

# The Bridge

## Information for parents and carers

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### What is The Bridge?

The Bridge is an alternative provision which offers between one and three day a week placements for children who are struggling in their mainstream school. The Bridge is staffed by a highly skilled and experienced team from Achieving for Children's Education Inclusion Support Service (EISS). The EISS offers a wide range of support services to schools across Kingston and Richmond boroughs and has a huge experience working with children with a wide range of special educational and social, emotional and mental health needs.

### Why should my child attend?

The Bridge offers a small group setting with a team of specialist staff. Although the core subjects of the curriculum are taught every day, there is a reduced expectation around academic learning and a focus on social and emotional development. The Bridge focuses on the development of trusting relationships which then allow children to develop their emotional literacy in areas such as resilience, confidence, teamwork and independence.

The programme uses nurture principles alongside a clear and consistent behaviour framework, providing a positive impact on social and emotional learning, wellbeing and behaviour.

Individual plans are agreed with referring schools and specific target areas are identified for the child or learner. This planned support enables the learner to work intensively towards specific goals, for example, learning techniques which support improved behaviour. The support provided helps the child to remain on their school roll.

An important measure of the enrichment programme is successfully supporting learners return to full-time mainstream education. The underlying principle of the learning package is that learners should remain the responsibility of mainstream schools and that, in most circumstances, plans should include a full return to the mainstream school.

### Who are the staff at The Bridge?

The Bridge offers a small group setting with high adult to pupil ratios. This means that there is more than one adult for every two children. There are three specialist behaviour support workers as well as a specialist primary teacher. These are supported by an early help practitioner, a link educational psychologist, and a link family police liaison officer. Staff work in partnership with the home schools and staff are expected to visit The Bridge at least once every half term.

## Where is The Bridge?

The Bridge is based in Burlington Road in New Malden, KT3 4LT.

## What are the hours that my child will attend?

The Bridge is open between 10.00am and 3.00pm, Monday to Friday.  
The exact hours of attendance will be agreed before starting.

## How will my child get to The Bridge?



**Bus:** 131, 152, 265



**Train:** South Western Railway



**Tube:** District Line

## How long will my child attend for?

The Bridge generally offers places for a period of one term (12 weeks).

## Can I visit The Bridge and meet the staff?

Parents and carers are welcome to visit, call or email The Bridge and talk to staff and the head of service. Meetings can be arranged by calling 020 8547 6812 or emailing [eiss@achievingforchildren.org.uk](mailto:eiss@achievingforchildren.org.uk).

## What sort of activities would my child be doing each day?

A copy of an expected timetable can be provided on request. This will show that the academic learning will usually take place in the mornings after which pupils will develop their social and emotional skills via a range of activities such as cooking, art, play, sports, IT and design. Over the coming year, the curriculum will expand to offer some community outreach programmes as well as specific learning opportunities around life skills such as road travel, shopping and future career paths.

## Reporting progress

Parents and the home school will receive a report each half term which will outline progress towards the key goals and targets that were identified at the beginning of the placement.