



NURSERY CLASS PARENT HANDBOOK

2026 – 2027

WELCOME FROM THE HEADTEACHER

We take great pleasure in welcoming you and your child to Bridge Learning Campus (BLC). We are very proud of our school community, the ethos of which supports all pupils to grow in confidence, to aim high and to achieve their full potential, both academically and personally. We know that with your support this will be a very successful year for your child.

We believe that confidence is the key to future success. This is why everything we do at BLC is designed to help our pupils to become confident individuals who always represent our values. Our curriculum supports this ambition and, with the high expectations we have of our pupils (and of ourselves too), I am very excited at the prospect of what your child will experience and achieve as part of our community.

Our school website www.bridgelearningcampus.org.uk has all of the most up to date information. This handbook is designed to give you some of the essential information you need as well as some more detail about how we will help your child to learn, grow and flourish with us.

We look forward to meeting you and working in partnership with you during your child's learning journey at Bridge Learning Campus.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school with any questions.



**DANNY
McGILLOWAY**
Headteacher



WELCOME TO RAINBOW CLASS

We are looking forward to welcoming you and your child into our Rainbow Class. Depending on the session allocation your child will attend: full-time – 8.30-3.00pm, part-time (morning) 8.30-11.30am or part-time (afternoon) 12.00-3.00pm.



HOW WILL WE BE LEARNING?

In Nursery children learn through play, following the Early Years Foundation Stage. Our knowledgeable and experienced staff support children in their play to develop their skills and take part in new experiences. Our focus is on our Personal, Social and Emotional Development, helping children to develop relationships with adults and children, name and manage their emotions and become independent learners.

All children have adult led learning opportunities at circle time where they will learn skills linked to mark making, fine motor skills and maths. Each day children take part in singing and story times. We read a set of “core books” for the term to help children become familiar with the story and be confident to retell the story themselves. We support children with their transition to Reception by learning in new

areas of the school, such as trips to the library and the field. Parents are involved in their child’s learning through Class Dojo where they can see both group pictures and pictures of their child’s individual learning. Parents are encouraged to share pictures from home on Class Dojo too.

Each term there is an opportunity for parents to join us in our family music circle. The children can show you the songs and skills they have been learning over the term. We also have Parent’s Evenings three times per year so you can find out how your child is progressing.



INTRODUCTION

Our aim is to complete home visits for all children starting in Nursery. A time will be arranged for you and the Nursery teacher will share this information when arrangements have been confirmed. If any changes occur we will aim to keep you informed as soon as we can. Settling into Nursery is really important, and each child has an individual induction period.

When your child starts, you will need to be available for a settling-in period. It is also expected for successful transition, that your child is toilet trained and able to go to the toilet by themselves. If you have any questions about this please contact the school.





HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUR CHILD MAKE PROGRESS DURING THEIR NURSERY YEAR?

LEARNING IS FUN!

THERE ARE SO MANY WAYS THAT YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING AT HOME, INCLUDING:

- Support your child to recognise their emotions, allow them to feel happy, sad, excited or angry
- Take your children to the park, the shops or on outings, these are really valuable experiences to support children's social and communication skills.
- Talking about things you see when you are out and about. Look for similarities and differences. Make links with things when you spot them. Talk about everything!
- Encouraging your child to talk in full sentences and ask questions that do not need just a yes or no answer.
- Sharing books and stories together, talk about the pictures. Tell your child the stories you heard when you were little – encourage listening and attention span.
- Developing fine motor skills by cutting, using playdough, threading beads etc
- Encouraging mark making, shopping lists, writing in cards, drawing pictures etc.
- Singing number rhymes and other songs together.
- Providing opportunities to play with other children, within the guidelines set out by the Government.
- Spending 15 minutes each day supporting your child with their learning will have a huge impact on your child's development and the amount of progress they make at school.





EVERYDAY INFORMATION

UNIFORMS:

- Tailored black trousers. In Nursery jogging bottoms or leggings are allowed.
- Knee length black skirt or knee length black tailored shorts.
- Green polo shirt with or without BLC logo.
- Green sweater with or without BLC logo.
- Grey or black pinafore dress.
- Green gingham dresses (summer term only).

- White, grey, black or green socks/tights.
- Completely black shoes or trainers.

PROVISIONS:

WE WILL PROVIDE:

- Fruit for snack time and a carton or glass of milk.

YOU SHOULD PROVIDE

- Water as a drink.
- Velcro shoes.



OUR VALUES



BUILD



RESPECT



INSPIRE



DARE



GRAFT



EMPOWER

Our school family is a community that educates and empowers. Building confidence from the first steps to the next steps.



THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW:

DROPPING OFF AND PICKING UP YOUR CHILD

Please use the Nursery entrance for drop off and pick up.

APPOINTMENTS

We ask that you try, as much as possible, to book any dentist or doctors appointment after the school day.

Alternative adults picking up – If a different adult is picking your child up please inform the class teacher in the morning or message on Dojo.



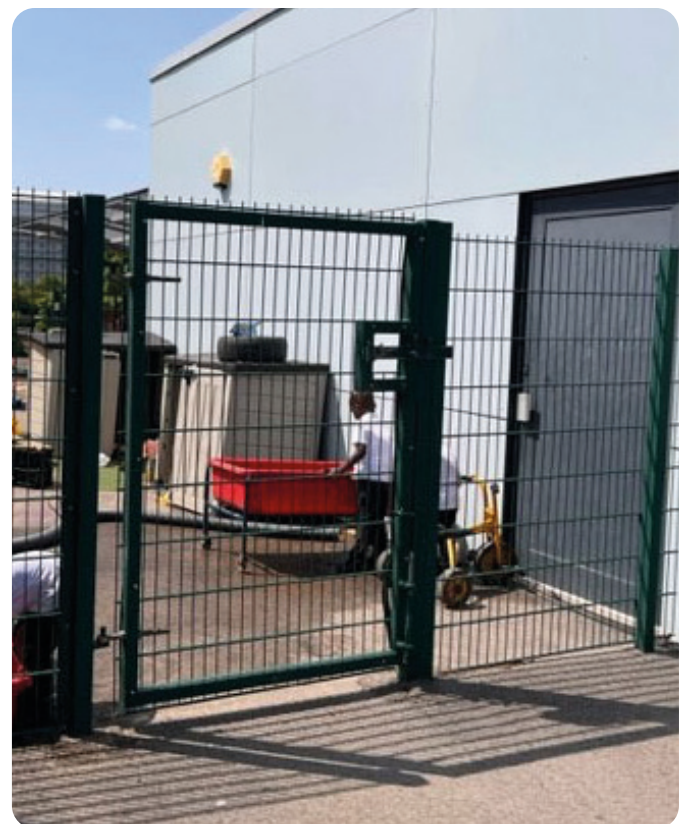
NURSERY CLASSROOM DOOR

ABSENCE

We expect good regular attendance. But, if your child is unwell staying at home is best. Illnesses can spread very quickly in school! Please contact the office every day that your child is absent, giving the reason your child is away. If your child has severe diarrhoea and sickness please do not bring them to school for at least 48 hours after it stops, after which time they should no longer be contagious. If your child has been sick or had diarrhoea only once, then a period of 24h hours before returning should be followed.

LATE ARRIVALS

If you arrive late (after 8.35am & 12.05) please come directly to the main office to sign in the late book.



REAR GATE (PRIMARY)



BEHAVIOUR IN SCHOOL

Bridge Learning Campus is a unique all-through school where children of all ages have the right to learn, all teachers the right to teach, and everyone in school the right to feel safe. We therefore have a collective and individual responsibility to respect others, ourselves, and the environment. Our fundamental principle is an unconditional positive regard for others. This, combined with rights, responsibilities and routines will produce good behaviour where everyone is able to work effectively and happily. We are an inclusive school and this policy strives to ensure inclusion is at the heart of everything we do. In order to maintain good order and appropriate behaviour, we recognize the importance of rewards and sanctions. Students' positive behaviour and participation needs to be acknowledged and rewarded; poor behaviour – especially that which interferes with others' learning or that which endangers others – will be discussed between home and school and a way forward found.

LUNCHES AND SNACKS:

In Nursery, we will provide your child with a piece of fruit and either a glass of water or milk each snack time. This is used as a social situation and is a brilliant way for the children to apply the learning they have been doing.

Packed lunch can be sent in with your child daily or if you wish to buy lunch, we use the cashless system 'Arbor Pay' to buy lunch from our catering company. You will need to ensure your Arbor Pay account has sufficient funds if you are paying for your child's lunches. We will not be able to

provide a lunch to your child if they do not have money on their account. Our menu is available on our website and your child's teacher will have more information about daily meal options. Nursery age children are not entitled to Free School Meals.

WHAT YOUR CHILD NEEDS TO BRING TO NURSERY:

- Water bottle.
- Lunchbox- please ensure your child has a healthy variety of foods.
- Spare clothes.
- Wellies.

Please ensure everything is labelled clearly with your child's name.

COMMUNICATION

Any events or key information will be written on the classroom whiteboard for you to see at drop off and pick up time.

We also keep a diary by the door to write in any changes to who is collecting your child at the end of the day or their session. We will only let your child be collected by an adult that is known to us. If you are going to be late, please telephone us so that we can let your child know.

Please keep phone numbers and your address up to date in case we need to contact you during the day regarding your child.



ARBOR

We use Arbor as our school MIS & communication system. We ask parents to sign up to the Arbor Parent Portal where you can view e-mails, SMS and In-App messages and be kept up to date about your child's life at school.

The Parent Portal works on Google Chrome (computer or laptop) and you can download the Arbor App from the App Store or Google Play Store on your phone (Android 5.0; iOS 10.0 and upwards). Wait for your welcome email from us telling you Arbor is ready - you won't be able to log in before. For help with logging in please contact the school office. www.arbor-education.com

CLASS DOJO

Throughout the Primary school we use an online platform called 'Class Dojo.' This platform allows us to share videos, provide

information and message families and for families to message teachers back. It is a very effective way to create a virtual, learning community.

To either start, or to continue your child's BLC journey. It is our intention to provide a variety of transition opportunities for your child that can be accessed through the platform.

Class Dojo is a secure platform, needing a password to access the content available. Each parent and child will have their own personal computer-generated password, which they will need to use to access the community.

You will either be able to access the site via the website www.classdojo.com or you can download the app which is available for Apple and Android devices.

You will receive a separate letter to sign up for this.





HEALTH AND SAFETY

Please make sure we have up to date medical and contact detail information on file.

JEWELLERY

Stud earrings only should be worn, as anything else can catch easily and be dangerous. All other jewellery is best left at home as we can't be responsible for anything that is mislaid.

SHOES

Sensible shoes are required for Nursery (this includes closed heeled sandals in

the summer). We do not allow flip-flops or open heeled sandals which can cause children to trip over.

SUN CREAM IN SUNNY WEATHER

Please apply sun cream before they come to school. Children may bring in sun cream but will have to apply it themselves; staff cannot help apply sun cream.

We also strongly recommend children bring in sun hats when the weather is hot.

No personal toys allowed in school - we thank you for your support.





TIMINGS OF THE SCHOOL DAY

START:

- Nursery to Year 6 – 8:30 am
- Year 7 to Year 11 – 8:35 am

END:

- Nursery – 3:00 pm
- Reception to Year 11 – 3:10 pm

TERM DATES 2026-2027

TERM 1:

Thursday 3rd September to Friday 23rd October 2026

TERM 2:

Monday 2nd November to Friday 18th December 2026

TERM 3:

Monday 4th January to Friday 12th February 2027

TERM 4:

Monday 22nd February to Thursday 25th March 2027

TERM 5:

Monday 12th April to Friday 28th May 2027

TERM 6:

Monday 7th June to Friday 23rd July 2027

INSET DAYS

- Thursday 3rd September 2026
- Friday 4th September 2026
- Friday 23rd October 2026
- Friday 27th November 2026
- Monday 4th January 2027
- Monday 1st February 2027
- Monday 22nd February 2027
- Monday 15th March 2027:
Secondary only
- Friday 28th May 2027:
Primary only





CONTACT INFORMATION

ADDRESS:

Bridge Learning Campus,
William Jessop Way, Hartcliffe,
Bristol, BS13 0RL

Special Educational Needs Team

SEN@blc.school

Wellbeing concerns

wellbeing@blc.school

MAIN TELEPHONE CONTACTS:

Primary 0117 9030356
Secondary 0117 3534472

Admissions

join@blc.school

GENERAL EMAIL:

enquiries@blc.school

SOCIAL MEDIA:

Twitter (X)

[@Bristol_BLC](https://twitter.com/Bristol_BLC)

Instagram

[@bridgelearningcampus](https://www.instagram.com/bridgelearningcampus)

CONTACTS:

Attendance Team

attendance@blc.school

Facebook

[Bridge Learning Campus](https://www.facebook.com/Bridge Learning Campus)





**Bridge Learning
Campus**