

Willow Wood Community Nursery & Primary School



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
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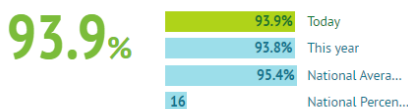
Newsletter 7th October 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week all the children have been writing their independent piece of writing to end their current English unit and many children have written fantastic pieces of writing, with similes and noun phrases, as well as working hard with their cursive handwriting! Jessica in Y4 even used some words that Mrs Grigg had never heard before and had to check in the dictionary! I'm looking forward to seeing the next piece of writing on our proud walls in the corridor!

Attendance update:

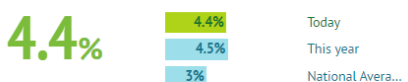
Whole School Attendance



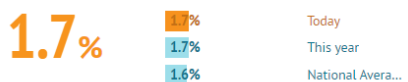
Statutory Attendance



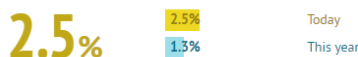
Authorised Absent



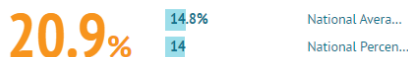
Unauthorised Absent



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.

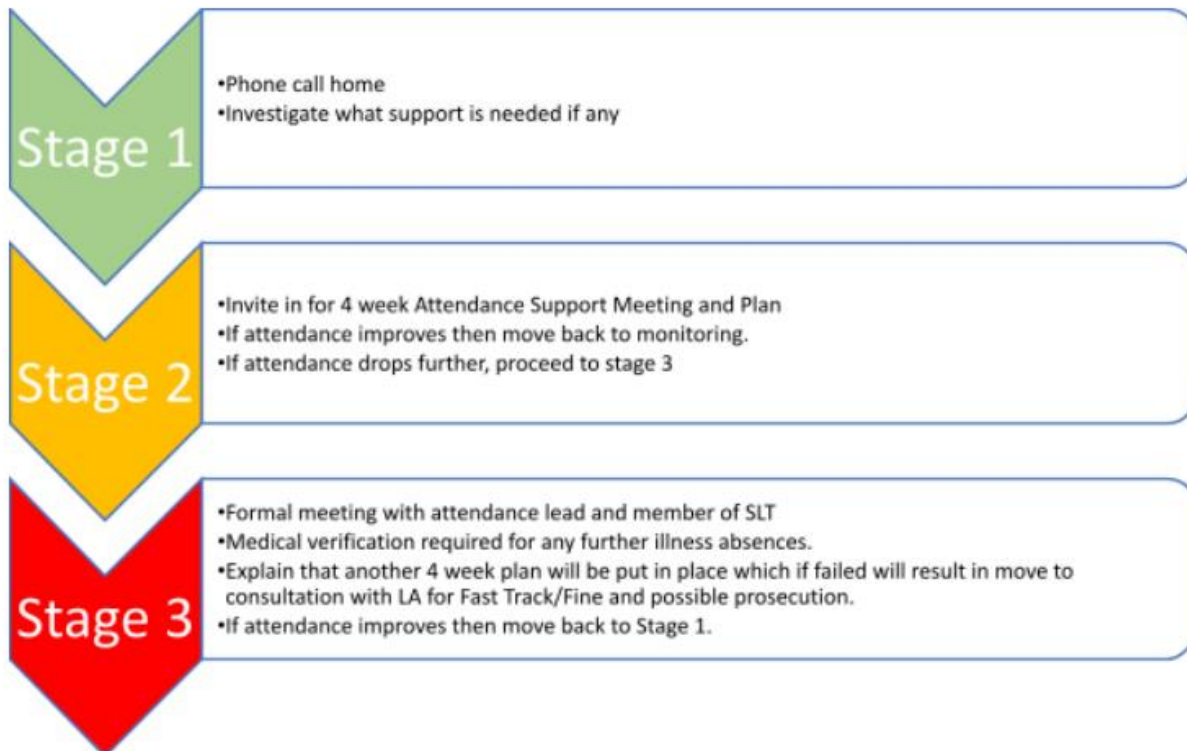
Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate, due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.

Amazing! We have improved whole school attendance compared to last Monday, up to 93.9% and overall this year it is now 93.8%, which is a slight increase. Well done Y1 Mulberry again for having the best class

attendance last week of 97.8%! 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!

How Attendance is managed at Willow Wood Community Nursery and Primary School

At Willow Wood Community Nursery and Primary School, we use a staged approach to attendance management which is implemented in the following way:



If you get a stage 2 letter, it is because your child's attendance has fallen below 96% attendance. We have had to send quite a few of these letters in the last week, mostly because of the sickness bug that has been going around school, so please don't take offence by the letter. Also at this point in the year, 2 days off is a larger % as we have only been in school for 5 weeks. This will even itself out across the year as long as your child does not have any more days off.

The policy to send letters out to remind parents of their child's attendance % is a Winsford wide policy and all schools in the Winsford Education Partnership (WEP) send the same letters at the same points. Schools are responsible for attendance and are judged by Ofsted on their attendance % compared with the national average which is currently 95.4% and Willow Wood is currently at 93.8%, 2% lower than national. School need to be seen to be doing something about that, so unfortunately children with attendance of less than 96% will continue to get letters.

Important Dates to Remember

- **Friday 11th October 9am** – Parents Come and Join Us for Maths games!
- **Monday 14th October 4pm** – Open Evening for 2025 Reception starters.
- **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.

Breakfast Club

For your information currently, breakfast club is full and we have a waiting list. So, if you would like to be added to the waiting list please call the office. Staff are unable to accept children turning up without a pre-arranged place in the morning as that would mean there are not enough adults for the number of children attending. As a reminder we can no longer accept Nursery age children in breakfast club as the DfE changed the rules and we don't have the correctly qualified staff to allow Nursery age children to attend.

Student Spotlights

Congratulations to Nancy who achieved her 25m swimming badge last week! Well done, what a great achievement and skill for life!



Y2 Football team

Do you have a Y2 child who enjoys playing football? Winsford Over 3, under 7's children's football team for year 2 children will be running their training sessions in the school hall on a Wednesday evening 6pm-7pm. They are looking for more players, so if your child is in Y2 and would like to join in, please contact the office for the details of who runs it.

Year 6 High School Applications

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.
- **Next SEND Parents Coffee & Chat** - Tuesday 3rd December

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 an amazing £270! Thank you to all the Asda shoppers!

Residential reminders

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
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

Trips reminders

Trip	Year group	Date of trip	Cost	Needs to be paid by
Clonter Theatre	Year 5	10/10/2024	£15/PP £7.50	4th October
World Museum	Year 3 & 4	25/10/2024	£15/PP £7.50	4th October
Brampton Museum	Year 1	06/11/2024	£16.10 / PP £8.05	23 rd October
Chester Zoo	Year 5 & 6	22/11/2024	£14 / PP £7	8th November

I'm very pleased to tell you that we have had over 80% of the payments for the Clonter Theatre trip and the World Museum trip, so I'm very happy to say that they are going to go ahead! Though any children who have not paid before the date of the trip will unfortunately not attend the trip and will stay in school on the day of the trip.

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 applies 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

Thank you to all the parents who are reading with their children at home at least 5 times a week. Reading together creates a nurturing environment and strengthens your parent-child bond. It offers an opportunity for shared experiences and discussions about the stories. By making reading a daily routine, you can instil a love for books and learning in your children. This positive association can lead to a lifelong passion for reading.

This week in Y6 Hazel the entire class has read at least 5 times, this is the first class that has ever achieved this, so they will all receive a raffle ticket this week and will be in with a chance to win a bike or a tablet at the end of term!

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

Warm regards,
Katie Ullein
Acting Head Teacher
