



THE BRIDGE

At Ripley St Thomas Church of England Academy

Mrs Slinger – Bridge Manager

Dr D Heath – Science tutor

Mrs S Tagg – Maths tutor

Mrs A Brookes – English tutor

Miss C Western – Mentor / support in Bridge

Mr S Wiggins – Attendance / Bridge support

Mr Kay – Attendance / Bridge support



- The Bridge is a quiet, inclusive space, which works around supporting and nurturing those pupils who may need additional help.

- The Bridge also provides a space for pupils to catch up academically, should they find themselves behind in their studies.

- The Bridge also offers a whole school homework club at lunchtime and afterschool.





- We have worked hard to create a positive, supportive culture within the Bridge, and the classroom space has been well thought out.

- The Bridge is fully equipped with computers, a group work area, and a fully stocked resource library.





- Many schools do excellent work on well being and mental health and Ripley is at the forefront of this in the Lancaster and Morecambe district.



- Here in the Bridge we pride ourselves on the support we give to our most vulnerable pupils in terms of mental health and well-being.

Types of Mental Health issues we are currently supporting:

- Severe attachment disorders.
- Eating disorders.
- Anxiety/Panic attacks.
- Pupils who are working with CAMHS.
- Self harmers.
- School refusers.
- Pupils diagnosed with ADHD / OCD / Autism.
- Pupils who were previously home educated.
- The Bridge also supports pupils who have a poor attendance record





- The Bridge will always make sure that any pupil that is referred into The Bridge feels that they are supported and empowered, whatever their challenges.

- We are currently experiencing a crisis in young people's mental health and the Bridge is a positive space for Ripley's young people who are currently suffering or experiencing real life challenges.

- These pupils arrive into the Bridge and staff work very closely with the pupils and help re build their self-esteem and confidence.





- The Bridge is a calm, supportive safe space that allows pupils to make academic progress.

- We work on trying to achieve the best set of exam results for our most vulnerable pupils in the Bridge.



- Bridge staff regularly liaise with teaching staff to obtain work and submit completed tasks, in order for pupils to receive feedback and maintain progress in that subject area.



How to access the Bridge?

- Referrals are made through the Year Group Progress Leaders on behalf of the pupil and their families as they have worked closely with the family and understand the needs of the pupil.
- Referrals are dealt with in the strictest confidence and support and intervention is quick and effective





Our message to Bridge pupils:

“In five years time, everything you’re stressing about now will have vanished. Be thankful, smile more, spend more time with family and don’t stress about the small things. This is your one chance at life. Don’t let anyone or anything take away your happiness”

Young Minds 2019