



Dear parent/carer,

We are pleased to let you know that we now have a new school App that you can download for free from either the Apple or Google Play app stores.

You can download the app by searching for "**Bridgewater High**" and downloading the app that displays our school logo. Please enter the Username and Password the first time you use the app.

Username: bridgewater
Password: schoolapp

Once you have logged in can you please also make sure you complete the Register form the FIRST TIME time you log in to the app. This is simply so that we can keep track of which parents/carers have engaged with the app. Please ensure that when stating the year group for your son/daughter (if you have more than one choose the eldest) you select the year group which they will be in in September 2017.

The app provides instant access to term dates, events, newsletters, links to the school website, letters, and many more features.

We will also be using the app to send out push notifications. These are messages that are sent directly to all those parents that have downloaded the app. As push notifications are free for us to send, the intention is that this will replace our text messaging service at some point.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE PARENT APPS TEAM:

If you own an i-Phone, when you download the app for the first time it will ask the following questions.

Offline Caching, Location and Enable Push Notifications

1. Offline Caching please select **Yes**.
2. Allow access to your location. This is a standard Apple request. We by no means know or have access to anyone's location but you need to select **Yes** in order to receive push notifications from the school.
3. The next message is to then enable push notifications. This is important that you select **NOTIFY ME**.
4. The last message will say "The school will like to send you Notifications" please press **OK**.

Please see reverse for details regarding Android users

Android Permissions

On some Android handsets the app requests permission to access the device's contacts and photos. This permission is required to access the contact and photo **FUNCTION** and not the actual contacts or stored photos on the device. Access to the contact function is needed for if you wanted to share the app via text message, whatsapp or email, as the app then needs to access the contact function to allow it to be shared.

Access to the photos function is needed should you need to upload and return any documents that require a signature to the school (not needed at present)

The privacy policy is contained within each app.

Neither the school or Parentapps have access to anyone's personal information and it's purely a permission that's needed in order for the app to function properly on an Android device. These permissions are now becoming more common with a lot of Android apps and the Amazon app used by millions requests these same permissions and a lot more. If anyone has any questions then please feel free to contact the school or Parentapps on info@parentapps.co.uk

This is a major new step in communication for us and one which will continue to grow as we become more aware of how else the app can help you (please bear with us if initially some sections are empty). We would like to thank the PTA for funding the installation of the app for us. Please help us in spreading the word; the more parents (and indeed grandparents) that engage with this app, the more it will become routine to use this as our number one method of fast communication.

Yours sincerely,



T.M.Eden
Assistant Headteacher