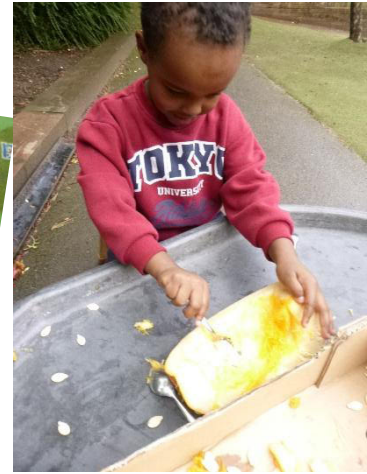




Cashmore Early Years Centre

Newsletter September 2026



A very warm welcome to all children returning to nursery and to the children starting nursery for the first time! This term our priority is to help children to get to know their Key People and other children. Staff are helping the children to find what they need to be busy and happy.

Staff and governor changes

We would like to welcome Amal who will be working across the school in various roles.

Prompt pick up

Please remember that the morning session finishes at 12.00pm (gates open at 11.50am). Staff have lunch 12.00-12.30pm to ensure they are ready and available for all the children during the afternoon session. **The afternoon session finishes at 3.30pm (gates open at 3.20pm).** We open the gate 10 minutes beforehand to allow time to talk with you at handover/collection.

Snack donation

Thank you to the parents who continue to donate to the children's snack time. The school provides milk but we rely on donations from parents for snack times during the morning and afternoon sessions. The children eat **fresh fruit** (e.g. apples, bananas, oranges, pears) or **vegetables** (e.g. carrots, cucumbers). We would be grateful if you could **donate fruit weekly OR you can make a small money donation** in the tin provided in the garden/Reception at drop-off times.



Parking

Please **DO NOT BLOCK THE ROAD OR OTHER VEHICLES IN** (even for a short period of time) when dropping off/picking up.

Application for primary school

Please remember that the deadline for applying for a Reception Class place for your child is 15 January 2027 (if your child was born between 1 September 2022 and 31 August 2024). The online application system is now open (www.bristol.gov.uk/schooladmissions) – see poster attached below. If you require any help with this, please ask.

Family photo boards



We have a family photo display of the children in our setting to help with their sense of belonging and community. Please could you give us some photos of your child with their family which you are happy to have displayed in school (no more than 3). If you do not have access to a printer, you are very welcome to email photos to us at clare.morton@bristol-schools.uk

Clothes and wellies

As the weather is getting colder, children will need appropriate clothing and footwear. We go into the garden in all weathers! Please could you provide your child with a **pair of wellies** if possible. Please also put lots of **spare clothes** in their bag in case of getting wet/toileting accidents and a **coat** as the weather is changeable. Please **write your child's name in their clothes/wellies**. Wet weather gear and 'all weather' suits are also a very good way to keep children dry and can be purchased quite reasonably.



Toileting

If your child is in nappies, please ensure there are enough **nappies** and **wet wipes** for the session and if your child is toilet training, please put **wet wipes in their bag** and lots of **spare clothes** (including **socks**) as children may need changing more than once.

If your child is not actively potty training (i.e. attempting to use the toilet regularly), please could you provide **nappies (with tabs)** instead of pull-ups to help key people with the changing process.

Nursery clothes

If your child comes home in **nursery clothes**, please return them as soon as possible.

Drinks

Please **do not** bring in a water bottle for your child. The school provides cow's milk at snack times during the morning and afternoon session and fresh water is freely available throughout the day.

School meals



School meals must be paid for IN ADVANCE via Arbor. The school cannot keep arrears, and it may lead to meals being stopped.

The eligibility criteria for free school meals has now changed. If you receive an element of Universal Credit, you may well be entitled to free school meals. If you think you may be entitled, please ask at Reception.

Surplus food from Marks & Spencer/FareShare

FareShare and Marks & Spencer kindly give us surplus food which would otherwise go to waste. Anything we can't use for snack time is put outside for parents/carers to take. Please help yourself to save food waste!

Reception library

In Reception and outside the entrance to the 3s room **we have books which you can borrow** and return when you have read them with your child. Reading with your child is great for their listening and attention skills, language development, brain development and a lovely bonding time for you and your child. Please come to choose a book!



Big Brush Club

Our school has enrolled to provide daily supervised toothbrushing for our children during the school day. This NHS scheme is brought to us by Big Brush Club (see <https://bigbrushclub.co.uk/>) and the aim is to get children in Reception and Nursery/Pre-schools brushing during school time to help tackle tooth decay. Children will be supervised during the brushing sessions every day and will be under the guidance of trained 'Oral Health Champions'. Each child will receive their own toothbrush, which will be easily identifiable and will be stored in a safe storage system. **Please can we remind parents that brushing at home is just as, if not more, important than brushing at school.**



Yoga

We look forward to welcoming Linda from Active Kids back to run weekly yoga sessions with the children. Yoga for young children can help to promote their physical strength as they learn to use their muscles in new ways. Different poses challenge different muscle groups and help each child to become aware of their body and the way it functions.

The Children's Kitchen

We continue to work with Claudia from The Children's Kitchen (<https://www.thechildrenskitchen.co.uk/>), a city-wide project which focuses on encouraging children to explore, cook, grow and eat fresh food. In the near future, she will be making healthy dishes with the children e.g. vegetable couscous.



INSET Days

The School will be closed on the following days for staff training: **4 January, 25 March, 7 June.**

Important Dates

Half term holiday – School **CLOSED** – **Monday 26 to Friday 30 October (inclusive)**

Christmas holidays – School **CLOSED** – **Monday 21 December to Friday 1 January (inclusive)**

INSET day – **Monday 4 January** (School **CLOSED**)

Return to School – **Tuesday 5 January**

Full details of all Bristol City Council term dates until Jul 2026 can be accessed [HERE](#)

At St Philip's Marsh Nursery School/Cashmore Early Years Centre we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. This is our safeguarding team:



Charlotte Carter
Headteacher
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Clare Morton
Deputy Headteacher
Deputy Safeguarding Lead



Sharon Cutler
School Business Manager
Deputy Safeguarding Lead



Emmeline James
Inclusion Lead
Deputy Safeguarding Lead



Heidi Taylor
Governor
Named Safeguarding Governor

Packed Lunches

If your child is bringing a packed lunch to nursery school, please remember the following points:



- **Clearly label your child's packed lunch box with their name** and key group on the outside of the box.
- Remember that many pre-packaged items are adult portion sizes.
 - A child portion size is the size of their fist. A child may only need a half a sandwich - made from one slice of bread. A bag of crisps is an adult portion.
 - Beware hidden sugar. The NHS advice is children should have less than 19g a day for children aged 4 to 6 years old (5 sugar cubes or 5 teaspoons. A single miniature pot of yoghurt may have up 3-4 teaspoons of sugar.
 - Sweets and chocolate are not permitted because they contain unhealthy amounts of sugar.
 - Always include some fruit or fresh vegetables but remember that **small tomatoes and grapes** are a very common cause of choking in children and should be **cut in half lengthways**.
- Please do NOT include a drink in your packed lunch (including cartons of juice). The school provides water for all children (freely available all day). Current dental advice is that children aged under 5 should not drink anything except water from a bottle. Fruit juices or squashes are highly acidic and high in sugar and so cause serious damage to young teeth.
- Please remember some children have allergies, we therefore request that you **do not include nuts or nut products**, such as Nutella, in your child's lunch box.
- Please do not include cans or glass bottles/jars/containers in your child's lunch box.

If you have any queries about packed lunches or any issues relating to food at school or at home, please talk to your child's key person and they will be very happy to help you or introduce you to another team member who can help.

Thank you for your help.

St Philip's Marsh/Cashmore join the My School Fund initiative to help boost our budget

We're pleased to announce that St Philip's Marsh Nursery School/Cashmore Early Years Centre is part of the My School Fund initiative. This innovative scheme allows for us to be able to boost our school's budget with your help.

How does it work?

Parents, guardians and carers can sign up to the scheme for free and start earning cashback on the things they buy in participating retail stores, including Sainsbury's and Argos. As you spend you'll receive 2% cashback in the form of eGift vouchers that can be redeemed in participating stores. By linking your spend to our school on the My School Fund website we'll also earn 1% cashback on your spend.

Add that all up across our school's network of families and together we can all make a big difference!

How to get involved

Visit myschoolfund.org to register for free and link to St Philip's Marsh Nursery School BS2 0SU. From there, everything you spend in participating stores will go towards helping boost our budget, plus your own!

Sign up today at myschoolfund.org

Cashback for you and your school

In association with
Sainsbury's Argos ESPO

1% 2%

Your chosen school You

We're part of My School Fund

Find out more

Dear Headteacher,

I am getting in touch personally, as Children's Commissioner, to ask for your help in making sure the children and young people at St Philips Marsh Nursery School and Barton Hill Childrens Centre/Cashmore Early Years Centre have the opportunity to take part in my national survey, *The Big Future*.

So far, I have heard from 1 children at your school. With hundreds of thousands of children and young people already taking part across England, I would like to make sure as many of your pupils as possible have the opportunity to add their voices.

The Big Future is asking children and young people about their lives, their experiences and their hopes for the future. I will be using what they tell me to build a national picture of what matters to children today and to ensure their views are heard by Government.

The survey takes just a few minutes to complete and can be accessed here:

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture>

I would be particularly grateful if you could help me reach pupils by:

- **sharing the survey directly with pupils** through your school or college email system;
- **sharing it with parents and carers** so families can encourage children to take part; and
- **giving pupils time during the school day** – for example, in form or tutor time, an assembly or a lesson to complete the survey.

We know that setting aside a few minutes during the school day can make a significant difference to participation. To make this as straightforward as possible, we have prepared a slide pack, introductory video and FAQs, all available on [my website](#).

Every school has a different community, and every child has a different experience. That is why it is so important that the picture we build reflects children from **every part of England, including your pupils**.

I would be very grateful for your support in giving them the chance to be heard.

Yours sincerely,

Dame Rachel de Souza
Children's Commissioner for England

New Parents Group

with Bristol Family Hubs

Wellspring Settlement

43 Ducie Road, BS5 0AX

Tuesday October 6th – November 24th
10am – 11:30am



Bannerman Road Family Hubs

BS5 0RL

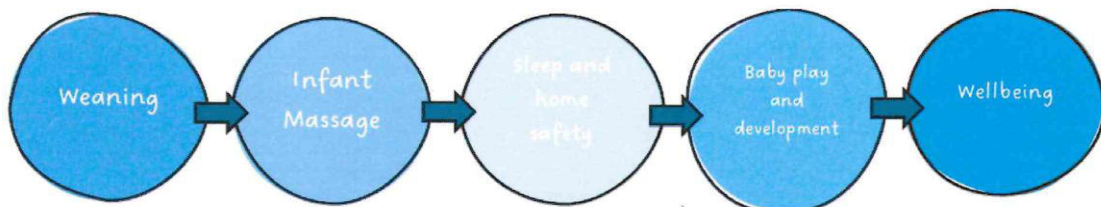
Monday October 12th – November 30th
1:30pm – 3pm



Connect with others who are navigating the joys & challenges of parenthood. Whether you want to share your experiences, ask questions or simply build new friendships, this is a space where you will feel supported and understood.

For parents of babies 0-6 months.

**Free but booking required*



Call or use the QR codes to register online

Email: ECFH@bristol.gov.uk

Telephone: 0117 9223189



CHANGES

to family sessions



Bristol Family Hubs have started using a new online registration system.

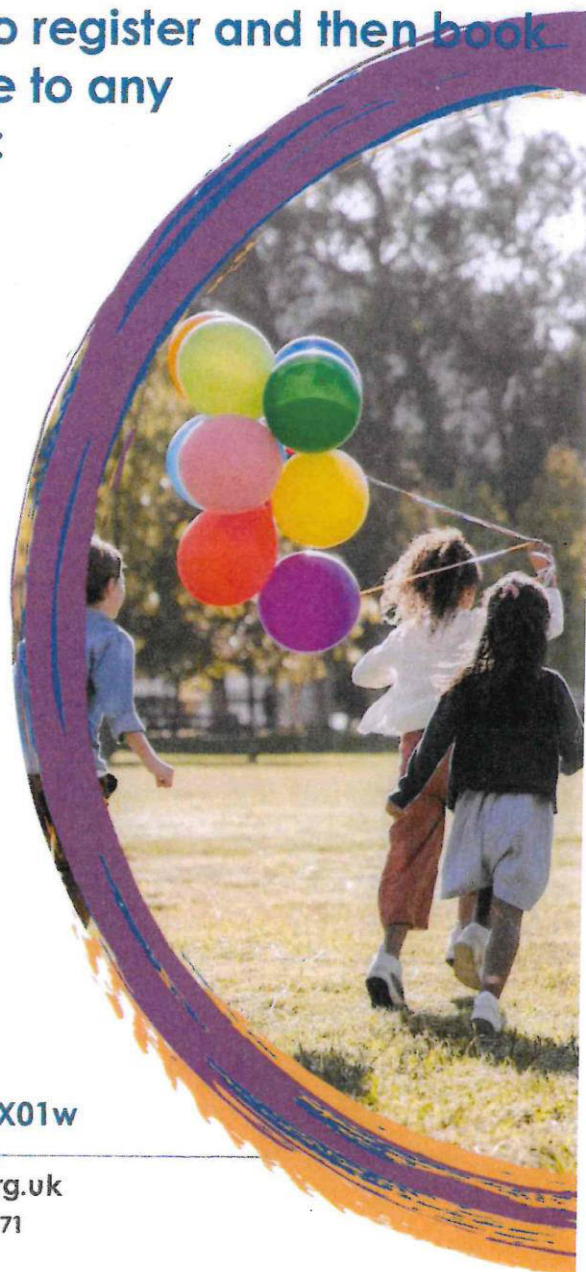
All parents and carers will need to register and then book their place before they can come to any Family Centre sessions, including:

- Stay and Play sessions
- Hello Baby
- Infant Feeding
- Learn and Play Baby (PEEP)
- Postnatal Rockabye
- Parents to be Rockabye

You can find registration and booking information by scanning the QR or visiting:



www.book.plinth.org.uk/calendar/yi0PItohTrcMrpzgX01w



www.wellspringsettlement.org.uk info@wsb.org.uk
Settlement Site, 43 Ducie Road, BS5 0AX - 0117 955 6971
Wellspring Site, Beam Street, BS5 9QY - 0117 304 1400

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