

SEND newsletter

Summer 2025



Welcome to the summer edition of our SEND newsletter! A newsletter to address all things related to SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities). In this issue we explore transition and change, mental health and well-being and find out about services available in Somerset.

The season of change

Transitions can be challenging for many children for a variety of reasons. Use the links below to find out how you can support your children transitioning through to the next chapter of their journey.

Click on the images that might support you and your family with the transitions ahead.



An animated story of a little girl moving from Foundation Stage to Year 1.



How does it feel transitioning into secondary school?



A parent webinar to support with helping your child make a smooth transition to secondary school.



Transition tips for children with additional needs.

What do the students say?

What do your children wish they had known. Click on the link below for a child friendly advice from students who have made the transition.

[Transitioning to secondary school](#)



Our community

We are always looking at ways in which we can build upon our community links and ensure we offer our families the support they need. What opportunities would you like to see available? For example, a toy café, an after-school library service, a monthly coffee morning or even a SEND information workshop? Email your ideas to: office@stmarysbridgwater.co.uk

Acceptance and awareness focus – Chromosome duplications and deletions



Click on the picture to find out more.

Mental health and well-being

Moving on can be a stressful time for children as they get use to new routines, new adults, new friends and new surroundings. This is the case for all children and for children with special educational needs the changes can be even more unsettling. As a parent or carer you can help. Starting conversations with your child and finding out how they feel is a great start. Asking them what they are looking forward to, what they will miss about their old school and class. Thinking about what they enjoy doing and what they find difficult.



Let's get talking about our mental health.



If you have concerns about your child and think that they may need to be considered as having Special Educational Needs or a Disability, please see our school website for more information or ask to discuss with your class teacher.

Somerset Parent and Carer Forum

Who are the Somerset Parent and Carer forum supporters?

Somerset Parent Carer Forum is a parent led organisation, with all the people leading our working having a child or young person between birth to 25 years with additional needs and/or disabilities.

Find out more at:

<https://somerseparentcarerforum.org.uk/>



Remember the Somerset Local offer can offer you advice, guidance, and support for all the services relating to SEND.

What is Somerset's Local Offer?

Click the above link for information on the services available.



What's the **Somerset Graduated Response**?

Click on the picture above to find out more.

Find out more about the local offer as well as see our school SEND information report and SEND policy on our website:

<https://www.stmarysbridgwater.co.uk/special-educational-needs-disabilities-send/>

diversity is beautiful



diversity in the animal world

There are millions of different kinds of animals more than we can count!



diversity of people

people come in a great variety of shapes, sizes, genders, abilities, and appearances - we are all unique!



diversity of human brains

no two brains are alike, but we have names for different types - like ADHD, autistic, dyslexic, typical, & more!

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Who can support us as a family?



Somerset SENDIAS

Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support

Somerset SENDIAS provides information, advice and support about special educational needs and disability (SEND) for parent carers, children and young people (up to the age of 25). The service is free, confidential and impartial.

In Somerset, SENDIAS is a jointly commissioned service provided by the Local Authority and Health (ICB and NHS Foundation Trust) to meet the requirements of the SEND Code of Practice Chapter 2 para 2.1: Local authorities must arrange for children with SEN or disabilities' for whom they are responsible, and their parents, and young people with SEN or disabilities for who they are responsible, to be provided with information and advice about matters relating to health and social care.

Somerset SENDIAS: <https://somersestsend.org.uk/>

Coffee Morning

In September we will continue to deliver our coffee (and cake) morning sessions.

Are there specific professionals that you would like to attend? If so, let us know and we will do our best to contact them and invite them along.

Please email office@stmarysbridgwater.co.uk with your ideas.

At St Mary's Primary our children are at the center of everything we do.

We aim to identify the needs of all pupils as early as possible. This is part of our graduated approach, in which we Assess, Plan, Do, Review.

This four-part cycle ensures that effective provision can be put in place and support barriers to learning. We believe in inclusivity for all and strive to make this a reality for all our pupils.