

# A warm welcome to...



## “Together We Learn”



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**At Bridgewater Primary School we aim to:**

**Cultivate a love of learning for life**

**Have fun embedding new knowledge and skills**

**Ignite, inspire and challenge all**

**Nurture creativity, grow confidence and resilience**

**Become responsible, empathetic global citizens**



## Our Curriculum

Bridgewater Primary School aims to provide children with an exciting, ambitious, broad and balanced curriculum that will instil a love of learning for life. The fullness of the curriculum is not just concerned with their subject knowledge, but with all the wider experiences that come together to make the entirety of our curriculum, which has informed our Curriculum Drivers below:



We endeavour to provide all children with an environment in which they can thrive in their learning, develop curiosity and independent learning behaviours, which enables them to actively participate and learn study skills now and for their future.

We have high aspirations for all our learners and seek to engage them with high quality teaching and engaging content.

We aim to provide them with opportunities to learn and understand more about the world around them and show empathy and respect for others through their learning, our PHSE lessons and the importance we place on the school values of **Respect, Responsibility and Resilience**.

## Welcome to the Early Years Foundation Stage

Our curriculum has been designed to enable children to succeed through cooperative and collaborative learning principles. As such, there is a strong emphasis on the Prime Areas of learning: Personal, Social and Emotional Development and Communication and Language, including oracy.

Our enabling environments and warm, skilful adult interactions support the children as they begin to link learning to their play and exploration right from the start. We follow children's interests and ideas to foster a lifelong love of learning both in and outside of school.

Our transition from your child's nursery setting is tailor made to meet the needs of your child. Foundation Stage staff liaise closely with the nurseries and parents comment on how happy and settled their children are when they begin school.

In the Foundation Stage we cover the prime and specific learning areas through child-initiated and adult-led activities as follows:

**Personal, Social and Emotional Development**  
**Communication and Language**  
**Physical Development**  
**Literacy**  
**Mathematics**  
**Understanding the World**  
**Expressive Arts and Design**

## Key Stage One and Two Curriculum

We have carefully developed a seamless transition into KS1 by continuing with the Foundation Stage ethos whilst introducing the National Curriculum knowledge, skills and understanding.

Children have access to an exciting broad and balanced creative curriculum. We believe strongly in a curriculum enriched with first hand experiences, trips and visitors to bring the learning alive. Whilst the learning is fun the children are challenged and strive for high standards.

In KS2 we liaise closely with KS1 to maintain a smooth transition and develop their independence further.

Throughout the school we make sure children achieve their potential by continuous assessment and, where required, we target areas of learning with extra support.

Home learning is given to challenge and consolidate the learning in school. You will have access to our Seesaw Learning Platform which will give you opportunities to receive messages and engage in learning opportunities with your children.

Citizenship is important throughout the school and there are many opportunities for children to undertake roles of responsibility such as becoming School Councillors, Young Librarians, Play Leaders, Sports Leaders, Subject Ambassadors and in Year 6, School Ambassadors.

For further information please refer to the Year Group curriculum forecasts and Year Group blogs on the school website.

## Admissions

Each year group has a published admission number of 90 including Reception. All our admissions are dealt with by the local authority and applications can be made via their website (please see below).

If the school is oversubscribed, the Local Authority will select children for a place using its criteria for Community Primary Schools – Urban.

### **Oversubscription Criteria**

Places will be allocated to pupils who have a Educational Health Care Plan that names the school as an appropriate provision. When there are more applications for places than there are available, priority will be given in the following order:

- Children in public care or previously in public care but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order
- Pupils with an older brother or sister continuing at the school at the time of admission of the younger child
- Pupils who live closer to the preferred school than any other school
- Other pupils

### **Tiebreaker**

If the admission number is exceeded within criterion (3) priority will be given to those who live furthest from the nearest alternative school. If the admission number is exceeded within any other criterion, priority will be given to those who live closest to the school.

Parents have a right to appeal if they do not get the place of their choice.

Application forms are completed online:

<https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/school-admissions>

## Equality of Opportunity, Gender, Ethnic Origin and Religion

The school actively and positively supports and encourages policies which stress the importance of equality of opportunity irrespective of their gender, ethnic origin, religious background or special educational needs.

We aim, through our work, to challenge prejudice and stereotyping and to promote co-operation and harmony between children. All pupils should have opportunities to succeed in a caring environment in which they feel valued.

## Behaviour

At Bridgewater Primary our children demonstrate high standards of behaviour. They show consideration to others and we have very high expectations for behaviour based on our school values of **respect**, **responsibility** and **resilience**.

If any child behaves inappropriately we use a Restorative Justice approach giving the child chance to reflect and make better choices in the future. Parents are informed if their child's behaviour or attitude to learning is causing concern so we can work in partnership together to support the child.



## Attendance

Regular attendance is vital to the children's success in school. The school, therefore, places a high priority on encouraging good attendance.

All pupils are expected to achieve an attendance target of above 96% except in exceptional medical circumstances.

All pupils are expected to arrive at school and be in class between 8.45am to 9.00am each morning ready for registration and the start of the school day. Parents should inform the school of any pupil absence by calling the school and leaving a message on the absence line by 8.45am for each day the child is not in school.

The school uses a computerised registration system and the register is completed promptly in the morning and afternoon at 9.00am and 1.15pm.

A late pupil will receive a 'late' mark between 9.00 - 9.30am and 1.15 - 1.45pm and an absent mark after that time. All pupils who are late must report to the school office. Parents should avoid, where possible, making routine medical/dental appointments during school hours.

The end of the school day is at 3.15pm.

If there is a problem with collecting your child, please ring the school before 3.15pm so that staff and children are notified of the delay.



## Absence & Holidays

### Absence

Absences will only be authorised for exceptional circumstances at the Headteacher's discretion and these may include: bereavement, marriage, religious observance, sporting events representing school (county or country) and performance.

Once your child is five, unexplained or repeated absences or lateness will be followed up and, where necessary, advice taken from the School Attendance Support Service.

### Holidays

Holidays in term-time will **NOT** be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances and parents can be fined if they do so. Fines range between £60.00 and £120.00 per child per parent and are payable within 28 days.

## School Uniform

- Royal Blue sweatshirt or cardigan
- White short sleeved polo shirt
- Grey trousers or shorts
- Grey skirt/pinafore or blue gingham dress
- White T-shirt and blue shorts are required for PE.
- Non-branded plain dark jogging trousers, sweatshirts and trainers are required for outdoor PE.

Parents can choose whether to purchase school uniform with the school logo or without. Please make sure you name all items of clothing.

In accordance with the school Health and Safety Policy **no jewellery** may be worn in school. **Please note that this includes earrings.**

**Please label all items of clothing**

Drawstring PE bags, book bags and fleeces with the school logo may also be purchased from Stevensons.

All items of uniform are available from Stevensons on Abington Square.  
Items without the school logo can be purchased from other retailers.

## Health Matters

Our school nurse visits the Reception Year and carries out a screening programme to check pupils hearing, vision and growth. In Year 6 their height and weight is also monitored. Parents can opt out of these screenings if desired. In addition parents and teachers can request further medical checks if they have concerns about individual children.

Infectious illnesses are notifiable to us and you should keep your child at home until they have fully recovered. If your child catches head lice they should be treated before they return to school; however, this is not a reason for absence.

The school may agree to administer medication when this has been prescribed by a doctor. In such cases parents or carers should complete the relevant authorisation form from the school office and return this with the medication.

We cannot be held responsible where, in some circumstances, medication has not been administered. Parents or carers are welcome to come into school and carry out the prescribed dose at the time required.

Parents of children suffering from asthma or a similar condition requiring the use of inhalers are requested to provide the school office with an inhaler and also complete the 'Request for medication' form for school.

## School Lunches

Since September 2014 all children who are in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and in a state-funded school have been offered a free healthy school lunch (UFSM) and these can be booked by parents from an online menu.



We provide freshly cooked meals or a packed lunch option from our in-house kitchen. If your child has special dietary requirements please notify the school in order for us to discuss their needs with our catering team.

Please do not give your child sweets, chocolate bars, glass bottles, cans or fizzy drinks. No food containing nuts or nut products are allowed in school due to some of our children having severe nut allergies.

Lunchtime Supervisors take care of the children during the lunch break, looking after them whilst they eat and on the playground. We encourage a range of sport and play activities.

Children also need to bring a named water bottle into school everyday. They have access to this throughout the day and it **must contain water only**.

### **Pupil Premium/Free School Meals**

If parents are in receipt of Income Support, income based Job Seeker's Allowance or certain Child Tax Credits they can apply for free school meals (FSM) for their children by completing an online form on the West Northants County Council website.

Should you qualify for the pupil premium grant, as well as receiving free school meals you may also receive additional financial assistance including help towards trips, sports clubs and music tuition.

In order for the school to access this funding, you will need to complete an application form for free school meals. You can apply online at <https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/schools-and-education/free-school-meals-and-pupil-premium>

You can also email [freeschoolmeals.ncc@northnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:freeschoolmeals.ncc@northnorthants.gov.uk)

If you require support with your application or access to the internet, please contact the school's Office Manager for confidential advice.

## Special Education Needs and Inclusion

Our school is committed to meeting the needs of all pupils. A range of support is available for any child who has difficulty in learning at any stage of their school life. When appropriate, advice is sought from outside support agencies through the Local Offer to help ensure that individuals have access to a broad and balanced curriculum and to provide additional advice when needed.

We believe that our school should provide a caring, positive, safe and stimulating environment which promotes the social, physical and moral development of the individual child.

We aim to provide an ethos and culture that values, involves and listens to children. By doing so it ensures that children know who they can talk to if they have a problem.

The curriculum (especially the PSHE & Relationships curriculum) is used to raise pupil's awareness of issues relating to their own safety and well-being or that of others. This also aims to build their confidence and self-esteem.

For children needing additional support, trained members of staff provide nurture and regular support relevant to their needs.

## Safeguarding

Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility. Should you have a concern about a child's safety or welfare, please contact one of our Designated Safeguarding Leads, who are:

Mrs Frances Troop (Designated Safeguarding Lead & Deputy Headteacher)  
Mrs Alison Harvey (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead & Headteacher)  
Mrs Nicola Redden (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead & SENCo)  
Mrs Vicky Ashby (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead & Learning Mentor)  
Mrs Louise Thomas (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead & Parent Link Worker)

The school's Safeguarding Policy is available on our website.

## Travel Plan

Our school travel plan seeks to:

- Reduce vehicular traffic around our school
- Improve the safety and health of our pupils, staff and parents
- Lessen the impact on the environment for the benefit of the wider community

We encourage parents to walk to school with their children or to share car journeys. Where car usage is unavoidable parents are encouraged to park away from the school site (eg Abington Park Crescent) and to walk at least part of the way.

Parents cars are **not** permitted in the school staff car park and drop-off zone except by prior arrangement or unless they hold a blue disabled badge.

We request that consideration is shown to local residents and the community when parking and to ensure that driveways are kept clear and accessible and that cars are not parked on the footpaths.

## Parents as Partners

Bridgewater Primary welcomes the opportunity to work in partnership with parents and carers.

We believe that a strong partnership between the family and school has a positive impact on a child's development and learning.

We will provide opportunities throughout the year for parents to become involved in the life of the school. Throughout the school we use Seesaw for sharing this two-way information, however should you like to share information in person, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher or the school office who will direct you to the right person.

We look forward to welcoming you and your child to Bridgewater Primary School.

## Friends of Bridgewater School

Our Friends committee is run by a group of parents / carers who meet regularly to organise events to raise money for our school. The money they raise helps to enhance, enrich and improve learning experiences for our children.

They always need more volunteers, and we hope getting involved, if you are able, will help you and your child settle into the school community.

If you would like to join the group or have any questions, please contact them on [friends@bridgewaterprimary.net](mailto:friends@bridgewaterprimary.net) or follow them on Facebook.



## Charging Policy

In order to comply with the requirements of the Education Acts of 1996 and 2002, the following is applied to charging for school activities.

Normal educational activities taking place during school hours will be free of charge. The only exception to this will be that a charge may be made for individual tuition or for groups (up to four) for playing a musical instrument, unless it is a prescribed public examination or part of the National Curriculum.

Voluntary contributions will be requested from parents in order to meet the cost of special activities taking place during school hours. If the contributions are insufficient to meet the cost of the activity or trip, it may have to be cancelled.

Parents may be asked to provide or contribute on a voluntary basis towards the cost of ingredients, materials or equipment for practical work.

### **Residential Trips**

During their school time at Bridgewater Primary children have two residential trips. In Year 4 they go on a 3-day local visit and in Year 6, a 5-day residential further afield.

### **Optional Activities**

A charge may be made for some extra activities for pupils offered by outside providers such as music lessons and Pacesetters sports activities.

Children receiving Pupil Premium grant have an activity funded for them—more details can be given by the school office.

Please refer any request for further clarification to the School Business Manager.

## Staff & Governors

### Senior Leadership Team

<b>Headteacher</b>	Mrs Alison Harvey
<b>Deputy Headteacher</b>	Mrs Frances Troop
<b>Assistant Headteacher</b>	Mrs Sophie McNair
<b>SENCO</b>	Mrs Nicola Redden

All other staff can be found on our school website under the 'Our School' tab.

### Governors

Governors are a group of people with a variety of skills and interests who volunteer to work with the school to ensure that every child enjoys their learning and has the best possible education whilst they are at Bridgewater.

### Office Staff

<b>Business Manager</b>	Mrs Hilary Atlas
<b>Office Manager</b>	Mrs Julie Breakwell
<b>Receptionist</b>	Mrs Jackie Agostini
<b>Nursery &amp; OSC Administrator</b>	Mrs Jane McCloy
<b>Finance Officer</b>	Mrs Michelle Martin
<b>HR Administrator</b>	Mrs Emma Watson