

FAQ (Nursery Applications)

1. **Is the nursery Ofsted registered?** Yes, our Ofsted number is 123695.
2. **Where is the nursery located?** Somerset Bridge Nursery is situated within Somerset Bridge Primary School, on Stockmoor Village.
3. **How many rooms does the nursery have?** There are two rooms within the nursery. The “Rainbow Fish” room is for our 2 – 3 year olds and the “Gruffalo Room” is for our 3 - 4 year olds.
4. **What age can my child start at your nursery?** Children can join us the day after their 2nd birthday.
5. **What are the ratios of staff to children in the rooms?** In the Rainbow Fish room the ratio is 1:5 and in the Gruffalo room it is 1:8.
6. **Will my child be assigned a key worker?** Each child is allocated a key person with whom you can communicate on a regular basis; sharing information about the activities your child has been taking part in and the progress they have made. Please ensure that you also share with us any important changes or other relevant information that will assist us in continuing to provide the best possible environment to meet your child’s needs.
7. **What qualifications do your nursery staff hold?** All staff hold level 2 or level 3 or are working towards their qualifications in Early Years. All staff are also first aid trained and DBS checked.
8. **What are your operating hours?** We are open from 9 am - 3pm and run two sessions a day. You can opt for a morning session (9am - 12pm, without lunch), an afternoon session (12pm - 3pm, with lunch) or an all day session (9am – 3pm, with lunch).
9. **What dates are you closed throughout the year?** We are a term time only nursery, so we will be closed during the school holidays, bank holidays and inset days. You will be given a copy of the nursery calendar at the start of each academic year, which will give you the term dates.
10. **Is a hot lunch provided?** You are able to purchase a cooked lunch for your child, via our nursery meal provider Aspens. Menu choices and payment are both completed online and the food is cooked onsite in the school’s kitchen. Your child’s meal must be ordered before midnight the day before. The cost of a meal is £2.30 and payment must be made when the order is placed.
11. **What is your policy for children who have allergies?** We have a lot of experience in dealing with children with different dietary requirements. Before your child starts with us, you will be asked to complete a Registration Form, where you can specify any allergies/dietary requirements. We will then be able to ensure that contingency plans are made to keep these allergens away from your child. We strive to ensure that every child is safe while at nursery so we will prepare separate snacks and meals keeping in with your child’s specific diet.
12. **What provisions are in place for my child, where English is not their primary language?** We welcome children who are learning to speak English, in addition to their own language. Our environment, activities and resources value children’s home languages and naturally support the formation of language. We can further support children through signs and visual aids so that all children can maximise on the experiences offered here at the nursery.
13. **If we are offered a place, will my child get the opportunity to visit the nursery before s/he starts with you?** Your child will be offered a 1 hour taster session ahead of them starting with us. During the session, they will get to play in the nursery whilst a parent/carer completes the registration documents. If it is felt that your child would benefit from another taster session or phased induction, this can be arranged.
14. **Do you have a settling in period?** We encourage you to visit the nursery with your child for a taster session. This will help your child become familiar with the nursery environment and the adults they will meet. We recognise that children settle at different rates, so we will work very closely with you to develop a plan tailored for your child’s individual needs. This can be very flexible and can involve a gradual build up to staying for a full session, if this is deemed necessary. If you are anxious about leaving

your child, or think the transition may be difficult, please talk to your child's key person as we have several methods of supporting children through this period and will work with you to find the most effective way.

- 15. What is the cost to attend?** If your child is not in receipt of funding, then from 1st September 2026 the cost to attend is £7.25 per hour. This reduces to £5.50 per hour, when your child turns 3 years old.
- 16. Can I get help with my childcare costs?** Children can access their Early Years Entitlement of up to 15 funded hours per week at our nursery. We also accept both the funding for early learning for 2 year olds and the funding for working families. Please visit the [Best Start In Life](#) website for more information.
- 17. My child is 3 years old, are they entitled to any funding?** All children are entitled to 15 hours a week free childcare, which can be accessed the term after their 3rd birthday. The terms begin on the 1st September, 1st January and 1st April. If your child turns 3 years old on the 15th January, for example, their entitlement will commence from the 1st April.
- 18. What is your daily routine?** A typical day would follow the timetable below -
- | | |
|-------|---|
| 9:00 | Nursery opens |
| 9.10 | Circle time (welcome song and introduction to today's activities) |
| 9.30 | Free Play - children pursue their interests supported by the team (inside or outside) |
| 10.00 | Snack time followed by adult Led activities |
| 11.00 | Free Play - children pursue their interests supported by the team (inside or outside) |
| 11.30 | Tidy up time |
| 11.45 | Circle time (songs, stories and a reflection of the morning's activities) |
| 12:00 | Morning children leave/afternoon children arrive |
| | Lunch Time |
| 12.45 | Outside Play |
| 13:15 | Circle time |
| 13.30 | Milk time followed by adult Led activities |
| 14.00 | Free Play - children pursue their interests supported by the team (inside or outside) |
| 14:30 | Tidy up Time |
| 14.45 | Circle time (goodbye songs, stories and a reflection of the afternoons activities) |
| 15.00 | Home time |
- 19. What does my child need to bring to nursery?** We ask that you bring a full change of clothing (including underwear), nappies and wipes, nappy cream, sun hat, wellies, woolly hat, scarf, coat.
- 20. My child has a favourite teddy bear / comforter. Can this be brought into nursery?** Comforters can be brought to nursery as this will help a child through any difficult transitions, however, things of great expense or of a sentimental value and general toys should be kept at home.
- 21. Does the nursery have a full set of policies and procedures?** Yes, these can be found on our [website](#).
- 22. How can I contact the nursery?** Our email address is nursery@somersetbridge.school and our telephone number is 01278 452095.