

# Bridge Learning Campus Secondary





# Dear Parents/Carers

I would like to welcome you to Bridge Learning Campus - Secondary. I am delighted that you are interested in sending your child to our school.

I believe that Bridge Learning Secondary is an exciting, innovative comprehensive school where; success or achievement in any area is recognised and valued; a broad and balanced personalised curriculum within the phases offers opportunities for all abilities to be successful; we aim to make all students feel safe and happy through our pastoral support provision.

As part of an all through campus we are able to offer our students fantastic new learning opportunities that can only occur through true partnership working. We are dedicated to providing high quality education and I believe this is strongly reflected throughout the school.

**Matthew Edwards**  
Director of Phase 3 and 4

# What we want to achieve at the Bridge Learning Campus

We have a very simple vision statement which we are all working to achieve:



**The Bridge Learning Campus will have a local, national and international reputation for providing excellent education and lifelong learning.**



**In order to fulfil this vision we will work through three core themes:**

1. Ensuring that we all focus upon the **quality of learning in our classrooms**
2. Establishing the **Bridge Learning Campus as a centre for a community learning network**
3. Ensuring that what we offer is **relevant, appropriate, inclusive and personalised**

**This means that your child will:**

- Have opportunities to develop their own talents; to acquire skills and knowledge that will enable them to achieve economic wellbeing and become responsible citizens
- Work alongside staff who will care for them as individuals and who will challenge them to fulfil their potential as learners
- Be part of a unique education community that will be challenging, exciting and rewarding and one which will focus on students' achievement
- Have access to state-of-the-art technology that will aid students' learning and encourage them to become independent lifelong learners
- Work within an inclusive community that is not artificially segregated and where they can respect each other's differences
- Work in a stimulating and exciting physical environment that will provide excellent resources to support their learning and achievement
- Have unparalleled access through our Trust partners to extensive sixth form and post-16 provision via our partnership with City of Bristol College.



# Bridge Learning Campus is a special place to be!



## All-through education

Bridge Learning Campus is one of the very first all-through schools offering children and parents the opportunity to overcome the difficulties that sometimes occur between primary and secondary school.

## Seamless transition

Whether you are moving up from our campus primary or coming in new to the secondary, our expertise in this transition period is second to none. We provide a personalised service to new students and parents which includes a 1-to-1 consultation for parents with senior members of the leadership team. This ensures that we understand your concerns and can begin to build a lasting and open relationship with you and your child.

## ICT and new technologies

The Bridge specialises in Information & Communication Technology (ICT). On site we have state-of-the-art technology to aid your child's learning. Students will be able to access their work from home via our Virtual Learning Environment (VLE).

## Vocational courses

At the Bridge Learning Campus we are determined that we prepare our students for a world of work which is constantly changing. Our vocational programmes offer all students the opportunity to study vocational courses at all levels e.g. Engineering; Motor Vehicle Trades; Construction and Hair & Beauty.



## Extension and enrichment

In addition to our normal range of courses at GCSE level we also provide a wide ranging programme of extension and enrichment programmes. These run each week and allow us to tailor support where it is required for students who perhaps need more time in a subject or for those who are gifted in certain subject areas. The extra time could be used to develop this talent. This time is also where we encourage all of our students to take part in sport, music, drama or other artistic based activities.

# First class, state-of-the-art facilities at the Bridge

## Media and Performance Arts

The Bridge has excellent facilities for Music, Drama and Media. A recording suite supports music and music technology. Additional practice rooms are available for tuition classes. Two drama studios together with an excellent school hall support our commitment to performance arts and whole school productions.

## Sports

A full size modern sports hall and two new all-weather, all-purpose outdoor areas offer excellent sporting flexibility. These are supported by newly laid grass pitches. In addition the campus hosts the regional Gymnastics Centre which is a 2012 Olympic Games training camp.

## Library and Resource Centre

We promote reading as the real key to learning success. Our library promotes reading and the importance for our students to be knowledgeable about books and flexible use of resources. It is open throughout the day and outside normal school opening times.

## City of Bristol College 14-16 and Adult Centre

In partnership with City of Bristol College we have an excellent centre for our 14-19 work and the development of work related education. The centre hosts Engineering; Construction; Motor Vehicle Engineering; Health & Beauty and Catering programmes at various levels that are equivalent to GCSE, advanced level study and foundation levels.

## ICT

The facilities at the Bridge are second to none and we have a total commitment to ensure that our students have access to the very best aids to their learning. We do live in a technological world where we need to be able to adapt to new challenges. ICT is one of these ever-changing challenges. We have a duty to prepare your children for this. Our classrooms have ICT available, designed to support them in their learning.



**The school is welcoming and wholly committed to the wellbeing of youngsters in its care.**

OFSTED (May 2010)





# Your first year at the Bridge Learning Campus

**Our commitment to prepare your children for life in the 21st century has resulted in a very different programme during your child's first year in their secondary education.**

There are three very important differences compared to a traditional Year 7 programme of study:

1. We are keen to continue the 'primary' teacher role that is so successful in primary schools – your child will be taught by one teacher for a large portion of their learning week
2. We will be moving away from a subject-only curriculum to one which will develop your child's skills, knowledge and understanding – a thematic approach to their studies will bring out the various subject elements
3. Your child will be in our Phase 3. This is Years 6, 7 and 8. Students will be placed in classes that match their ability and will have their own personalised programme

Many secondary schools have begun to transform their early years work and we see ourselves as being in an excellent position to do this given our working relationship with our primary school.

This means that our younger students will have:

- Dedicated lessons in the core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science
- Language teaching and/or specialised reading and writing programmes aimed at helping those students who may struggle in the core literacy skills
- Specialist programmes in Art, Drama, Design Technology, ICT and PE
- An integrated studies programme where students will work through themes, sometimes concentrating on geographical skills and at other times historical skills and knowledge – all aimed at developing their ability to work on their own and in groups



The great majority of lessons include engaging activities which provide students with opportunities to become actively involved in their own learning.

OFSTED (May 2010)



# Motivation & engagement at the Bridge Learning Campus

The change from primary to secondary education is an enormous and exciting step and we have made it our business to make those changes as smooth as possible. All those who will be joining the secondary school visit our school in the summer before they join.

For those who need it, we provide further induction support, with family visits where necessary. During the visit, students meet their tutors and their new friends, try new subjects and discover the layout of our exciting building. This all familiarises them with the school and the Bridge ways of working.

Because of our excellent links with our partner primary schools and our school liaison officer, the sometimes difficult and worrying transition is made easier. By communicating with you and your child we can tailor our work to his or her needs - this is what is meant by personalising learning.

**Every child matters at the Bridge**  
After being placed in a vertical tutor group with a tutor and an associate tutor, your son or daughter will also be supported and cared for by a Head of House and their deputy. Vertical tutoring enables students of all years to mix with older ones able to mentor younger students. This is another really exciting opportunity at the Bridge.



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**The overall progress made by students is now good.**  
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OFSTED (May 2010)



# Student attendance

**If your child is not in school we won't be able to get the very best from them!**

It is a very simple message about attendance – if you want your child to do well and if they want to have the best opportunities in life then good attendance is absolutely crucial. National statistics are very clear about the impact of poor attendance on future prosperity and success. The worse the attendance, the lower the earning power of our students when they go into the world of work.

We see good attendance as being a two-way thing – we do our very best to provide stimulating and enjoyable learning experiences and you do your very best as a parent to get your children into school and on time.



**Our attendance target for all students is: 96%**

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**The outstanding leadership of the Chief Executive and Governors is having a positive impact on improving provision and outcomes in the school. Their vision and aspirations are shared by senior and middle leaders.**  
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OFSTED (May 2010)

### Uniform

All students in Phase 3 (Years 6, 7 and 8) wear the Bridge Learning Campus uniform: navy crew neck sweatshirt; white polo shirt (all with the Bridge Learning Campus logo); with black trousers or knee length skirt and black shoes (not trainers).

In Phase 4 (Years 9, 10 and 11), we require students to wear white collared shirt (bought from anywhere) with their house tie and a school V neck jumper. Students also wear the Bridge PE shirt/top and navy shorts for sports activities.

Excessive jewellery is not allowed. Only a pair of discreet earrings can be worn.

We feel that the uniform requirements at the Bridge Learning Campus are sensible and appropriate for our working environment. Our costs for supplying the uniform are very reasonable and are not excessive for parents. We discussed the uniform with students and the decision has been theirs. We therefore expect them to wear correct uniform and for parents to support us in this.

# All-Through Education (ATE)

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A creative approach to curriculum design and delivery has been developed and this, along with improved teaching and student tracking, is leading to a rapid improvement in students' learning.

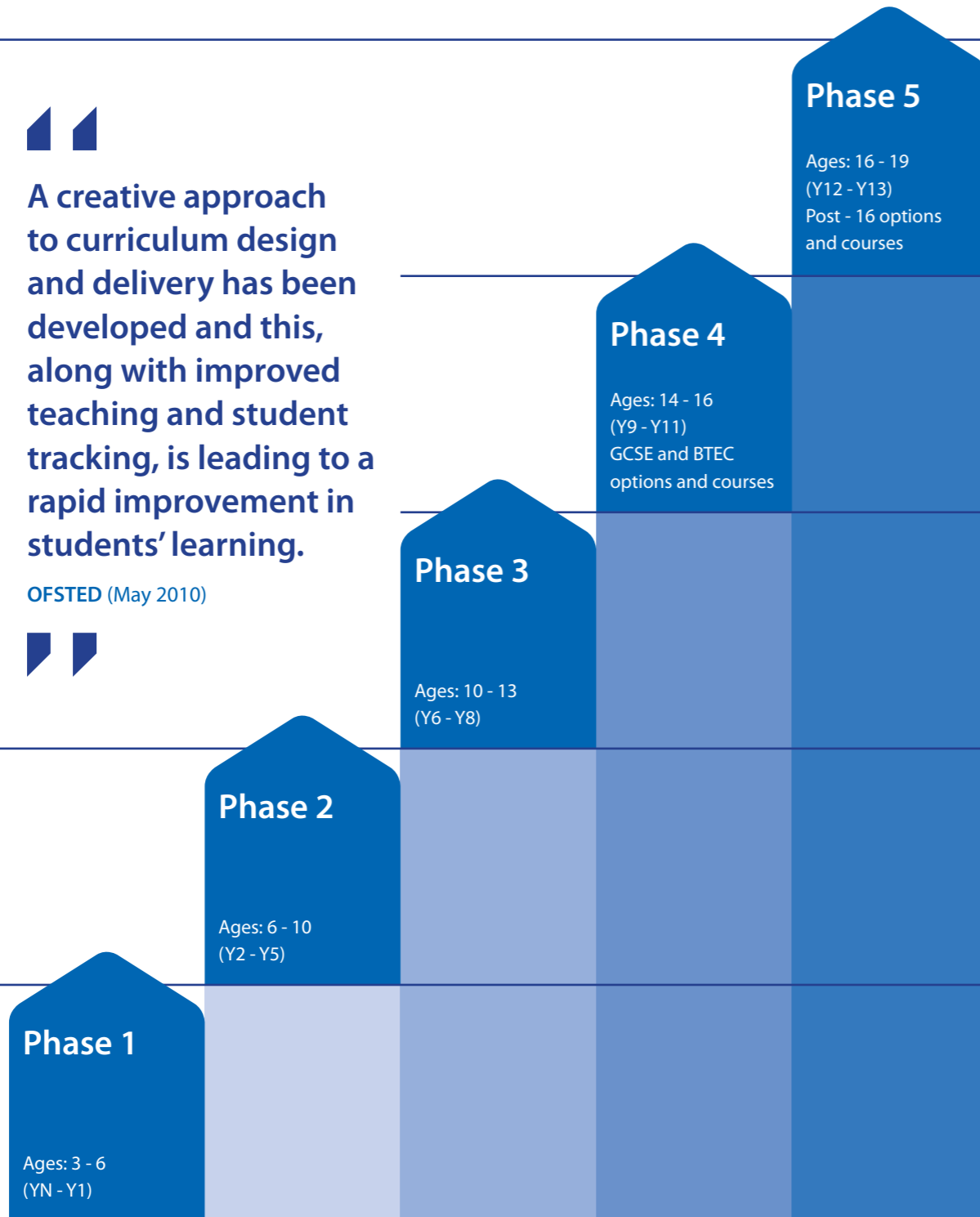
OFSTED (May 2010)

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# Innovative and creative structures for learning at the Bridge

In order to maximise the potential of every individual student, we have restructured our learning groups and our curriculum. We have Phase 3 and Phase 4 in the secondary school.



The senior leadership and the Governors have very successfully led a number of extremely significant changes since the last inspection that have raised the aspirations and expectations of both students and staff.

OFSTED (May 2010)



**Phase 3**

**Year 6 through to 8:**  
This Phase bridges the primary and secondary divide. It uses the best of both primary and secondary to ensure all students succeed.

Students are taught in appropriate groupings based upon their current ability and progress. This allows us to personalise teaching to every child's individual needs. It means greater extension for gifted and talented students whilst being able to spend more time on the specific needs of others.

All students in this Phase will follow an integrated (skills-based) curriculum for one quarter of their time. These skills will also be used and developed when students study in the specialist subject areas.

We will formally assess and record student levels six times a year thus enabling us to monitor progress and adjust students' groupings as necessary.

We believe that this offers all our students the best chance of success at this key developmental time of their education.

**Phase 4**

**Years 9 to 11:**  
We have put these three years together to give far greater flexibility and improve our ability to personalise our offer to our students. Key Stage 4 is three years instead of the traditional two years. Students are able to choose from more courses, gain greater accreditation and make progress at a pace suited to them.

We offer one, two or three year GCSE courses, the English Baccalaureate, BTECs, OCR Nationals and Advanced Level GCE's in a number of curriculum areas.

We believe that this programme will provide students with opportunities to personalise their learning at a level way beyond that offered by the traditional route.

It is all about creating learners for the future who will be able to cope with the rapidly changing world in which we live.

# Bridge Learning Campus Admissions

The Governing Body is responsible for setting its own admission arrangements. A separate admission policy is available to potential applicants and this explains in detail our arrangements.

Around the school, students treat each other and adults with respect. Lessons are characterised by good relationships between staff and students and the vast majority of students behave well.

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The following provides you with information on the ranking criteria for admission:

### 1. Children in Public Care

Children in public care are children who are in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by that authority in accordance with section 22 of the Children Act 1989.

### 2. Bridge Primary School and New Fosseway at the Bridge

Children on roll at our primary school, and New Fosseway School, at the time of application.

### 3. Siblings

Siblings attending the school at the time of entry i.e. September 2012.

**Note:** Children are siblings if they are half, full or adoptive brother or sister or if they are children of the same household.

### 4. Geography

Children living closest to the school as measured in a direct line from the home address to the school.

Where there are more applications than places available at the campus, after the admission of pupils with statements of Special Educational Needs, allocations will be made in the order of priority as set out above.

# An automatic entitlement to a whole range of post-16 courses



The Bridge Learning Campus is a Trust school and one of our three Trust partners is City of Bristol College. This means that we can provide direct access from the Bridge to every level of post-16 qualification at the College.

In reality this means that we have a full post-16 offer and unlike other potential students wanting to take up courses with City of Bristol College, Bridge students will have their own unique pathway onto the right courses.

Bridge students will have a personalised programme of study where possible and course meetings with College and Bridge staff.

Post-16 courses are delivered across Bristol at City of Bristol College centres. Our virtual sixth form is located at College Green Centre and vocational courses are at the nearby South Bristol Skills Academy.

No other school in Bristol will be able to provide this extensive post-16 programme.

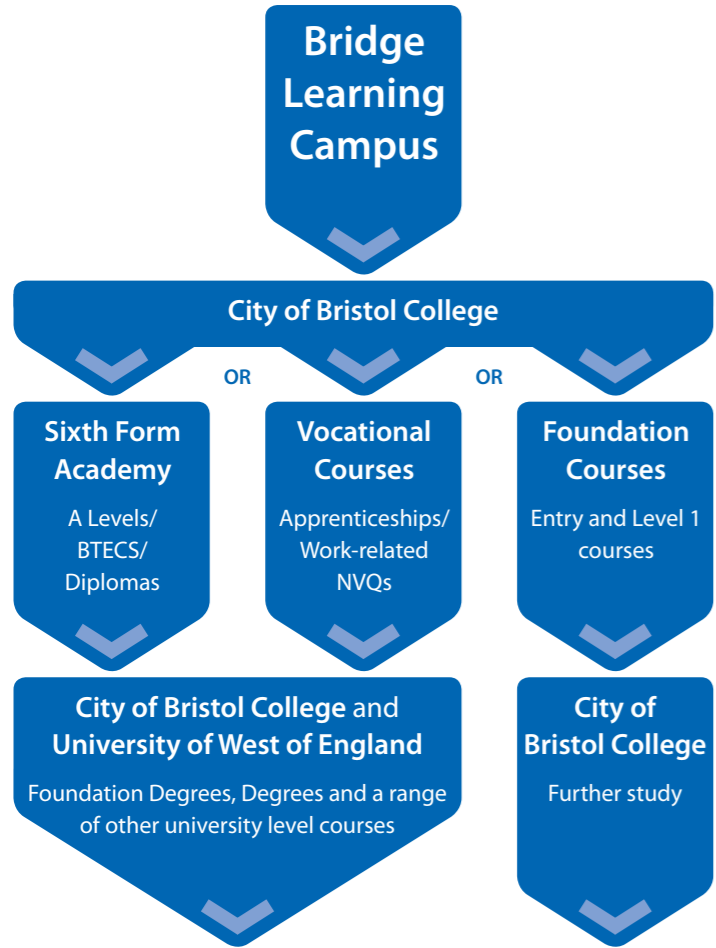


South Bristol Skills Academy



College Green Centre

# City of Bristol College is your first choice for post-16 education



## Apprenticeships

Earn as you learn with an Apprenticeship. These are delivered mainly at employers' premises with usually one day a week in College.

### Subject areas include:

- Beauty
- Brickwork
- Business Administration
- Carpentry and Joinery
- Children's Care
- Craft Bakery
- Electrical Installation
- Engineering
- Financial Services
- Food Production and Cooking
- Hairdressing
- IT
- Motorcycle
- Painting and Decorating
- Plastering
- Plumbing
- Youthwork

Through City of Bristol College, Bridge students will be able to access every level of qualification, at a number of different venues:

### Ashley Down Centre

BTECs, NVQs and other qualifications in: Public Services, Engineering, Construction, Hair & Beauty, Health & Social Care.

### College Green Centre

Choice of over 30 A Level subjects, and BTECs and Diplomas in: Business, Geography, Art & Design, Fashion & Clothing, Construction, Health & Social Care, Computing & IT, Film Studies, Hair & Beauty, Hospitality & Catering.

### Parkway Transport & Technology Centre

Qualifications in: Motor Vehicle Maintenance, Light Vehicle and Body Repair.

### South Bristol Skills Academy

A short walk from Bridge Learning Campus  
Diplomas, NVQs and BTECs in: Construction, Engineering, Health & Social Care, Horticulture, Hospitality & Catering, Transport, Hair & Beauty, Motor Vehicle.

### Soundwell Centre

NVQs and other qualifications in: Business & Accounting, Health & Social Care, Computing & IT, Creative Arts & Media, Hair & Beauty.

### The Park, Knowle

Land-based Horticulture and Animal Care.

**Compulsory** - All students must stay and will be able to choose their activities  
**Voluntary** - All students may stay and will be able to choose their activities

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8.35am to 8.50am	Tutor / Assembly				
8.35am to 9.50am	Period 1				
9.50am to 10.50am	Period 2				
10.50am to 1.05am	<b>BREAK</b>				
1.05am to 12.05pm	Period 3				
12.05pm to 1.05pm	12.05pm to 12.35pm				
Period 4	Lunch 1				
1.05pm to 1.35pm	12.35pm to 1.35pm				
Lunch 2	Period 4				
1.35pm to 2.35pm	Period 5				
2.35pm to 3.30pm	End of Day - 2.35 pm	2.40pm to 3.30pm 'Compulsory' Team Bridge Activities	End of Day - 2.35pm	End of day - 2.35pm Team Bridge Activities 'Voluntary' until 3.30pm	End of day - 2.35pm

# Bridge Learning Campus Secondary

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