Together rain or shine

Bridgewater Primary School
Bridle Way
Berkhamsted
HP4 1ES
T 01442 871 231
E admin@bridgewater.herts.sch.

6th July 2026

Teaching arrangements for September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is always an exciting time of year as your children prepare to meet their new teachers. However, it can also be a bittersweet moment as we prepare to say goodbye to some valued members of our staff.

As we did last year, we are sharing the details of your child's new class and teaching team today. We know that the wait for transition day can cause anxiety for some children, and providing this information now allows you the opportunity to talk to your child about their upcoming move and offer reassurance if they are feeling nervous.

On Thursday afternoon, the children will 'move up' to their new year groups. They will visit their new classrooms and spend time getting to know their new teachers. We hope this experience helps them feel excited for the new opportunities and experiences ahead, ensuring everyone feels settled and ready for September.

On Thursday evening, between 5:00pm and 6:30pm, we will host our **Open Evening**. This is a wonderful opportunity to visit your child's new classroom alongside them and meet their new class teacher, as well as visiting their current classroom to share what they have been learning in class. We highly encourage you to attend with your child so they can proudly show you their new space. To ensure teachers can prepare fully for this event, we politely ask that you do not contact them to discuss your child prior to Thursday evening.

Families of our current Nursery children (who will be joining Reception in September) will receive an email today confirming their class placement.

We are delighted to extend a warm welcome to the following new members of "Team Bridgewater":

- **Mrs Krzesniak**, who joins us as our Early Years Phase Lead and Reception teacher.
- **Mrs Stewart**, who will teach in Year 2 for the Autumn term while Miss Hampton completes her maternity leave.
- **Mrs Crisford** and **Mrs Draper**, who are joining our wonderful teaching assistant team.
- **Mrs Foley i**s joining us as a SEN support worker.

We are also thrilled to welcome **Mrs Islam** and **Mrs Sternslow** back from their maternity leave.

Please note that some classes will have additional adults to support individual children. Mrs Crabtree will contact the parents of these children directly so they are aware of who will be working with their child.

The Haven will continue to support small groups of children from across the school community, who will spend part of their mornings there for targeted learning. This provision will be led by Mrs George (teaching four mornings a week) and Mrs Evans (teaching one morning a week), assisted by Mrs Markham and Mrs Wingfield. We will contact the parents of children accessing this provision during the first half of the Autumn term.

New class	Teacher	Teaching Assistants
Ducklings (morning nursery)*	Mrs Francis (5 days) Mrs Ria (Forest School once a fortnight)	Mrs Claire Mrs Garcia
YR Firecrest	Mrs J Berry (2 days) Miss Mitchell (3 days)	Mrs Darker
YR Goldcrest	Mrs Krzesniak	Mrs Harding
Y1 Wagtail (was Firecrest)	Mrs McGuire (3 days) Mrs Cresswell (2 days)	Mrs Stollar (4 days) Mrs Darker (1 day)
Y1 Kingfisher (was Goldcrest)	Mrs Islam (3 days) Mrs Harrington (2 days)	Mrs James (3 days) Mrs Manning (2 days)
Y2 Swift (was Wagtail)	Mrs Stewart (3 days) until Christmas Miss Hampton (3 days) from January Mrs Alexander (2 days)	Miss Macey
Y2 Swallow (was Kingfisher)	Mrs Frost (3 days) Mrs Evans (2 days)	Mrs Draper (4 days) Mrs Blackie (1 day)
Y3 Kestrel (was Swallow)	Ms Lee	Mrs Crisford
Y3 Owl (was Swift)	Mrs J Roberts	Mrs Berryman
Y4 Mallard (was Owl)	Mrs S Roberts	Mrs Head (3 days) Mrs Fox (2 days)
Y4 Teal (was Kestrel)	Mrs Lampey (3 days) Mrs Rothery (2 days)	Mrs Jones
Y5 Quail (was Mallard)	Mrs Majid	Mrs Blackie (3 days) Mrs Markham (2 days)
Y5 Partridge (was Teal)	Mr Wilson	Mrs Bissenden
Y6 Buzzard (was Partridge)	Mrs Brown	Mrs Sternslow
Y6 Kite (was Quail)	Mrs Mould	Mrs Coleman

*Our afternoon Nursery provision is run by Rialize, led by Mrs Ria and assisted by Mrs Claire, Mrs Barker, Miss Lily and Mrs Maunders.

To read the biographies of our teachers please visit our website.

Staff Farewells

Sadly, this time of year also means saying goodbye to some colleagues who are leaving us at the end of term.

We say goodbye to **Mrs Patterson**, who has been our EYFS lead since my appointment as Headteacher in September 2022. She reduced her hours at Easter to begin a role at a new school but stayed with us to ensure a seamless transition for her phase. We thank her for her immense passion and dedication and wish her the very best.

Miss Dewick is leaving Bridgewater to spend some time travelling. We hope she thoroughly enjoys this

adventure and look forward to her returning to teaching in the future. **Mrs Hine,** who covered Mrs Hampton's maternity leave, is also leaving us slightly early on 16th July.

We also bid a fond farewell to **Mrs Harrison**, **Mrs Hubbard**, and **Mrs Cornish**, who have been amazing teaching assistants at Bridgewater. We wish them all the best in their next chapters. Finally, we send our warmest wishes to **Mrs K Berry** as she begins her maternity leave.

We thank all of our departing staff for their valued contributions to our school community and wish them the absolute best for the future.

We look forward to seeing you at our Open Evening on Thursday, where your children can show you both their current and new classrooms. I am sure they will have plenty of exciting stories to share about their transition afternoon!

Thank you for your continued support during this important transition period.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Andrea Bettridge
Headteacher