



## **Bridgewater Nursery Frequently Asked Questions**

### **1) How old does my child have to be in order to come to your nursery?**

In most circumstances we aim to have termly admissions and to encourage children to attend until they get their primary school place. This is in order to minimise disruption and to support induction arrangements. However, if spaces are available and with the agreement of the Headteacher, children may be admitted at any point during each term and may be given a place as soon as they have had their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday.

### **2) Will my child have a key person?**

At Bridgewater Nursery School, we offer a key worker approach where your child will have the opportunity to develop a special relationship with their assigned adult. The key person will be able to promote your child's development by supporting their emotional needs and well-being. They will gain detailed knowledge about your child and use this information to provide an individual curriculum based on your child's particular interests.

Your child will also be assigned a co-key person who will work closely with your child when their key worker is not available and operate a hand-over system by sharing key information.

If you have any questions or concerns, any member of the nursery team will be more than happy to help you.

### **3) Is there a uniform?**

There is an optional uniform of a green sweatshirt and a green polo-shirt that have the Bridgewater Nursery School logo on the front. For more information about where to purchase this, please contact the office. Alternatively, your child can wear their own clothes to nursery.

Throughout the day your child will have access to paint, glue and outdoor learning, so we ask you to be mindful of this when sending your child in their own clothes. We encourage the children to become as independent as possible when dressing themselves. Please dress your child in clothes that they can pull on and off by themselves with simple fastenings or an elasticated waist band for example, leggings or jogging bottoms.

We would also request that your child has a pair of indoor shoes (plimsolls or slippers) that they can change into once they arrive at nursery.

In accordance with the school Health and Safety Policy no jewellery may be worn.

**4) What will my child need to bring to Nursery?**

- A bag with a change of clothes and underwear.
- Pull up nappies and wipes if needed.
- Weather appropriate clothing, for example a sunhat in the summer months, hat and gloves in the winter.

**5) What is a typical daily routine?**

As your child enters the nursery they will complete their self-registration and put away their belongings. They will be greeted by their key worker and other members of the nursery team. Your child will spend the majority of their day engaged in child initiated learning. This involves choosing from a range of learning activities, both inside and outdoor learning. We follow the EYFS curriculum which is play based; the key areas are Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Communication, Language and Physical Development. They will also take part in group sessions that will be led by an adult. Group sessions will include phase one phonics, mathematics rhyme times, show and tell sessions, story-telling sessions, singing and rhyme time.

**6) Can I come in and settle my child in the morning?**

Parents and carers are welcome to come into the nursery to settle their child at the beginning of the session.

**7) How will I know what my child has experienced during the day?**

Please speak to your child's key worker or a member of the nursery team who will be more than happy to talk to you about your child's learning that day.

**8) How will I be kept informed of my child's progress?**

You will have access to Tapestry, your child's online learning journal, where you will have access to photos and observations of your child's learning. Your child will also have an individual profile which is a record of their learning journey, experiences and progress during their time at nursery. As a parent you are invited to contribute to your child's profile or Tapestry journal by sharing experiences from home.

Throughout the year, there will be opportunities to meet with your child's key worker to discuss their progress in a 'Parents as Partners' meeting. When your child is about to leave the nursery, you will receive a Progress Summary Transition that you will be invited to comment on. A copy will then be sent to your child's new setting.

**9) Do I need to send a packed lunch?**

If your child will be attending the nursery over the lunch period (11.30 am - 12.30 pm) you will be required to bring in a **healthy** packed lunch. Please ensure that the lunch container is clearly labelled with your child's name and does not include sweets, glass bottles or fizzy drinks. No food containing nuts or nut products are allowed in the nursery due to some of our children having severe nut allergies.

Examples of what you could include:

**Fruit and Vegetables**

- ✓ Carrot/cucumber sticks, celery, sliced peppers
- ✓ A whole piece of fruit (apple, banana, pear)
- ✓ Grapes or strawberries (they must be cut lengthways)
- ✓ Fruit salad

**Meat, eggs or beans**

- ✓ Slices of cooked meat
- ✓ Slices of chicken or turkey breast
- ✓ Hard-boiled egg
- ✓ Hummus
- ✓ Tuna sandwich filler

**Bread, rice, potatoes and pasta**

- ✓ Pasta
- ✓ Sandwiches
- ✓ Pitta breads
- ✓ Wraps
- ✓ Rice

**Milk and dairy foods**

- ✓ A pot of yoghurt
- ✓ A piece of cheese

**10) Where will my child eat their lunch?**

Your child will eat their lunch in the nursery with their friends. Lunch times will help to promote your child's independence and social skills.

**11) Can my child come home for lunch but still attend the AM and PM session?**

It is possible that your child can attend a morning session go home for lunch and return for the afternoon session. If this is likely to be a permanent arrangement, please contact the nursery administrator so that we can ensure we are charging/claiming for the right number of hours.

**12) Will my child be provided with a snack?**

Throughout the session, your child will be offered a healthy snack. Please inform a member of the team of any food allergies or dietary requirements. You can also sign up for your child to have milk.

**13) Do the children use the grounds and school at all?**

We are very fortunate to have extensive grounds that the children will have access to as part of their outdoor learning at the nursery. As part of the Forest Schools sessions, the children will explore nature in the grounds and use their senses to experience the seasons. Each week, the children visit the library for a story session and to choose a new book to take home. The children also look forward to their visits to the studio in the Inspire building where they experience dance and movement sessions. During the summer months there will be times where the children have whole group snack on the field or lunch in the covered seating area.

**14) Does my child automatically get a place at Bridgewater Primary?**

Unfortunately, we cannot offer an automatic place at Bridgewater Primary School. There are 90 places in the Reception Year and parents will be asked to apply for a place through the usual school admissions process. Further details can be found on the Northamptonshire County Council website:

<http://www3.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/children-families-education/schools-and-education/school-admissions/Pages/default.aspx>

**15) Does my child have to be toilet trained?**

Bridgewater Primary School Nursery is an inclusive setting and we understand that some children will need to wear nappies. We ask where possible, that you help your child to become independent when using the toilet. Please come to speak to a member of staff if you have any concerns that your child will not be toilet trained for their Nursery start date.

**16) Are nappies/pull-ups included?**

We will keep some spare nappies in the setting, but ask that parents provide nappies/wipes where they are needed on a regular basis.

**17) Do you offer 3-4 year old funded places?**

We are currently offering places under the 30 hour funded government scheme.

**18) Do I have to pay for my session if my child is absent?**

No refunds are made for sickness or absence from the Nursery. This is in line with the nursery contract and school charging policy.

**19) Do I need to pay additional fees for snack, craft items, outings?**

There may be occasions where we ask for a voluntary contribution, for example to pay for a trip or towards cooking ingredients.

**20) My child has only just turned 3 and still needs a nap, is there somewhere they can sleep?**

There is a quiet and comfortable area in the nursery setting with blankets and cushions where your child can go to relax and sleep if they need to.

**21) How many weeks a year is the Nursery open?**

The nursery is open for 38 weeks in the year and operates during the same term time dates as Bridgewater Primary School. These dates are available online and also from the school office.

**22) Will the Nursery be closed for teaching training days?**

The nursery will be closed on Bridgewater Primary School training days. Please see the nursery term dates for more information.

**23) How will you manage children's behaviour?**

At Bridgewater we know that good behaviour is an essential factor enabling children to be successful and make good progress in their learning. We all have vital roles to play in modelling, encouraging and supporting good behaviour.

We have high expectations of behaviour within a positive, caring ethos. The children understand these expectations and learn within firm boundaries and a consistent whole school approach.

It is well known that before we can understand children's behaviour, we must appreciate their needs. In accordance with this there is an ethos at Bridgewater that if children behave in a manner that is inappropriate within the ethos of the school, there is a reason for it that needs investigation.

All children are treated fairly and with respect and we have high expectations that they will behave in this way towards their peers and the adults that work and care for them within our school community. We aim to support children to take control of their choices and understand the consequences of those choices for themselves and others.

We are also aware of the impact of other outside factors that can impact on behaviour; such as a change in circumstances, a family break-up or bereavement. Our aim is to develop trusting, open and honest dialogue with the children, parents and carers so we can work together in the best interests of the child and family.

**24)What if I'm late collecting is there a charge?**

Due to strict ratios within the nursery, we need children to be collected on time. We do understand that sometimes being late is unavoidable and we would ask that you contact the school office to let us know if you are going to be late. In extreme circumstances or if a child is frequently collected late, a late charge of £20 will be applied. This is in line with the nursery contract and school charging policy.

**25)Can I split my funding between the Nursery and another provider?**

Yes you are able to split your funding between the Nursery and another provider. You need to let both settings know who you are splitting the funding with and the number of hours you would like to use at each setting.