English    | Science         | Mathematics         | Creativity           |
| BREAK 11.15 – 11.30 (supervised by staff)            |                                      |            |                 |                     |                      |
| 11.30 – 12.15<br>45 minutes                          | PE                                   | Option     | Technology      | Individual time     |                      |
| 11.30 – 12.15<br>45 minutes                          |                                      | History    |                 | Science             |                      |
| LUNCH 13.00 – 13.45 (prepared by staff and children) |                                      |            |                 |                     |                      |
| 13.45 – 14.30<br>45 minutes                          | Music                                | Creativity | Skills for Life | The World Around Us |                      |
| 14.30 – 14.45<br>15 minutes                          | Debrief and celebration - individual |            |                 |                     |                      |

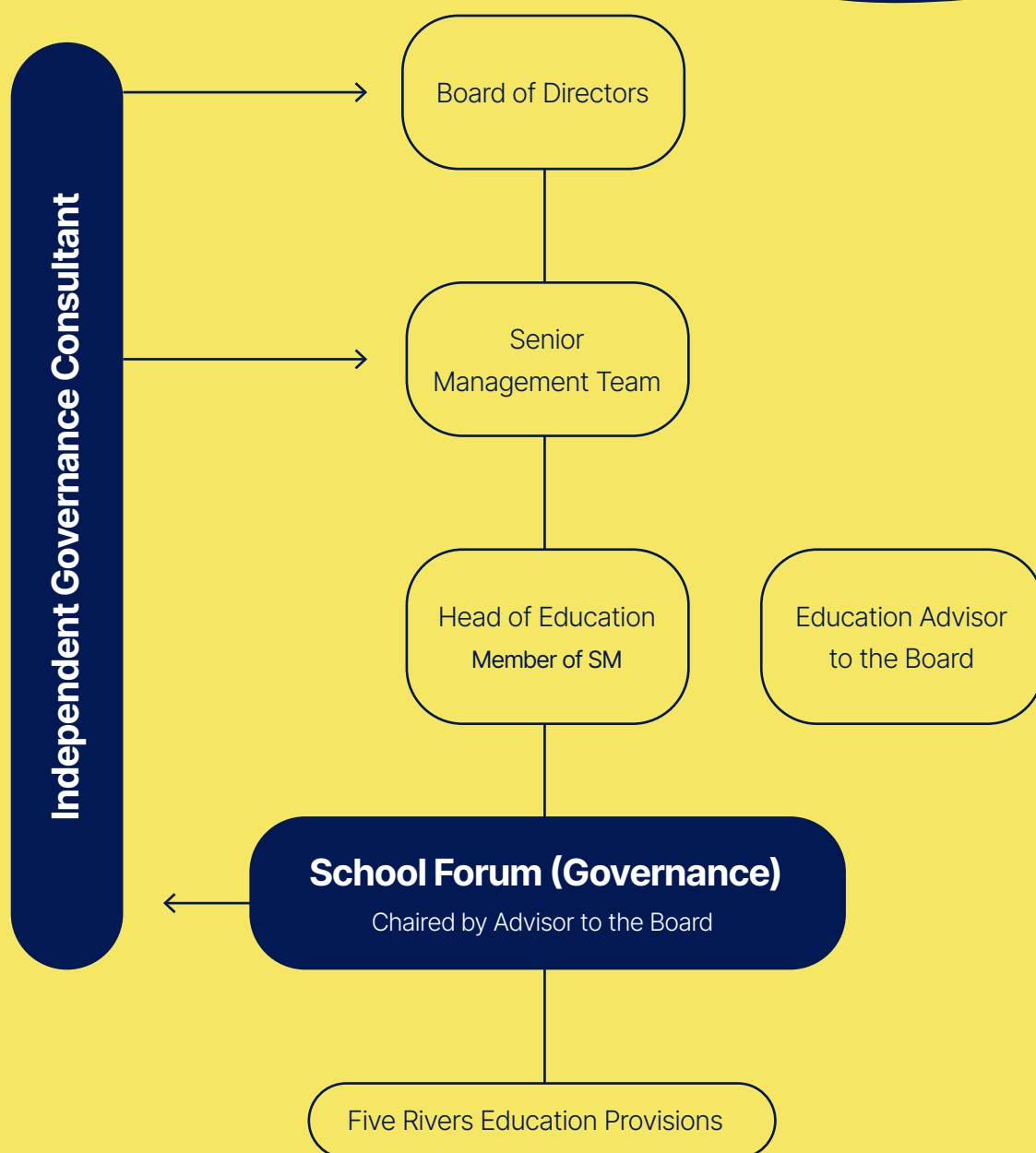
# The school forum

On a termly basis, a school forum convenes at Five Rivers Child Care's Head Office in Salisbury. This meeting forms part of our governance arrangements and has a set agenda.

The school forum is made up of a number of people from within Five Rivers Child Care and independents, with some members being regular attendees, and others attending as and when necessary.

## Members include:

- Education Senior Leaders
- Heads of education provisions
- Key members from other Five Rivers Child Care departments are also invited



# Policies

## Admissions

Sky Vale School offers placements to young people aged from 6 to 18. Please see our Admissions policy on our website.

### Safeguarding procedure

Sky Vale School implements strict safeguarding procedures, and all staff are subject to rigorous background checks which are routinely updated. An active policy of whistle blowing is encouraged amongst all staff. The full safeguarding policies are available on our website or upon request.

## Behaviour

We have clearly defined expectations for behaviour at Sky Vale School:

- Treating others and yourself with respect
- A strict no bullying policy
- No racism, homophobia, xenophobia or religious intolerance
- No prohibited substances i.e. drugs and alcohol
- Punctuality
- Respecting property - no vandalism, no littering.
- The full policies are available on our website or upon request.

## Exclusions

Sky Vale School strives to provide all children with the opportunity to access good quality education in a warm, welcoming, and non-judgemental environment. Our staff are all well trained to support children who struggle with the effect of trauma and other psychological issues that may result in challenging behaviour. We work therapeutically with all children, deploying trauma informed strategies to de-escalate difficult situations, while offering choices and new opportunities to succeed, despite their challenges. Our "Incentive to Learn Programme" motivates pupils to reach

for greater heights daily, as the benefits are visible as well as tangible.

Our rich and dynamic curriculum is designed to meet the needs of individual children. It is structured to not only address the gaps in their learning but also to keep them fully engaged and motivated. The offsite curriculum builds their self-confidence and resilience and develops their social awareness and skills for life.

In rare circumstances, the Head Teacher and other professionals in the team around the child might agree that the school can no longer meet the needs of a student.

Sometimes a student's needs and personal situation may change significantly, leading them to require a very different type of provision. In these situations, exclusion is not usually considered, but a well-managed placement move might be appropriate. Professionals' meetings will take place, where possible including Parents/ Carers. Potential next steps will be agreed with the Local Authority.

## English as an additional language

Where required, EAL additional needs will be suitably met with support from LA translation services.

All information made available prior to any meeting concerning the pupils, where parents are invited to attend or where information concerning the education and welfare of the pupil, including those pupils with an Educational Health Care Plan, can be provided in alternative languages where required or upon request from the parent and where there is a need.

## Complaints procedure

Sky Vale School has a robust complaints procedure where any complaints made are taken with the utmost seriousness and investigated accordingly. Sky Vale School and Five Rivers Child Care have a consistent complaints procedure which is available upon request.

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## Additional needs

Our aim is to recognise and respond to any special educational needs as early as possible once the pupil joins us. We ensure they receive the right specialist support so they can thrive.

This will be indicated on their Personal Education Plan (PEP), which will be provided by their social worker or the placing authority. If there is limited or no previous educational information, the teacher will also create an Individual Education Plan (IEP) and set appropriate targets achievable by the pupil.

This means every pupil will be able to follow a curriculum that is tailored to them and suited to their individual abilities. Our approach to supporting special educational needs is guided by the revised Code of Practice, helping us ensure each pupil gets the care and support they need.

## Further information

All policies are available for inspection at the school.

All schemes of work and policies are available upon request.

All Parents/Carers and other interested parties are free to inspect policies concerning Anti-Bullying, Safeguarding, Health and Safety, and Behaviour.

The complaints procedure is available including details of the number of complaints registered under the formal procedures during the preceding year.

If appropriate, details of academic performance during the preceding year will also be available on request.

Whilst every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of this document at the time of publication, minor changes may occur. The document is reviewed annually and updated as required.



**Sky Vale School**

Bristol

Further details are available on request

**Headteacher:** Sarah Spicer | [sarah.spicer@five-rivers.org](mailto:sarah.spicer@five-rivers.org)

**Proprietor:** Five Rivers Child Care

**Chair:** Rachel Lambert

If you would like to discuss a placement within our Education service,  
please contact our referrals team for more information: **0800 3898708** (Option 3)



**five  rivers**

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0800 389 8708

[education@five-rivers.org](mailto:education@five-rivers.org)

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