



BRIDGEWATER
PRIMARY SCHOOL

BRIDGEWATER NEWS

Welcome Back

Autumn Term 1 2026



BRIDGEWATER
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the start of another fantastic year at Bridgewater. This half-termly newsletter has some important information and details about events that are planned for this half term. We also regularly update the school website www.bridgewaterprimaryschool.co.uk. This term we will also be moving to Instagram (rather than X) to showcase or exciting learning journey.

Welcome to Bridgewater

We warmly welcome all our new and returning families to Bridgewater and a few new staff members also:

Miss Fifield– Year 5 teacher

Mrs Lee– Year 3 teacher

Miss Moore– Year 3 teacher

Miss Houghton –Year 1 teacher

Mr Mayhew – All Child Link Worker

Communication with school

To keep you up to date it is vital that you download the PA Connect app, so you get ALL our school news and updates. Please email the school office if you need assistance with this.

You will receive a newsletter from your child's new class teacher introducing themselves and highlighting the learning they will cover this term so you can help support them further at home. Teachers will be available each day at drop off and collection to receive any messages or for a quick catch-up.

Parents can call or email school if you have any questions or queries and a member of the team will endeavour to respond within 24 hrs of your request.

Meet the teacher sessions for Years 1-6- please see Autumn 1 calendar for your child's session. Please do try to drop in to see your child's teacher and classroom; it will be for just 10 minutes at the end of the day and gives you the opportunity to ask your child's new class teacher any questions you may have. Nursery and Reception have their stay and play sessions this week and can speak to staff during these sessions.

Parent-Teacher consultations will be organised in November and March. You will receive an End of Year report in July.

Can I remind parents that if you wish to discuss your children's personal or academic development at any time throughout the school year to please see your child's class teacher and they will arrange a convenient time with you. If you wish to discuss a concern further, after speaking with the class teacher, please contact the school office and an appointment can be arranged with a senior member of staff.

Our Senior Leaders are:

Mrs Henderson – Headteacher.

Mrs Thornley – Deputy Headteacher.

Miss Lovell – Deputy Headteacher.

Mrs Cope - Lead teacher in The Early Years (Nursery and Reception) and SENCO.

Mrs Glendon - Lead teacher in Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 and 6).

Mrs Saccini – Lead teacher in Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4).

Miss Cunliffe - Lead teacher in Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) and Assistant SENCO.

Mrs Hill – Director of Business and Operations and manager of the school office.

We politely ask that parents **do not use social media** to discuss any matters regarding Bridgewater School. Contacting school directly means we can deal promptly with your queries in a positive and constructive manner.

At present, I continue to support another Salford school as an Educational Consultant. I am splitting my time equally between each school - 2.5 days each week. While I am not on school premises, Miss Lovell and Mrs Thornley will manage the school.

Updating School Systems

We ask that you inform school if your contact details have changed or if you wish to change the adults you have listed to collect your child. In order to make sure we have your most up to date information, data collection sheets will be available in your child's classroom on the day of the meet the teacher sessions. Please check the information carefully and return the form **only** if there are any changes.

Only children in Years 5 and 6, who have provided written consent from parents, are permitted to walk home alone.

Attendance and Punctuality

Regular school attendance is an important part of giving your child the best possible start in life and vital for your child's education - as a lost day can never be repeated. Our school shares the government's determination to raise the levels of pupil attendance and has robust systems in place to monitor attendance and punctuality.

Most of our children attend school regularly and do not present any concerns. However, if your child's attendance dips below 90% or accumulates 5 days (10 sessions) of unauthorised absence, you may be asked to attend an Attendance Panel Meeting in school to explain the reasons for absences further. It is therefore, very important that you contact the office on **each day of absence** to ensure that the absence is recorded as 'authorised'. Failure to engage with school on improving your child's attendance may result in fine/legal proceedings.

All holiday requests during term time will not be granted in line with Government legislation and following Salford Local Authority Policies. Please see the school website for a copy of our attendance policy.

<https://www.bridgewaterprimaryschool.co.uk/information/policies>

Good punctuality is also very important. The school day starts at 8.40am and all children are expected to be in school by this time (we open the doors at 8.30am to make this a little easier for families). Valuable teaching input can be missed and the **whole class** disrupted by a late arrival. To help limit disruption, all late arrivals are taken to class at times so not to disturb current learning.

Please continue to support us with Strong Attendance at School and ensure your child is in school and on time each day. Early intervention and parental support are key factors in resolving attendance issues. Should you have any difficulty with this please make an appointment to see Miss Hopkins (Attendance Manager) via the school office.

Breakfast Club

Our breakfast club launched in 2015 in partnership with Greggs Foundation - who continue to fund the provision so we can offer a free Breakfast club. **The main reason for our breakfast club and the funding from Greggs is to give pupils the opportunity to access a healthy, nutritious breakfast free of charge to ensure they start their morning on the right track.** We are able to offer 40 places to pupils who would benefit from a free meal. We operate a booking system rather than a walk-in system to ensure staff ratios are accurate. We are unable to prioritise working families for wraparound care purposes so would suggest contacting a local provider if you are unsuccessful in securing one of the limited places.

Afterschool Clubs

At Bridgewater, we have a number of exciting and enriching afterschool clubs that children can sign up to each half term – most clubs are free and others have a nominal charge of £1 per week. Letters are sent out each half term via PA Connect. Please note our Autumn 1 clubs are already full. However, please keep an eye out for our Autumn 2 communication, which will be sent before we finish for October half term.

School meals, Water Bottles and Snacks

Just a reminder to order your child's meals on Evolve before 8.30am on the day. We would suggest ordering meal options together **with your child** to ensure that they are happy with what you have ordered for them. All children are encouraged to drink water during the day. The children are able to re-fill their water bottles from fountains around school. Children may also bring in healthy snacks to have during their break times. We try to

encourage good eating habits and have a Healthy Eating Policy that supports this aim. Children in Key Stage 1 and EYFS are provided with fresh fruit daily; any extras are shared with KS2.

Just a reminder that we are a nut-free school as we have children with nut allergies

Homework

Homework is important as it shows the children the value that you place on their learning and helps them to consolidate key skills. Thank you to all those parents who support their children in reading every night; learning their spellings/number facts and multiplication tables; completing homework tasks and projects. Any junior child (Years 3-6) who does not complete their weekly homework to an acceptable standard will be required to do so during Friday lunchtime supervised by a senior member of staff.

PE kits

All children from Reception to Year 6 require a PE kit in school to participate in physical education (PE). If a child does not have their PE kit, they will be offered a spare from our school resources.

Parents' Forum

Our Parent Forum aims to represent the views of all parents. It facilitates communication between parents/carers and staff and governors. The forum works to provide feedback on provision, offer a parent's perspective on current policy and practice and input into decision making and planning for future provision. It is not a forum to discuss individual/personal issues.

The first meeting will be held on **Monday 28th September at 2.30pm** in the school hall. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available. I hope to see many of you there.

Please let me know if there is anything you would like to see on the agenda. A suggestion box is available in the front entrance area for you to add suggestions to be discussed or these can be sent via email to the Bridgewater email address – **office@bridgewaterprimaryschool.co.uk**

Children's University Update

This year we are delighted to be continuing with our participation in the Children's University Programme. The Children's University encourages children to 'learn outside of the school day' and recognises their commitment to enhancing their own learning. Your child will have received a 'Learning Passport' to use as a record of their additional learning. This passport will be used all the way through school and onto Secondary school if their school is part of the programme. If your child has lost their passport, a replacement may be purchased at the school office at the cost of £2.50 (school purchase the first passport on your child's behalf). We will keep you updated with any information regarding Children's University throughout the year.

School Fund and Fund Raising

School Fund is generated through a variety of means. There are a number of small fundraising events throughout the year, and we also receive income from letting our school hall to the Heywood Martial Arts Academy. We also receive commission from the school photographer.

The School Fund enables us to provide additional opportunities and experiences for our children and to support activities that enrich their time at school. This may include pupil rewards, special events, enrichment activities, resources for our after-school clubs, books and educational resources, and contributions towards items and activities that benefit our pupils.

All requests for the use of School Fund are approved by the Headteacher.

We also raise money for charities that have supported people in our school community and are close to our hearts. Miss Morris, our School Council Coordinator, will let you know this year's chosen charity as soon as this has been agreed with our School Council.

Lost Property

The school acquires a large amount of 'lost property'. All items with names in are returned to their owner and **not** stored in lost property. Therefore, we encourage all parents to ensure that **EVERY** item is clearly labelled with your child's name. If your child has lost an item please speak to the class teacher initially and if this is not within the classroom they will direct you to check with lost property at the school office. If your child brings home an item that is not theirs by mistake, please return this via the class teacher.

Bikes/scooters on the playground

Please can I remind you of our school's request (School Council) that both adults and children dismount and push bikes/scooters when on the school grounds to avoid any accidents or collisions with other parents and children. **I would like to also remind you that school does not accept any responsibility for any bikes/scooters left on the school premises.** We strongly suggest that all bikes/scooters are locked securely if left on school premises.

Play Frames

The school has a number of play frames on the school playgrounds to help encourage safe adventurous play. All frames are regularly checked to ensure that they meet safety requirements and are age appropriate. The children are also informed on their safe use and are closely supervised during use. The school does not accept any liability for any accidents that occur when used before or after the school day and without school staff supervision.

School Development

Over the Summer, the school has undergone a few developments including new canopies, flooring, internal repairs and painting to keep our environment bright and inviting. We have work planned to install an all-weather MUGA (Multi Use Games Arena) on our school field – we really hope that we get the planning permission to start this project soon! Should there be any other information that you feel you would like us to share with the school or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see me via the school office.

I am looking forward to working with you towards another successful year at Bridgewater Primary School.

*Mrs E Henderson
Headteacher*

General Information

As an 'OUTSTANDING school' we believe there are some core expectations that we should share to ensure all our children achieve their full potential.

Basic Skills

As a member of Bridgewater School we expect all families to undertake the following work at home with their child/children each week:

- Reading with your child every night and bring reading books and records to school each day.
- Complete homework every week.
- Practice handwriting, spelling and key number facts.

Attendance

Please ensure your child is in school every day in order for them to make the most of the OUTSTANDING learning opportunities on offer.

School opens at 8.30am and lessons start at 8.40am. A free breakfast club is available from 8am every morning (40 places maximum) and must be booked in advanced.

Please report to the main office if you arrive late to school. Children will be taken to their classrooms at a convenient time as not to disrupt learning.

Our identity as an OUTSTANDING school is very important and as such teaching the children to wear the uniform with pride is an important part of this:

Winter Uniform *(September to Easter holidays)*

- Light blue shirt / blouse / polo
- School tie (available from the school office)
- Grey trousers / skirt / pinafore
- Grey v-neck jumper / cardigan
- Black flat shoes – not trainers
- White/grey socks / tights

Jewellery

Jewellery is **not allowed** in school except for watches and stud earrings.

Hair Styles

All children should present with neat and tidy hairstyles for school.

Mobile phones/electrical devices are not permitted in school

Children take part in PE each week so need their kit in school on their designated PE day. The kit is as follows:

- Plain white t-shirt (no logos)
- Plain black/navy shorts (no logos)
- Trainers (outdoor) / Black pumps (indoor)
- Black/navy jogging bottoms / tracksuit may be worn outside in winter (no logos).

Should you have any difficulty meeting any of these core expectations please make an appointment to see your child's class teacher

School Rules

Golden Rules

- We are gentle, we don't hurt others
- We are kind and helpful, we don't hurt anybody's feelings
- We are honest, we don't cover up the truth
- We work hard, we don't waste time
- We listen, we don't interrupt
- We look after property, we don't damage things

The 5 R's

We believe that all great learners share the following attributes – which we call the 5 R's These are regularly discussed with your child.

- *Resilience,*
- *Resourceful,*
- *Responsible,*
- *Reasoning,*
- *Reflective*

Playground Rules

- We listen to the adults in the playground
- We stand still when the whistle is blown
- We play together and look after each other
- We sort out our problems in a fair way
- We look after the equipment and put it away properly at the end of play

Lunchtime Rules

- We line up quietly
- We walk around sensibly
- We finish what we are eating before we speak
- We remember to say 'please' and 'thank you'
- We put our own rubbish away
- We talk quietly to the people next to us

Rules Around School

- We walk around school sensibly
- We line up quietly
- We remember to say 'please' and 'thank you'

Uniform

- We wear our uniform with pride
- We do not wear jewellery

Pupil Behaviour Management Guide:

Children are taught to manage behaviour situations with the '5 finger rule':

1. Ignore behaviours.
2. Blank behaviours.
3. Ask politely to stop.
4. Warn you will tell.
5. Tell the teacher.



Anti-Bullying Statement:

Bullying is hurting people with words or actions all the time.

If this is happening to you:

TELL, TELL, TELL –

WE ARE A TELLING SCHOOL!

Calendar of Events Autumn Term 1 2026

September 2026

31 st	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th
School Closed			School reopens PE (Rec & Y5)	
			No afterschool clubs or tuition this week	
7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th
PE (Y6) Y1 Meet the Teacher 3:30pm	PE (N, Y1, & Y3) Y2 Meet the Teacher 3:30pm	PE (Y2 & Y4) Y4 Meet the Teacher 3:30pm	PE (Rec & Y5) Y3 Meet the Teacher 3:30pm	4ZD Swimming Y5 Meet the Teacher 3:30pm
14 th	15 th	16 th	17 th	18 th
PE (Y6)	PE (N, Y1, & Y3) IntraHealth Flu Vaccinations R-Y6 Y6 Meet the Teacher 3:30pm	PE (Y2 & Y4)	PE (Rec & Y5) KS1 Phonics and Early Reading Parent Workshop 9:00am	4ZD Swimming
21 st	22 nd	23 rd	24 th	25 th
PE (Y6) Non-Uniform Day (in exchange for MacMillan Cake Sale Donations)	PE (N, Y1, & Y3)	PE (Y2 & Y4)	PE (Rec & Y5) MacMillan Cake Sale KS1 Playground - 3:00pm	4ZD Swimming IntraHealth Flu Vaccinations R-Y6 (Catch-up Session)
September/October 2026				
28 th	29 th	30 th	1 st	2 nd
PE (Y6) Parent Forum – 2:30pm	PE (N, Y1, & Y3)	PE (Y2 & Y4)	PE (Rec & Y5) EYFS Writing Parent Workshop – 9:00am	4ZD Swimming
5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th
PE (Y6)	PE (N, Y1, & Y3)	PE (Y2 & Y4)	PE (Rec & Y5)	4ZD Swimming World Mental Health Day
12 th	13 th	14 th	15 th	16 th
Y1-Y6 Lego Robotics Class Workshops				
PE (Y6) Y4 Trip to DEVA Roman Centre	PE (N, Y1, & Y3)	PE (Y2 & Y4)	PE (Rec & Y5) EYFS Maths Parent Workshop – 9:00am	4ZD Swimming
19 th	20 th	21 st	22 nd	23 rd
Y3 Shakespeare's Globe Theatre Class Workshops				
PE (Y6)	Y6 Maya Civilisation Class Workshops		PE (Rec & Y5)	4ZD Swimming
	PE (N, Y1, & Y3)	PE (Y2 & Y4)		

School Reopens: **Tuesday 3rd November 2026**