



# I CREATE EXPLORE FLOURISH



**RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL**  
WONDER LIVES HERE

A young boy with dark hair, wearing a red quilted jacket and grey pants, is crouching on a paved surface. He is looking down at a book or document he is holding. The background shows a park-like setting with trees and a building in the distance. A large, semi-transparent blue circle is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing the text.

# WELCOME

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN  
RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL.**

While regularly ranking among Alberta's top schools we are as different from other schools as our students are from one another.

We hope that over the next few pages you will gain an understanding of who we are and what makes River Valley School such a special place for our students and their families.

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD OF SCHOOL.

Dear Families,

River Valley School is an innovative and inclusive independent school that harnesses the innate curiosity in children to ensure that every student, regardless of age or ability, will flourish academically and socially. Everything we do is grounded in our mission to embrace the unique talents of our students, while curating opportunities for learning and discovery. Our teachers and staff support different learning styles to ensure that every student is capable of achieving their personal best. With close to 15 years of history, River Valley School has created an environment where children feel loved and safe enough to explore to the full breadth of their individual ability. At the same time, RVS students feel encouraged to take on the rigours required to develop the foundational skills, resilience, and confidence to thrive in the 21st Century.

As a community, we learn and grow together respecting the values, opinions and beliefs of all Students, teachers, and administrators work together to create a school where learners feel confident and free to appreciate.

each other, make good ethical decisions, and take age- and stage appropriate risks, leading to enhanced understanding and broadened inquiry.

RVS students know they are safe to try new things, make mistakes, discover new approaches, and explore innovative ways of seeing, contributing to and changing the world. I am honoured to be the Head of School at River Valley School, and invite you to visit our campus to learn about our outstanding programs and meet our talented students, teachers and staff. I look forward to meeting you when you visit, and sharing more about what makes our school truly exceptional.



**Carolyn Breland,**

River Valley School, Head of School





## OUR PROGRAMS

We are a growing school of approximately 250 students with a beautiful campus in Bowness, Calgary, Alberta. We operate with low pupil-teacher ratio, maximizing instructional time and the personalization of learning for students **Age 3 to Grade 6.**

### EARLY LEARNING PROGRAM

**PRE-JK (3-YEAR-OLDS)  
JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN (4-YEAR-OLDS)**

Our Early Learning students participate in hands-on, inquiry and play-based learning guided by the Early Learning and Child Care Curriculum Framework for Alberta.

They explore core academic areas such as Numeracy, Literacy and Humanities, and are introduced to Specialist areas such as French, Music, Phys. Ed, Library, Outdoor Education, Art and Drama. It is the perfect balance of academics, play, creativity and exploration!

### ELEMENTARY PROGRAM

**KINDERGARTEN (5-YEAR-OLDS)  
TO GRADE 6**

Our Elementary students are immersed the Alberta Education Curriculum in core subject areas including Math, English Language Arts, Social Studies, Science and Health. Student achievement and engagement is carried out through varied project-based learning opportunities, exploration, collaboration, and differentiation in our instruction.

In addition to core subjects, students enjoy programming in Music, French, Art, Drama, Physical and Outdoor Education, Library, and STEAM.



## **At River Valley School, we are inclusive by design.**

Our school community is made up of passionate and engaged students, teachers, families and staff, bound by a belief that private school education should not be exclusive or just for the elite. In fact, inclusivity is what sets us apart.

Academic rigor is a given, but social and emotional development are just as important. Children learn to be good neighbours, good team players and good partners. Respect for self and others is expected of everyone. Good personal work habits are developed. We are not an exclusive, one-size-fits-all school.

We are focused on the individual needs of our students. How we teach them is determined by who they are, how they learn, and what engages them. Our focus is the individual child and understanding how they navigate learning, absorb information, see the world, their environment, their peers, and themselves.



**We offer a warm, nurturing environment where our students feel genuinely cared about and supported.**

This builds confidence and establishes a strong foundation for kids to explore who they are – their passions, gifts hopes and dreams.

**At River Valley School, our job is to harness the innate curiosity in children.**

When a child's curiosity is piqued, it makes for deeper, more profound learning.



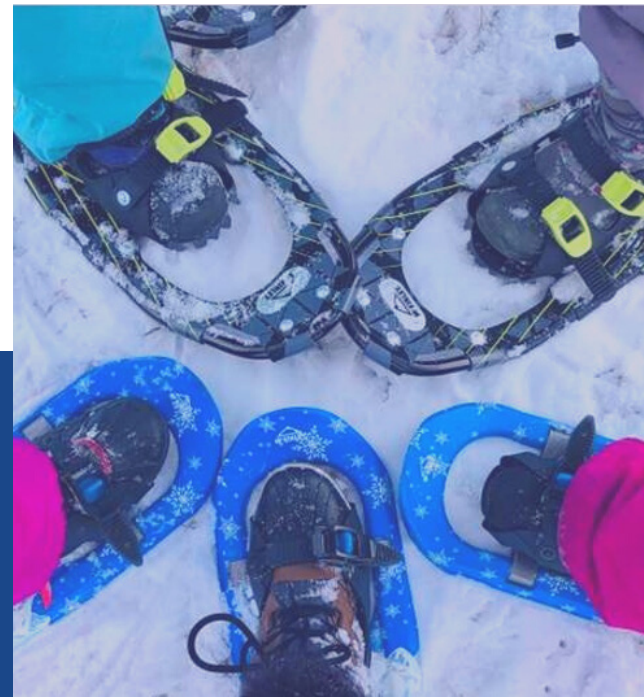
Creativity is a necessary tool in the 21st century. All children are inherently creative and we provide conditions and ways of learning to develop the students' creative muscles, not only in Music, Art and Drama classes, but in all subjects. Experiential hands-on learning happens in all classes.

Children learn creative processes such as divergent and convergent thinking, deferring judgment, appreciating multiple perspectives, taking risks, reflecting, learning from mistakes and trying again. There are opportunities to take risks and, regardless of success or failure, children understand that the learning is the most important. Children become confident in their own creativity and, when asked, most of our students will describe themselves as creative.

# SPECIALIST PROGRAMMING

It's not just that we *offer* classes in Phys. Ed., French, Drama, Music and Art, but that we employ dedicated specialists in those areas who share their extensive knowledge and experience with our students everyday.

- French
- Music
- Physical Education
- Outdoor Education
- Drama
- Art
- Library







## **Creative problem solving is our raison d'être.**

Our curriculum, activities and group projects are ground in design thinking, which gives students a road map to a) identify a challenge, b) gather information, c) generate ideas, and d) test solutions.



**At River Valley School, we have high and appropriate expectations for every student.**

Year after year, our kids rank in the top tier of provincial testing, academic competitions, arts and athletics.

Students are offered programs to match their learning styles including learning support and enrichment programs. Personalization of the learning experience ensures each child is provided with what they need to achieve greatness. Our commitment is to inspire each child to find their way, be adaptive, help those around them, and enjoy the journey.

A young boy with short brown hair is smiling and looking towards the camera. He is wearing a white graduation gown with a blue collar and a vibrant rainbow-colored stole. The background is a solid, muted blue color. A semi-transparent white box is overlaid on the lower left portion of the image, containing text.

**Our alumni are represented in top schools, businesses and institutions across Canada and around the globe.**

They carry forward the foundational experiences of their early education, as well as our values of respect, independence, creativity and leadership.



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[WWW.RIVERVALLEYSCHOOL.CA](http://WWW.RIVERVALLEYSCHOOL.CA)



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