



BRIDGEWATER NEWS

Welcome Back

Summer Term 1 2025



A warm welcome back to all our families

Promoting strong attendance

One of our key focus areas at Bridgewater this year is to improve school attendance as last year we did not reach our target of 96% across the whole. We also had a number of children who are persistently absent (falling below 90%) missing out on important aspects of their education.

Currently, our whole school attendance is 94.6%

Group	% Attend
NN	90.9
R1	91.2
R2	90.7
Year 1 AK	93.2
Year 1 BR	96.1
Year 2 CL	96.8
Year 2 DG	95.7
Year 3 AH	95.2
Year 3 LT	95.6
Year 4 RS	95.8
Year 4 GW	95.0
Year 5 KS	94.3
Year 5 FF	97.0
Year 6 JW	95.4
Year 6 KO	95.8
Totals	94.6

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 95% 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 can result in a fine.

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/> A polite reminder that any requests for leave during school time should be made in writing, addressed to the Headteacher.

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 transition times so not to disturb current learning.

We will continue to monitor every child's attendance each day and ask that parents fully encourage strong school attendance. Attendance letters will be sent out later this half term which will clearly highlight whether your child's attendance is:

- Great and above 96% – green
- Needs improvement as is below 96% - amber
- A cause for concern below 90% – red.

Early intervention and parental support are key factors in resolving attendance issues. Please continue to support us with this and ensure your child is in school and on time each day.

Communication with school

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 your concern further, please contact the school office (after you have spoken with the class teacher) and an appointment can be arranged with a senior member of staff.

Our Senior Leaders are:

Mrs Henderson – Headteacher

Mr Tien-Rhimes– Deputy Headteacher

Mrs Byard - Assistant Headteacher and Lead teacher in Lower Key Stage 2 (Year 3 and 4)

Mrs Thornley – Lead teacher in Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 and 6)

Miss Lovell - Lead teacher in Key Stage 1 (Year 1 and 2)

Mrs Freney – Lead teacher in The Early Years (Nursery and Reception)

Mrs Hill – Director of Business and Operations

At present, I have been asked by the Local Authority to support another primary school in Salford (Cadishead Primary) as Executive Headteacher. I am splitting my time equally between each school - 2.5 days each week. While I am not on school premises, Mr Tien-Rhimes will lead the school.

Summer Uniform (April to July)

The following may be worn as an alternative to the main uniform:

- Light blue polo shirt with grey shorts/trousers/skirt
- Blue/white checked dress
- Black school shoes – trainers are not permitted

PE Kit

- Plain white t-shirt
- Plain black shorts
- Trainers (outdoor) or black pumps (indoor)

Please do not send children into school with 'branded clothing' - e.g. Adidas, Nike, North Face.

We encourage families to maintain our uniform standards. If you need any financial support in doing so, please see Miss Hopkins who is happy to help families access our uniform bank and funding via a Greggs uniform fund.

Parent 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 Summer meeting will be held on **6th May at 2.30pm** in the school hall. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available. I hope to see many of you there and 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 address.

Year 6 SATs

This half-term, Year 6 will sit their SATs (Standardised Assessment Tests). The children are well prepared for these assessments. All data will be shared with parents in July - before the end of the Summer term. During SATs week, all of our Year 6 children are invited into school from 8.00am for a free breakfast and an opportunity to settle in to school before they start their tests. More information will follow.

Water Bottles and Snacks

All children are encouraged to drink water during the day. The children are able to re-fill their water bottles during the school day. 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.

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.

Regularly updated information can also be found on the school website www.bridgewaterprimaryschool.co.uk

News and information is also updated via our Twitter page so please do follow us [@BridgewaterPS](https://twitter.com/BridgewaterPS).

If you have any question or queries, please do not hesitate to contact school and a member of our office team will be happy to help. Please email bridgewater.primaryschool@salford.gov.uk or call 0161 921 1191.

Mrs E Henderson
Executive Headteacher

April/May 2025				
21 st	22 nd	23 rd	24 th	25 th
Easter Monday School closed	School reopens PE (N & Y1)	PE (Rec, Y2 & Y3)	PE (Y4 & Y5)	4GW Swimming Class Photographs & Y6 Individual
28 th	29 th	30 th	1 st	2 nd
PE (Y6)	Reception Heights & Weights		PE (Y4 & Y5)	4GW Swimming
	PE (N & Y1) Y4 Multiplication Tables Check Parent Workshop – 9:00am	PE (Rec, Y2 & Y3)	Y1 Trip to Smithills Farm	

May 2025				
5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th
Bank Holiday School closed	PE (N & Y1) “Riveting Reads” Workshop for Reception Parents & Carers 8:45am Parent Forum 2:30pm	PE (Rec, Y2 & Y3)	PE (Y4 & Y5)	4GW Swimming Y4 Class Assembly 9:00am Creepy Crawly Show Visiting EYFS
12 th	13 th	14 th	15 th	16 th
Mental Health Awareness Week				
Y6 SATs (Monday – Thursday)				4GW Swimming
PE (Y6)	PE (N & Y1)	PE (Rec, Y2 & Y3)	PE (Y4 & Y5)	
19 th	20 th	21 st	22 nd	23 rd
PE (Y6) Choir & Ukulele Performance 2:30pm	PE (N & Y1) Y4 Trip to Bridgewater Canal	PE (Rec, Y2 & Y3)	PE (Y4 & Y5) Y2 Trip to Fylde Sand Dunes	Y1 Class Assembly 9:00am 4GW Swimming School Closes for Summer Half Term

School Reopens: **Monday 2nd June 2025**