



Somerset Bridge Nursery
Aspire - Brave - Care - Collaborate

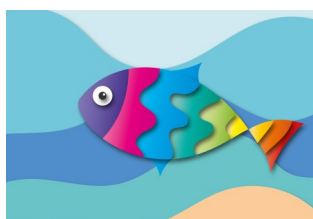
Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

Somerset Bridge Nursery Newsletter

Friday 23rd May 2025

Hello and a very warm welcome to all the new parents/carers & children who have recently joined us. We are looking forward to a busy and exciting final half term ahead. Thank you for your continued support of the nursery and to the vast majority of you who were able to attend parents' evenings. Your support is so important and makes such a positive difference to the children.



Rainbow Fish Room - This term in the Rainbow fish room we have been focusing on our 2x topics of 'Animals' and 'Holidays and Transport'. For our Animals topic we asked if you could share your pet pictures with us. We have had a few responses and the children have enjoyed talking all about their animal friends. If you have not yet had an opportunity to share your pet pictures we would still love to see them. Please email them to nursery@somersetbridge.school or you can bring in any original photographs for us to take copies of.



Gruffalo Room — I cannot believe that we are almost at in our last half term together before the children move onto school! Where has the time gone?! It is amazing how much change we have witnessed in your children in that time. It is always sad to prepare to say goodbye but we know that an exciting adventure awaits them all and hopefully those that are moving next door will continue to give us a wave over the fence. Thank you so much for your support with everything that we do.

Attendance — We actively encourage children to regularly attend their nursery sessions as there are so many positive benefits to be gained including; developing a sense of routine & structure, building secure attachments with adults & peers and accessing well planned activities to support their leaning and development.

Child Absence — If your child is going to be absent from nursery please notify us, as soon as possible, via email or a phone call. If your child is unwell, please refer to the attached advice sheet regarding the recommended exclusion period. Children are fine to attend with general colds and coughs, as long as they are well in themselves and **do not require Calpol before the start of their session.**

Holidays — If you are planning on going away on holiday during the term time, we kindly ask that you complete a form advising us of the dates.



Somerset Bridge Nursery
Aspire - Brave - Care - Collaborate

OUR TEAM

Nursery Managers

Natasha Rook (SENCO)

Hayley Hart (DSL)

Nursery Practitioners

Becky

Beth

Katie

Iwona

Lucie

Mandy

Lucie

Mia

Rose

Lunchtime Assistant

Laura

Office Administrator

Imma

CONTACT DETAILS

Address:

Somerset Bridge Nursery
Stockmoor Drive
Bridgwater
Somerset
TA6 6AH

Email:

nursery@somersetbridge.school

Website:

www.somersetbridge.co.uk

Tel No:

01278 452095

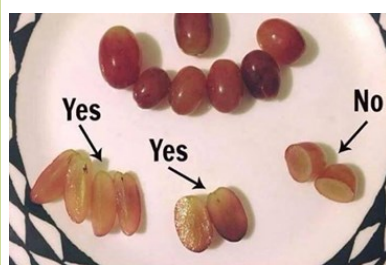
Summer Clothing - During the warmer weather, please could you ensure that sun cream is applied to your child **before** they attend nursery and that they bring a named sunhat to their session. If they are attending nursery all day (9am - 3pm), please pack a labelled bottle of sun cream in their bag and we will re-apply it after lunch.



Trim Trail - A polite request not to allow your child to climb on the play equipment or the tree in the nursery garden, either before or after their session. This is to prevent any accidents or injuries.

Donations - If you have any spare clothing aged 3—4 years that you could donate to the nursery, they would be gratefully received.

Grapes - Choking is the most common cause of death in young



children especially those under the age of 3 years old. The size and shape of grapes means they can completely plug a child's airway and the tight seal produced by the grape's smooth surface makes them difficult to dislodge with standard first aid. It's why we

strongly advise that grapes should be **chopped in half lengthways and ideally in quarters**. This advice should also be followed with similar sized foods such as cherry tomatoes, mini sausages and various berries.

Cutlery - If required, please could you pack a spoon, fork and knife in your child's lunchbox.

Early Years Funding Options

Government help with childcare is expanding. You can read more about the changes on the Childcare Choices Website: www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/childcare-expansion/early-years-childcare

- **UNIVERSAL EYE FUNDING:** All children are entitled to 15 hours a week free childcare the term after their 3rd birthday.
- **SUPPORTED FAMILIES FUNDING:** Families who currently receive additional forms of Government Support can apply for 15 hours a week free childcare, starting the term after their child's 2nd birthday.
- **WORKING FAMILIES FUNDING:** Eligible working parents can apply for 30 hours a week free childcare, from the term after their child turns 9 months old. You will need to re-confirm your eligibility every 3 months, otherwise your code will expire.
- **TAX-FREE CHILDCARE:** If you pay privately for your childcare, you could get help towards the cost (up to £2,000 a year) if you meet the eligibility criteria. To find out more, please visit the following website: www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/how-use-tax-free-childcare

Nut Free Setting - Our nursery is a **nut free** setting. Please could you check the ingredients of all items within your child’s lunchbox. If we do find an item that contains nuts, it will be removed immediately and replaced with an appropriate substitute. The item will be then returned to you at the end of the day.

Sweets/Chewing Gum - We have noticed that a number of children are coming into nursery with either sweets or chewing gum in their mouths. We kindly ask that children are not eating these when coming into nursery and do not bring these in their lunchboxes.



Pre-School Immunisations — A reminder to all parents/carers that children need to stay off from nursery for a minimum of 24 hours following their pre-school jabs. This is in case of an adverse reaction.

BBC Website “Tiny Happy People” —Have you heard of the tiny happy people website? If not, take a look at the following link <https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people>. The website has been developed to help your child develop their language skills, with some simple & fun activities to try at home.

Wet wipes — A polite reminder to ensure that there are an adequate supply of wet wipes (and nappies) in your child’s bag at the start of each session.

Belongings from Home - Please could all of your child’s belongings (clothing, drinks bottles, lunchboxes etc) be clearly named/labelled so that we can ensure the correct items go home with the right child each day. Also we ask not to bring in your child’s own toys from home, as they could get lost or broken.

Online Safety - As half term approaches, we appreciate that your child may be using devices to access online games. Internetmatters.org have some great advice to help you keep your child safe when they are online. Find out more here: [Pre-school \(0-5\) online safety tips and advice | Internet Matters](#)

School Play Equipment — A reminder that the play equipment on the Reception and KS1 playgrounds are to be used by the school children only. Please could you therefore ensure that your children are not playing on them before/after their nursery session.



Gruffalo’s Stay and Play — We are looking forward to hosting our final Stay and Play session on Tuesday 22nd July from 10:15am - 11:15am for all those children who will be leaving the Gruffalo room to start school in September. More details will follow soon, but please leave the date free.

<u>Summer Term dates for your diary</u>	
Friday 23rd May	Inset Day (nursery is closed)
Mon 26th May - Fri 30th May	Half Term (nursery is closed)
Monday 2nd June	Nursery Re-Opens
Friday 6th June	Summer Fair
Tuesday 22nd July	Gruffalo Stay & Play Session
Tuesday 22nd July	Last Day of Term
Wed 23rd July—Tues 2nd September	Summer Holidays (nursery is closed)
Wednesday 3rd September	Nursery Re-Opens



UK Health
Security
Agency



Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.

Early years food choking hazards



Below is a table of advice on key foods for care givers who are involved with preparing and serving food for babies and young children (under 5 years old)

Vegetable and fruits	Advice
Pips or stones in fruit	Always check beforehand and remove hard pips or stones from fruit.
Small fruits	Cut small round fruits like grapes, cherries, berries, strawberries and cherry tomatoes, into small pieces: cut lengthways and then again cut them in halves (quarters).
Large fruits and firm fruits	Cut large fruits like melon and firm fruits like apple into slices instead of small chunks. For very young children, consider grating or mashing firm fruits, or softening them up by steaming or simmering.
Vegetables	Cut vegetables like carrots, cucumber and celery into narrow batons. For very young children consider grating or mashing firm vegetables and legumes like butter beans, chickpeas and tofu, or softening them up by steaming or simmering.
Skin on fruit and vegetables	Consider removing the skin from fruit and vegetables, especially for very young children. Peeled fruit and vegetables can be swallowed more easily.
Cooking fruit and vegetables	Consider softening firm fruit and vegetables (such as carrots, broccoli, yam and apples) by steaming or simmering until soft. Serve cut into slices or narrow batons.
Meat and fish	Advice
Sausages and hot dogs	Cut sausages and hot dogs into short strips. Cut them in half and then lengthways or as thinly as possible. Peeling the skin off the sausages helps them to be swallowed more easily.
Meat or fish	Remove bones from meat or fish. Cut meat into strips as thinly as possible. Remove skin and fat from meat and fish, it will help the food pass smoothly down the throat.
Cheese	Advice
Grate or cut cheese	Grate or cut cheese into short strips. Cut lumps of cheese as narrow as possible.
Nuts and seeds	Advice
Chop or flake whole nuts	Chop or flake whole nuts, peanuts and seeds. Whole nuts should not be given to children under five years old.
Bread	Advice
White bread and other breads	White bread can form a ball shape with a dough-like texture at the back of a child's throat, if not chewed properly. Brown bread or toasted white bread are good alternatives. Cut bread, chapatis, naan bread and other breads into narrow strips.
Snacks and other foods	Advice
Popcorn	Do not give babies and young children popcorn.
Chewing gum and marshmallows	Do not give babies and young children chewing gum or marshmallows.
Peanut butter	Do not give babies and young children peanut butter on its own, only use as a spread.
Jelly cubes	Do not give babies and young children raw jelly cubes.
Boiled sweets and ice cubes	Do not give babies and young children boiled, hard, gooey, sticky or cough sweets, or ice cubes.
Raisins and other dried fruits	Do not give babies under the age of 1 whole raisins or dried fruits. Cut them into small pieces.

Make sure food is prepared appropriately for children under 5 years old, see: <https://www.nhs.uk/start4life/weaning/>
 It is also advisable that care givers are familiar with how to respond to a choking incident, see: How to stop a child from choking: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/baby/first-aid-and-safety/first-aid/how-to-stop-a-child-from-choking/>
 and How to resuscitate a child: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/baby/first-aid-and-safety/first-aid/how-to-resuscitate-a-child/>