

Willow Wood Community Nursery & Primary School

Part of



Acting Headteacher: Ms Katie Ullein

- Nursery for 3 & 4 year olds
- Breakfast Club from 08:00 £1



WHERE PUPILS FLOURISH

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 www.willowwoodprimaryschool.co.uk/
 WillowwoodCNPS
 @WillowwoodCNPS

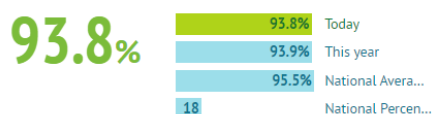
Newsletter 23rd September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had another wonderful week! This year we have made a slight change to our School Council and we now have a **Pupil Parliament**. The pupils were democratically elected to represent their class and the Pupil Parliament met for the first time last week. They will be meeting regularly with Mrs Grigg and our new Head Girl and Head Boy to make decisions and changes to school as the voice of the pupils.

Attendance update:

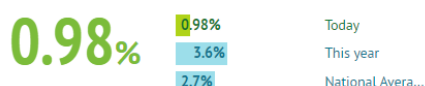
Whole School Attendance



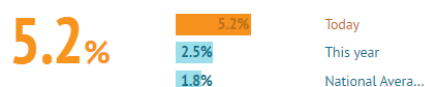
Statutory Attendance



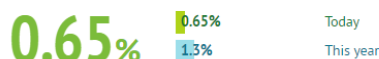
Authorised Absent



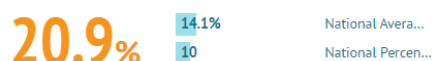
Unauthorised Absent



Late



Persistent Absentees (DfE Whole Year)



Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance are Changing!

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued after 19th August 2024.

Per Parent, Per Child

Penalty Notice Fines will now be issued to each parent, for each child that was absent.

For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

5 consecutive days of term time leave

Penalty Notice Fines will be issued for Term Time Leave of 5 or more consecutive days. Inset training days are school days and can be included in the 5 or more consecutive days where there was intent to be absent for term time leave.

10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period

Penalty Notice Fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period.

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

Second Offence (within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court. Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child.

Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate, due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.

Amazing! Whole school attendance compared to last Monday has improved by 3.8% to 93.8%! and overall this year it is now 93.9%, which is also an improvement. Well done Y4 Elm for having the best class attendance last week of 97.7%! We are striving to be above 96% for whole school attendance, so please

only keep your children at home if they are really poorly. Thank you for getting your children to school on time and ready to learn!

School Grid – School lunches

School Grid instructions for school lunches provided by school, for all parents who pay for lunches.

- School Grid is an account parents have with Dolce, that provide our school lunches, school has no access to this account and it is the parent's responsibility to keep payments up to date and if it is not the account will be frozen by Dolce.
- Please pay for your child's meal in advance and keep your account **in credit at all times.**
- You can pre-pay for school meals on your account for a whole week or even a month at a time, so your account doesn't go overdue. Meals are £2.78 a day or £13.90 a week.
- Did you know that you can order your child's school meals from home? A menu is available online and you can pre order meals for the week.
- School Grid send you regular emails with updates on your account, please check with the office if you don't receive these, as we may have a different email for you.
- If a school grid account is frozen, school will of course pay for a meal but that then creates a debt to school for the unpaid for meal. If parents have frozen accounts with Dolce and a debt to school for meals parents will be asked to provide a packed lunch until both accounts have been fully paid.
- If you need any help or have any questions with School Grid, then please do not hesitate to contact us.

Many thanks to all the parents that already do this.

Important Dates to Remember

- **Wednesday 25th September 10am** – Reception Parent Workshop in the Rainbow Building hall.
- **Tuesday 1st October 9am** – SEND Parents Coffee & Chat.
- **Friday 11th October 9am** – Parents Come and Join Us for Maths games!
- **Tuesday 15th October 9:30am** - Year 1 parent phonics assembly in the Rainbow Building hall
- **Tuesday 22nd October** – PTA Halloween Discos – Timings TBC
- **Wednesday 6th November** - Year 1 are visiting The Brampton Museum.

Be sure to mark your calendars!

Purple Mash

Welcome to our computing scheme of learning, provided by Purple Mash.
It is safe, fun, and educational. Using your child's log in details it is also accessible from home - for free!



Access Purple Mash at home, using our unique school link

<https://www.purplemash.com/willowwoodcommun>

Then enter your child's personal log in details.

Nursery and Reception children will have received letters which look like this. You will find the log in details on the top left corner.

Years 1 -6: All parents received a letter last year that looks like the above example (sent as we launched the scheme). Don't worry if the details are misplaced – your child's class teacher will have their log in details.



Any problems with Purple Mash please speak to your child's teacher.

Additional help: there are lots of support and information videos on You Tube.

Enjoy!!

Student Spotlights



We love to celebrate our pupil's achievements in and out of school.

This is Jacob who is becoming an amazing Motocross rider and is beginning to compete nationally!

He recently went to Sherwood for the White Rose Championship and came second in all the races, securing first place in the Championship with one race weekend remaining in the season. I'm sure you'll join us in wishing him luck in his final races!



Year 6 High School Open Days and Applications

- Rudheath Senior Academy Open Evening – Tuesday 24th September 5pm-7pm.
- The Winsford Academy Open Evening – Thursday 3rd October 4:30-6:30pm.

It is advised that parents and carers arrange to visit the preferred schools prior to making an application, as once the place is offered, it may not be possible to accommodate a change of preference later in the process. Applications need to be made by 31st October. If you would like any help with the application process please contact the family support team via the school office. [Secondary admissions | Cheshire West and Chester Council](#)

Parental Involvement

- **Next PTA meeting Friday 11th October 9am** – Sycamore room in the Rainbow Building – Anyone interested welcome.
- **Little Willows** Mother & Toddler group each Thursday in the Sunshine Building hall.
- Tuesday 15th October 9:30am - **Year 1 parent phonics assembly** in the Rainbow Building hall.

Calling all Asda shoppers...

You may have seen that Asda have launched 'Cashpots for Schools' which is running until the end of November Asda will donate 0.5% of the value of your shop to our school & also donate £1 for every person who opts in. This won't affect your individual cashpot.

It's simple to set up, just make sure your rewards app is updated and follow the steps below

1. Go to cashpots in the Asda Rewards App and click 'Join Cashpot for Schools'
2. Click 'I have a school I want to choose'
3. Search Willow Wood Community Nursery & Primary School
4. Asda will confirm your choice then start spending!

We are now up to £198!

Residential reminders

The deposit for the Y3/4 residential to Conway needs to be paid by Friday 27th September. As per the letter before the summer, if we don't receive 80% or more of the deposits, unfortunately the residential will have to be cancelled and all deposits returned. We currently have 20% of deposits paid.

Year group	Residential to	Total cost	Deposit	Final payment
Y2	Tattenhall Date: 13 th -14 th May '25 1 night	£122 £61 (pupil premium)	£40 by 29 th Nov '24	£82 £21 (pupil premium) By 21 st Feb '25
Y3/4	Conway centre Date: 27 th -29 th Jan '25 2 nights	£180 £90 (pupil premium)	£50 by 27 th Sept '24	£130 £40 (pupil premium) By 17 th Jan '25
Y5/6	Gulliver's World Date: 5 th -6 th June 1 night	£115 £57.50 (pupil premium)	£35 by 25 th Oct '24	£80 £22.50 (pupil premium) By 26 th April '25

Free School Meals and Pupil Premium

Your child may be able to get free school meals/pupil premium if you are in receipt of any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

The criteria also apply if your child is adopted or under a special guardianship order.

Please speak to the school office if you need any help with applying or have any questions.

It is important that you register, even if your child currently receives Universal Free Infant School Meals as there is additional funding (Pupil Premium) that school can apply for <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

Finally

Reading with children every day during their primary school years is vital for several reasons:

1. **Language Development**: Daily reading helps expand a child's vocabulary and grasp of language. It introduces them to new words, phrases, and sentence structures.
2. **Cognitive Skills**: Engaging with stories stimulates a child's imagination and critical thinking. They learn to predict outcomes, make connections, and understand different perspectives.
3. **Academic Success**: Regular reading is linked to better performance in school. Children who read often tend to excel in subjects like writing, comprehension, and even mathematics, as reading enhances their overall learning abilities.
4. **Bonding Time**: Reading together creates a nurturing environment and strengthens the parent-child bond. It offers an opportunity for shared experiences and discussions about the stories.
5. **Encouraging a Love for Reading**: By making reading a daily routine, parents can instill a love for books and learning in their children. This positive association can lead to a lifelong passion for reading.
6. **Improved Concentration and Discipline**: Regular reading sessions teach children to focus and listen attentively, skills that are essential for academic success and personal development.
7. **Cultural Awareness**: Books expose children to different cultures, ideas, and experiences, broadening their understanding of the world around them.
8. **Emotional Intelligence**: Stories often explore complex emotions and situations, helping children develop empathy and understanding of their own feelings and those of others.

Incorporating reading into daily routines is a simple yet powerful way to support a child's growth and development during these formative years.

Please read with you child at home everyday to support them on their learning journey.

Warm regards,
Katie Ullein
Acting Head Teacher
