



Bridge Hall Primary School



Where Every Child Matters and Every Day Counts



Welcome to Bridge Hall Primary School



Foreword: Martyn Spray, Headteacher, says...

It is with great pride that I welcome you to our wonderful school.

Small and friendly

As we are a small school with rising numbers, it means that I know the name of every child. Our class sizes average is around 25 pupils. Each class has a teaching assistant supporting the learning alongside the class teacher, normally working with groups or individuals, to help every child achieve their potential.

Happy

We are a happy place to learn. We have high standards and we always ask the children to follow our three simple rules:

- Look after yourself.
- Look after others.
- Look after our school.

Awards

We are proud to have gained the Healthy Schools Award and Inclusion Quality Mark.

Igniting an interest in the world

Our teaching is stimulating and creative, which encourages our children to continue their education outside of school, and become lifelong learners. We want to ignite an interest in the world around them, and for that interest to lead to fulfilling and imaginative lives. Learning should be fun!

Pastoral care

Whilst academic achievements are an important part of life at our school, all our children also have the opportunity to also enjoy a wide variety of sporting and musical opportunities, as well as regular trips and residential visits. Our pastoral care is exceptional, ensuring all children are kept safe and are supported both inside and outside school.

Ofsted 2013 praised Bridge Hall Primary School, rating us a 'Good School':

"Senior leaders and governors have worked well together to get the best out of the staff and improve the quality of teaching." ...

"Teaching is usually good and some is Outstanding!"...

"Teachers manage classrooms well, so that lessons run smoothly."...

"Pupils are well behaved and have a good understanding of how to keep themselves and others safe."...

"The exceptional leadership of the headteacher has been central to the school's good improvement since the previous inspection."...(Ofsted 2013)

We are now working towards Outstanding!

Dedicated staff

I am also very proud of our exceptionally experienced and dedicated staff, who ensure that all our children are well supported to achieve their true potential, and work hard with families to overcome any barriers to learning.



Parent partnership

Another very important part of our school is you, the parent! As you will see, by reading the many parent and pupil stories within this prospectus, you and your child are very important to us. We champion the link between school and parent and work very hard to involve you in every step of your child's time here... and increase your child's enjoyment of learning

Get in touch

If you wish to hear more about what we can offer your child please contact us for more information or an appointment to meet me on 0161 480 7889 or headteacher@bridgehall.stockport.sch.uk.





School day

School hours

Nursery Day

Morning Session: 8.45am – 11.45am

Afternoon Session: 12.10pm – 3.10pm

School Day: 8.45am – 3.10pm

Wraparound clubs

Breakfast Club

We run a subsidised Breakfast Club from 8.00am which provides a safe and nurturing environment for your child. A healthy breakfast choice is available including cereals, toast and

fruit juice and parents are welcome to stay for a cup of tea or coffee too.

Uniform

When we consulted with parents, carers, staff and children the overwhelming majority expressed their preference for a school uniform. Our uniform may be purchased from the school office. Parents are asked to send their children to school tidy and appropriately dressed for the weather of the day. School uniform reinforces school identity and eliminates 'brand' fashion and stigma.

School meals and snacks

Children have the choice of being able to bring a packed lunch, go home for lunch or purchase a healthy and nutritious school dinner. School dinners are provided by Dolce Ltd an independant company and cooked on-site in our school kitchen.

Free school meals

For children in the Foundation Stage, and Years 1 and 2, the government provides free school meals. For older children, you need to be in receipt of certain benefits.

Break-time and drinks

We supply fruit to eat at morning play. They may also obtain fruit at breakfast club, through the National Fruit Scheme.

Milk is provided free to all children from Nursery to YR6. Children have regular access to water and are encouraged to bring in water bottles. A choice of quality juice, milk or water is available during lunch and breakfast club.

Chaylea and Tiana-Jay are both thriving in the light, airy surroundings of their beloved Bridge Hall Primary School

Louise Clarke lives in Stockport with her daughters, Chaylea, aged 11, and Tiana-Jay, aged eight.



Back home

Chaylea and Tiana-Jay are both glad to be back in the cosy surroundings of Bridge Hall after moving to another school for a while. Louise says: 'Both girls had attended Bridge Hall from being in the nursery but when we moved house I decided to send them to a school closer to our new home. However they both missed Bridge Hall so much that I eventually moved them back.'

Support

'Neither of them had settled in at the old school and Tiana-Jay wasn't getting the help she needed for her behavioural problems. The staff didn't understand her or offer her the support she needed. Tiana-Jay can have a bad day at school one day and then have a really good day the next. Bridge Hall seem to understand this,' Louise says.

Improved confidence

'When Chaylea first started in the nursery at Bridge Hall she was very quiet and lacked confidence. The staff gave her a lot of support because she didn't talk much and they helped her to make friends with the other children. She has really blossomed now and will sing her heart out in assembly in front of all the other children.'

One to one support

'There was a time when she wouldn't say much at all but they provided one to one help for her speech and language. Now she is about to do her SATs they are giving her a lot of help again. If there is something she doesn't really understand they will sit with her at lunchtime and go over it with her until she understands,' Louise says.

Moving up

'She is being well prepared for moving up to secondary school but she is the only one from Bridge Hall going to the school where she has been given a place. However, the head teacher's god daughters

went there and he has spoken to Chaylea about it and told her she will be absolutely fine there. He has also given her time off so I can take her to look round the new school', Louise says.

Fun after school

'Chaylea has also really enjoyed going to the after school clubs, particularly the radio club and the newspaper club. The children broadcast on the school radio which you can hear on speakers as you go round the building and they produce their own school newspaper.'

Maths help

After Tiana Jay started in nursery she was poorly and had to have a lot of time off for hospital appointments, Louise says. 'It meant she got behind with the work but she was given one to one help by her teacher to help her catch up. Tiana-Jay has also had a lot of support with her Maths. If there is something she doesn't understand, or can't do, she can get someone to sit down with her and explain it. Tiana-Jay is also very sporty and likes playing football and running and doing gymnastics and dancing after school.'

New building

Both girls absolutely love going to school each day, Louise says. 'I grew up on the estate where Bridge Hall is and I have never heard a bad word said about the school. If you have any problems you can go in and the staff will be happy to talk to you about them. When the girls started at Bridge Hall the school was in an old building, but now they are in their new building, the girls love it even more because it is so light and airy.'

Children say

Tiana-Jay says: 'I love doing Maths at school.'

Chaylea says: 'I love everything about Bridge Hall.'



Curriculum: knowledge, skills and understanding

Planned

Our curriculum is carefully planned to meet the needs of our children and our community whilst still covering the knowledge, skills and understanding set out in the National Curriculum.

The curriculum is divided into three stages:

Early Years Foundation Stage: from ages 0-5.

Key Stage 1: from ages 5-7.

Key Stage 2: from ages 7-11.

Nursery/Reception

The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum is based on seven areas of learning:

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

Key Stages 1-2

Areas of the curriculum are:

- Mathematics.
- English.
- Science.
- Computing.
- Design and Technology.
- History.
- Geography.
- Languages - French.
- Art and Design.
- Music.

- Physical Education.
- Religious Education.
- Citizenship.
- Personal, Social Health and Economic Education (PSHE).

We have specialist teachers for music, PE and dedicated intervention teachers to support the teaching of maths and reading.

Music

Ukulele, Guitar and Bridgehall Choir (KS1 - KS2).

Evan and Arianwen were soon made to feel at home by the caring teachers at Bridge Hall Primary School

Kelly and Anthony Rothwell live in Stockport with their son, Evan, aged nine, and daughter, Arianwen, aged seven.



Good start

Kelly and Anthony were delighted with how quickly their children settled in after starting at Bridge Hall Primary School two and a half years ago. 'We had moved into the area from south Wales and were worried about how the children would adapt to their new school, but they quickly got used to it because of the fantastic help they got from everyone,' Kelly says.

Nice welcome

'The staff were absolutely amazing. They got the children included in everything straight away. They allocated partners to each of them to show them round and explain things like where to leave their bags and how to get to the toilets and the canteen. The children were made to feel so welcome they settled in amazingly well right from the start. The staff also went out of their way to talk to me and my husband and make us feel welcome at the school.'

Help in class

'Although he liked the school, Evan started to have some difficulties and he was diagnosed with autism last year,' Kelly says. 'The school have been excellent and they did everything they could to help him do better in class even when they didn't know what his diagnosis was. But despite his difficulties Evan still enjoys school and likes doing Art, Literacy and Maths. He is very happy and participates in all the activities and has made plenty of friends.'

Thoughtful teacher

'Arianwen was quite shy to begin with because she was only four when she started at Bridge Hall Primary. She had only just started at her previous school when we moved from south Wales so it was a big upheaval for her to start again somewhere else. But her teacher was absolutely fabulous and made sure Arianwen always felt included in everything the class were doing,' Kelly says.

Enjoying music

'Arianwen loves music and is really pleased they are allowed to listen to pop songs in the classroom. It is ideal for her because she enjoys pop music. They sometimes have a class song and all learn to sing it together and dance to it. I think it is a good way to bring the whole class together and to boost morale,' Kelly says.

Kept informed

'I am pleased with the way the school communicate with the parents. They send us a regular newsletter and we also get a letter sent on behalf of the classes at the beginning of each half term letting us know what the children will be doing for the next few weeks. It gives us an overview of what they are going to be studying, which means we can support the children at home with their learning,' Kelly says. 'They also have what they call share assemblies, to which parents are invited, where each class give the parents a presentation with an overview of what they have been learning.'

Approachable staff

'I would definitely recommend Bridge Hall to other parents looking for a good primary school because it is so welcoming to both the children and parents. The teachers are happy to make themselves available at the end of each day to talk to the parents and are all very approachable.'

Children say

Evan says: 'I like football training and playing with my friends.'

Arianwen says: 'I like singing and dancing and writing stories.'



Enriched curriculum: trips and visits

Trips

To further enrich our curriculum, we like to take children on educational visits as often as we can. Costs for these are kept to a minimum and where possible they are part funded by the school. Examples of trip include:

Sea Life Centre.
Local libraries.
Fire Station.
Hat Works.
M.O.S.I

Jodrell Bank.
Lego Dioscovery.
Reddish Vale Farm.
Dewar Roman Experience.

School Linking

Our Year 3 and Year 4 classes take part in a school linking project where the classes link with another school in the Manchester area. They have joint trips and spend a day in each other's school, learning about other people's cultures and lives.

Residential and Visitors

We are committed to providing the best educational opportunities for all our pupils. We believe that school trips can provide a real stimulus for class based learning and bring subjects to life. We also offer residential trips for our Key Stage 2 pupils. These trips foster independence, team work, communication, community spirit, improved social interactions, and help build classroom relationships.

Additionally, we arrange visits to the school by theatre groups and those with professional expertise such as singers, artists and musicians.



Behaviour and self-development

High standards

At Bridge Hall, we expect a high standard of behaviour from our children. Good behaviour is not automatically learned but needs to be taught, modelled and supported by parents.

Our 3 school rules are very simple:

"Look after yourself"

"Look after others"

"Look after our school"

These basic rules are simplified and displayed in all classrooms and corridors and regularly verbalised at EYFS and KS1

Rewards

We feel it is very important that praise and reward should have great emphasis. Children achieve more, are better motivated and behave better, when staff commend and reward their successes rather than focus on their failure. Praise has a reinforcing and motivational role. It helps a child believe they are valued. At Bridge Hall praise and encouragement in and out of lessons is used as much as possible.

Bronze, Silver and Gold

The school has designed a consistent approach for rewarding and encouraging good behaviour, effort and manners based on the collection of 'Stars' stamps. These may be awarded for any actions, deeds or attitudes which are deemed noteworthy. When all children in a class achieve Bronze, Silver or Gold Awards they are awarded with an appropriate class treat of their choice, such as a class party, a DVD or class disco.





Inclusion: a curriculum for all

Special Educational Needs

We are an inclusive school and have gained the Inclusion Quality Mark in recognition of this. At Bridge Hall Primary School, we strive to support all pupils to enable them to achieve the very best that they can at school. All our pupils receive quality first teaching. This means that a range of teaching and learning approaches are used and that appropriate learning objectives are set for all pupils with a curriculum matched to their needs.

Pastoral Team

All our classes are supported by teaching assistants and pupils are also offered small group work or catch up programmes if needed. Some pupils are supported to develop their social skills or to improve their emotional well-being through work with our Pastoral Team.

Access

Children with physical needs are welcome in our school. We have an Equal Opportunities Policy and

do not discriminate against any individuals. We actively promote a caring ethos within our school and our building is fully accessible.

Gifted and talented children

We recognise that all children are individuals with their own specific needs, gifts and talents. Children who are identified as being exceptionally able or talented, are monitored and provided with stimulating and enriching lessons appropriate to their needs.

Pastoral focus

We have a strong caring focus and employ a Pastoral Manager whose role is to look out for the social, emotional needs of the children. We work within a restorative approach to solving issues and problems that arise between children. Our staff are all training in dealing with issues in a restorative way. This way children see the impact their actions have and are encouraged to take responsibility for their own actions and restore relationships.

Friendly staff helped Alishbah and Maaz settle in quickly at Bridge Hall Primary School

Syed Shahid Ali and his wife, Shabnam Shahid, live in Stockport with their daughter, Alishbah, aged 12, and son, Maaz, aged 10.



Approachable staff

The friendly staff and the good relationships they have with both children and parents is the best thing about Bridge Hall Primary School, according to Syed and Shabnam. 'It is a small school and the teachers get to know the children really well and take good care of them. I like the fact that the children feel they can talk to their teachers easily about anything,' Shabnam says.

New building

The family moved from south Wales to Stockport three years ago and both children started at Bridge Hall Primary School at the same time. When Shabnam first saw the school it was in an old building and she wasn't impressed to begin with. 'But when I met the head teacher I found him very humble and passionate about the continuous improvement of the school and during the tour I realised it was actually very good. Bridge Hall is now in a lovely modern building with light, airy classrooms and there is plenty of outside space for the children to play in,' Shabnam says.

Smooth transition

Alishbah and Maaz had no problems settling in. 'They found all the other children really friendly and quickly felt at home. The relationship between the teachers and the children is very strong and the parents are made to feel at ease and can approach the teachers with any concerns they may have. Overall it is a very welcoming environment for both children and parents. The teachers make sure they build good relationships with the parents and are available on a daily basis if you need to talk to them,' Shabnam says.

Moving on

Alishbah particularly enjoyed Maths when she was at Bridge Hall and she still loves Maths now she has moved up to secondary school. 'She was well prepared by the school for moving to Stockport Academy and is now doing very well there. She is very good at English and spelling and grammar,' Shabnam says.

Varied activities

Maaz also likes Maths and English. 'He is doing very well with his reading and writing and grammar. The school run lots of clubs for the children both during the day and after school and the children get the benefit of the different activities the staff put on for them. At the moment Maaz is enjoying learning the guitar.'

Safety first

'All the teachers are hard working and look after the children well. The security of the children is very important to them and they are good at safeguarding. They do risk assessments before every new activity and are trained in first-aid. It is comforting for the parents to know their children will be safe and looked after while they are at school. The school keep us informed about how the children are getting on and we get a regular newsletter to tell us what they are doing in their classes. This is very useful so we can encourage Maaz at home and work with him,' Shabnam says.

Parent Governor

'I enjoyed working in early years as a volunteer helping the children with their reading, writing and Maths and so I decided to stand for election as a parent governor. Now I have been elected I am keen to help the school to keep improving.'

Good recommendation

'Recently I recommended the school to my neighbour. She had said my children were very polite and nice and asked me about their school. I told her it was small and that the teachers are very friendly and good with the children and that I would not hesitate to recommend Bridge Hall to other families.'

Children say

Maaz says: 'The teachers in my school are very nice and supportive and will always help me when I'm stuck on something.'



Clubs

Wide variety

Children at Bridge Hall Primary School have the opportunity to take part in a range of after school clubs, usually from 3.15pm - 4.00pm including:

- Gymnastics.
- Dance Club.
- Business Club.
- Gardening.
- Football.
- Newspaper Club.
- Radio Club.
- Dodgeball.
- Lego Quest.

Sport

The children at Bridge Hall Primary are offered a wide range of opportunities to enable them to undertake activities they enjoy and are signposted to continue them outside of school.

Specialist teachers

The staff at Bridge Hall Primary are working alongside a specialist PE teacher (SSCo). The SSCo teacher provides support and assistance in order that high quality PE lessons are delivered across the whole school.

All children are encouraged to achieve their potential and appreciate the value of physical activity as part of a healthy lifestyle.

Honesty Teamwork, Respect, Self-belief, Passion, and Determination

To support the children in their understanding of how teams work and compete, they are taught the values of Honesty Teamwork, Respect, Self-belief, Passion, and Determination which underpin the ethos Sainsbury's schools Games Awards.

Stockport Schools Partnership

Throughout the year the children will have opportunity to access different sporting activities and competitions through the Stockport Schools Partnership. This participation has led to the school achieving the Sainsbury's School Games Bronze award for 2015 - 2016.



The Skopek family enjoyed learning and playing in the friendly atmosphere of Bridge Hall Primary School

Lisa and Stephen Skopek live in Stockport with their children, Keara, aged 12, Kayleigh, aged nine, and Keaton, aged seven.



Varied activities

Lisa and Stephen are pleased with the fantastic learning opportunities offered by Bridge Hall and the wide variety of clubs and activities available to the children. 'Keara my eldest daughter is now doing very well at secondary school and a lot of her success is due to the excellent education she received while she was at Bridge Hall,' Lisa says.

Earning praise

'After Keara started secondary school she received an 'outstanding letter' from the head teacher in the first term and we were really proud of her and rewarded her. She has received several since, so we have had to scale down the rewards now! I am convinced it is down to the start she had at her primary school. If a child wants to learn, then it's all there for them at Bridge Hall.

Good start

'Originally I wanted my children to go to my old school but I bought a house in the catchment area of Bridge Hall and they offered Keara a full nursery place from the age of three. It was also my husband's old school, so we let her start Bridge Hall in full school uniform and she loved it right from the start. She was very happy in the nursery and liked her teacher,' Lisa says.

Building confidence

'Keara was always fantastic at English and writing as she progressed up the school but, as she was coming up to the SATs, she struggled a little with Maths. Bridge Hall laid on extra lessons for her and a few other children with the same problem. They brought a Maths tutor in to give them lessons after school. This has given her confidence and she now has no problem with Maths at secondary school.

After school

'Kayleigh, my younger daughter, is a good all rounder and does well academically. She also likes to be active and plays loads of sports and does lots of clubs after school. Bridge Hall offer a really good variety of clubs.

The children can play cricket, football, dodge ball and lots of other things. There is also a radio club, where the children get to broadcast to the rest of the school,' Lisa says.

Team effort

'Keaton, my youngest child, did well in nursery but, as he got further up the school, he started to become disruptive. But the school have really turned him around. At the last parents' evening I was told he is now above average in all his subjects and I was bursting with pride after I came out.

Helpful staff

'You can always go and see the teachers if you have concerns because they are very approachable. When Keaton started cursive writing I was not happy because it was a big change and I felt it was expecting too much of him. But when I went in after school the teacher sat down with me and explained what he had to do and I felt reassured. If you are worried about something and want to talk to a teacher they would never turn you away. If it is something that can't be discussed in the playground they will take you into the classroom and listen to your concerns,' Lisa says.

Good recommendation

'I would recommend Bridge Hall Primary School to anyone. I encouraged my mother to send my younger sister to the school, and another of my sisters to send her children there, and they are all doing well.'

Children say

Kayleigh says: 'I love doing all the extra activities at Bridge Hall. Robin Wood is my favourite, cannot wait to go again soon.'

Keaton says: 'I love reading now, it's my favourite, the new school is much better, with lots to do at playtime.'



Admissions

Prospective parents are welcome to arrange a visit of the school via the school office.

Admission into Reception

Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council manages nursery and primary admissions, application forms are available via the Council's website. Formal offers of places are sent out in accordance with the Local Education Authority's policy and agreed timetable.

Admission into other year groups

If you want your child to come to Bridge Hall Primary School then you should apply via the Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council using their online form. Please contact the office to arrange an appointment where we will be very happy to show you around our school.

Applications

Please enquire about vacancies and ask about applications at the school office. Entry will need to be made directly to the County Council.

Tel: 0161 217 6022

Web: <https://www.stockport.gov.uk/topic/nursery-and-school-admissions>

E-mail: Via their website contact page: <https://www.stockport.gov.uk/contact-school-admissions>.



Getting involved

Voluntary helpers

We value the contribution of parents and family and we actively encourage your help during the school day. Parents and family help with a variety of activities which include reading with our children, helping children to choose a library book, and sewing, cooking, and acting as extra pairs of hands on educational visits. We accept all help gratefully. All volunteers must have a DBS check before they commence work in school.

Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

The Friends of Bridge Hall Incorporated (FBI) is a group of parents, carers and friends from the Bridge Hall community who get together to raise money for the children and the community. Money raised enables children to go on numerous educational trips and events.

Anyone who has an interest in helping Bridge Hall Primary become an even better school is welcome!

Governorship

We have a full and active Governing Body, which includes parent governors as well as representatives from staff, the local authority and the local community. The governing body has a range of duties and powers and a general responsibility for the conduct of the school with a view to promoting high standards of educational achievement including setting targets for pupil achievement, managing the school's finances, making sure the curriculum is balanced and broadly based,

appointing staff and reviewing staff performance and pay.

Vacancies for Parent Governors are advertised as they arise.

Do you want to be a Governor?

Our Parent Governors give parents a voice in decision making. They are elected by parents through a ballot. If you are interested in becoming a Governor, please contact the school office.

Vision

Bridge Hall Primary School (BHPS) provides a happy, safe, secure and well-disciplined environment where all children can expect to enjoy a high quality education and are keen to learn.

It's a place where expectations are high and where achievements of all kinds are rewarded and praised.

Every child's needs are met in order that they may achieve their full potential.

Each member of the school community is respected and all contributions will be valued. At Bridge Hall Primary School there is a shared sense of purpose and a commitment to continual reflection and improvement.

The school is well respected within the wider community and is a place for which everyone can feel a sense of pride.

Our Aim

Our aim is to give our children a life long love of learning. We do this by teaching and developing their learning.

We encourage to:

- Concentrate
- Not give up
- Be cooperative
- Be curious
- Have a go
- Using your imagination
- Keep improving
- Enjoy learning
- Not fear failure.



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