

SMITHILLS SCHOOL

WELCOME TO THE BRIDGE



**Working together to help children succeed –
emotionally, socially, and academically.**



What is the Bridge?

The Bridge is a dedicated, supportive space within the school premises that offers targeted support for pupils who may be experiencing challenges with behaviour, self-regulation, or emotional well-being.

The core purpose of the Bridge is to provide a nurturing and inclusive environment where every pupil is empowered to re-engage with learning and develop academically, socially and emotionally. We aim to ensure success for all through high expectations, tailored support, and a strong sense of community.

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Aims for Our Pupils

At The Bridge, we focus on both academic and personal growth, helping pupils develop the skills and qualities necessary to succeed in school and life. Our aims for all pupils are to:

- Build self-esteem through emotional literacy and social skills
- Help them understand and manage their behaviour
- Improve focus, motivation and attitude to learning
- Promote fluency in reading, writing, and speaking
- Develop the knowledge, skills and understanding to succeed academically
- Form positive relationships with both adults and peers
- Cultivate leadership and interpersonal skills
- Foster emotional regulation and positive behaviour with increasing independence
- Ensure every child can access learning and reach their full potential
- Encourage positive behaviour through structured intervention
- Make responsible, informed decisions and understand the consequences of their actions
- Support Key Stage 3 pupils to successfully reintegrate fully into main school education and re-engage positively with school life and expectations
- Enable Key Stage 4 pupils to successfully progress to the next stage of their education or training
- Work closely with parents, carers, and teaching staff for consistent support

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Pupils who use **THE BRIDGE**

- Are at risk of fixed term suspensions
- Have exhibited impulsive, aggressive, or inappropriate behaviour
- Struggle to manage their emotions and behaviour in mainstream settings
- Are disengaged from learning or demonstrate considerable social challenges

Each referral is carefully considered on an individual basis to ensure that The Bridge is the most appropriate and supportive environment for your child's needs.



What Support Will My Child Receive?

- To build on academic progress by increasing participation in lessons, completing all assigned work on time, and showing a deeper understanding of key concepts across core subjects
- Personalised support plans
- 1:1 or small group sessions on topics like emotional regulation, conflict resolution, and resilience
- Mentoring and positive adult role models
- Opportunities for reflection and de-escalation when needed
- Regular reviews and feedback to track progress and celebrate improvements

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Partnership with Parents & Carers

We know that change happens faster when school and home work together.

We will:

- Communicate regularly with you about progress
- Invite you to meetings to discuss support and next steps
- Provide honest, respectful feedback
- Support you with any strategies that may help at home

Your support makes a real difference.

Outcomes We Aim For:

- Stronger self-awareness and ability to manage emotions
- More respectful and cooperative behaviour around school
- Stronger friendships and social skills
- Increased attendance and learning engagement
- A sense of belonging and school pride

Where to Find Us/ Get in Touch:

Assistant Headteacher: Emma Bailey
Phone: 01204 842382

Email: e.bailey@smithillsschool.net

Location: Smithills Dean Road, Bolton, BL1 6JS

The Bridge Leader: Kirstin Edwards
Phone: 01204 842382

Email: K.Critchley-Edwards@smithillsschool.net

Location: Smithills Dean Road, Bolton, BL1 6JS

A Fresh Start, A Clear Path Forward

At Smithills school we believe every pupil deserves the chance to succeed. The Bridge is here to guide, support, and challenge pupils to become the best versions of themselves — in school and beyond.