




**WILLOWS**  
HIGH SCHOOL



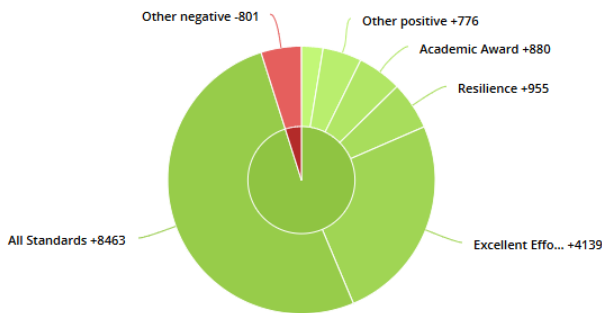
 Use Google Translate to change to your preferred language.

**BELONG, *believe*, ACHIEVE**  
**PERTHYN, CREDU, LLWYDDO**

**Weekly Newsletter – 13.12.2024**

Hello! مرحباً! Ahoj! Ola! Dzień dobry! Salut! Hello!

Willows High School Conduct Overview  
09/12/2024 - 13/12/2024



**Belong, Believe, Achieve:**

This week our Year 7 pupils have been adventuring at Storey Arms on a residential trip, we have held our first Be Our Guest event and donated our Christmas Foodbank Appeal donations to Splott Community Volunteers. Pupils have been participating in sporting events, had visits from the BBC, presented in the First Give Genius Hour final, had their last Enrichment session of the term and our Awards Assemblies, Cinema Rewards and Vocabulary Bees have gotten underway.

**Merits: 09.12.2024-13.12.2024**

We respect the effort that our pupils are putting into their character and studies. A huge Willows well done to all of this week's merit winners.

Year Group	Total	Excellent Effort	Merit Champions
Year 7	2874	7Cavendish	Manasik Adem
Year 8	2958	8Beethoven	Mylo Ryder
Year 9	3961	9Hepworth	Eliza Doubler
Year 10	2438	10Curie	Semiloore Osho
Year 11	2516	11Edward	Hamudi Salih

**Dates for your Diary:**

- 16<sup>th</sup> December: Flu immunisations
- 17<sup>th</sup> December: Rewards Assemblies
- 17<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas dinner for pupils
- 18<sup>th</sup> December: A Christmas Carol (Year 9)
- 19<sup>th</sup> December: Last day in school for pupils
- 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024: INSET Day
- 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025: Spring Term begins (all pupils back in school)
- 13<sup>th</sup> January Money Management Course (3 weeks)
- 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025: Reading Coffee Morning
- 15<sup>th</sup> January Child Psychology Course :(Level 2, 10 weeks)
- 16<sup>th</sup> January: Attendance Coffee Morning
- 21<sup>st</sup> January : Into Work Taster Coffee Morning



Our Valued Partners



**School News:**

**Be Our Guest Event**

We invited our young carers and pupils who have lost a parent or sibling into our canteen this week for a Christmas Lunch with all the trimmings, they enjoyed bingo, games and had lots of fun!

We would like to thank all who attended and hope you all had a wonderful time!



**Duke of Edinburgh – Christmas Foodbank Donation**

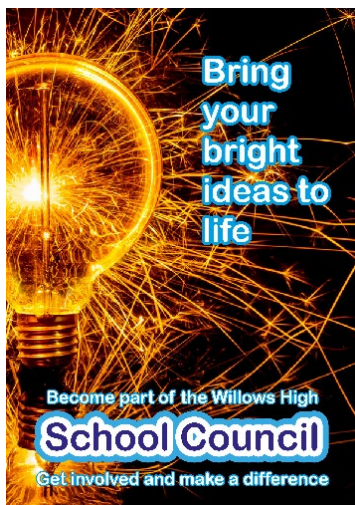


Thank you to everyone who donated and our wonderful Duke of Edinburgh pupils for coordinating.

All contributions were handed over to Splott Community Volunteers who will make sure that they get to the people in our community who need it most.



**School Council**



We are looking for pupils from all of the diverse groups that make up our school community, from all year groups to join our School Council. We want to recruit pupils to help us continue to make Willows High School better and better. We want everyone to look forward to coming to Willows, we want everyone to have what they need to be successful in the future and we want everyone to maximise their achievements during their time here. If you think you've got what it takes to help make this a reality, fill in and return an application form which is available from your Head of Year. Applications close at 3.10pm on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December. Bring your bright ideas to life!

**Our Valued Partners**



## Football News



It was a fantastic win for the Year 9 football team in cold & windy conditions, against a strong Cowbridge team. We started very strong and committed, taking a quick 3-0 lead (a fantastic hat-trick from Abdoulie Jarju). Cowbridge came back into the game, and after a tense 5 minutes either side of half-time our quality football shone through. Some lovely goals in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half left a big 9-4 win for the boys. This leaves us in the hat for next round of the plate/cup.

Big thanks to Mr. Jones for leading the team to this position and to Mr. Wynne for organising a warm-up & refereeing the game.

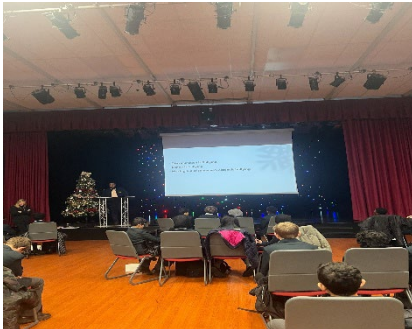
## EAL Coffee Morning

The EAL department organised a coffee morning this week. Its aim was to help parents and pupils understand how the Welsh educational system works. Ms Gallen, a Careers Wales advisor, presented on which options were available post 16. Lots of parents used the opportunity to ask questions about their child's future career pathways.

This was our first time meeting some of the parents, so it was nice to introduce ourselves and tell them about our ESOL course and how they can support their child at home. We were very happy with the turn out and we hope that parents found the coffee morning helpful and pleasant.



## Equality & Diversity Year 7 Assembly



Mr. Aideyan delivered a powerful assembly to our Year 7s on Friday discussing Equality and Diversity, all pupils were fully engaged and asked lots of questions!

## New School Build Pupil Surveys

Over the last two weeks, our pupils have had the chance to give their views and ideas to enhance our new school building. Pupils have commented on their preferred use of indoor and outdoor spaces, the technology they'd rather use and their ideal learning conditions.

Pupils from all year groups have approached this task with great maturity and thought. It is important to us that our pupils are involved in this project and we look forward to seeing the results from their consultation.



## Our Valued Partners

### Online support for young people

Cardiff Youth Service offers support to young people online through their Discord servers in safe online communities.

There, they can access youth work support, meet new people and take part in creative opportunities. Young people in the online communities feel that it is a great escape if they need to get away from the stress of school or other things.

There are 3 Discord servers for:

- Young people aged 13-17 who speak Welsh
- Young people aged 13-17 who speak English
- Young people aged 16+ who speak English



Young people can [sign up here](#).

### Uniform Recycling

Can we kindly ask if you have any pre-loved uniform to donate them to our Uniform Recycling Centre, please drop them to reception, they will be greatly appreciated!



### Facilities to hire after school



Please contact our Estates Manager if you would be interested in hiring our Learning Lounge or Theatre after school hours – [Cyril.royer1@willows.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:Cyril.royer1@willows.cardiff.sch.uk)

The Learning Lounge is colourful and bright space, with a tea/coffee making utilities, comfy seating, as well as more private areas to sit. We also have a larger area from which adult education and skills building classes and groups are run.

The Theatre has a large stage and seating area which can be used for performances or other activities.



### Our Valued Partners



### Free Period Products

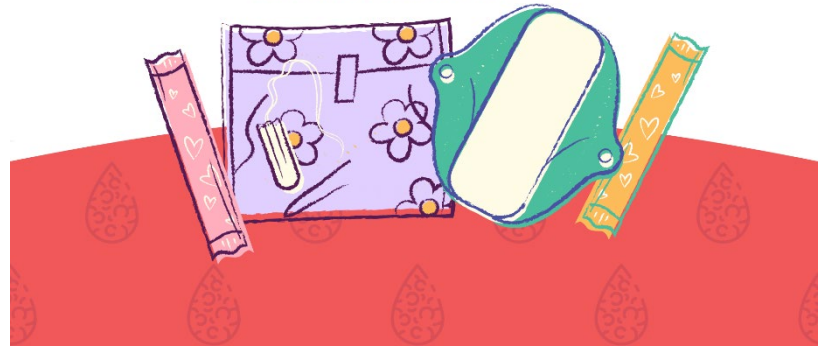
A reminder that period products are available from school throughout the year. We would encourage our pupils to ask for extra for over the upcoming holidays.

We have a range of free products including sanitary towels, tampons, menstrual cups and a wide range of sizes in period pants.

We will promote their availability next week but please encourage your child to ask any member of staff if they need these.

### Free Menstrual Products

*Periods Are Not For Profit!*

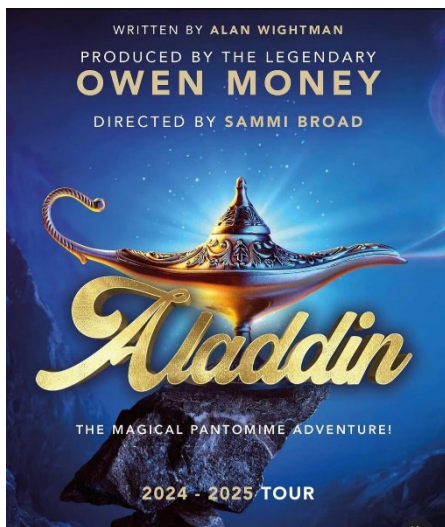


### Christmas Stars

We would like to wish Gracie-Leigh Barratt in Year 11 all the best as she is currently performing in the ensemble of 'Beauty and the Beast' in the Congress Theatre in Cwmbran.

Our very own Mr. Mills has just completed his run as Wishy Washy in 'Aladdin' and goes on to play Walter Hobbs in 'Elf' at The Metropole in Abertillery this weekend.

Good luck both, we are sure that you will sparkle and shine!



### Our Valued Partners



## Genius Hour

This week year 8 pupils took part in the final of the Genius Hour project run by First Give. Each of the 6 form groups had chosen a local charity they wanted to represent and had made detailed presentations, including some rap songs, to highlight the work that they do. The winning group was set to win £1000 for their chosen charity.

As always, the standard of the presentations was really high, and every group stood a really good chance of winning the prize.



For the first time ever, the presentations were made in front of a panel of judges and the entire year 8 cohort, which added more pressure onto the people on the stage.

The judging panel, who consisted of Cllr. Grace Ferguson-Thorne, Miss Fishlock and Miss Sansom, found it really hard to choose one winner. So, in another first for this project, they chose 8MO and 8NO as joint winners. Their two charities, Fearless and MIND, each winning £500.

A massive well done to all the pupils who worked so hard to put the presentations together and especially to the two winning groups.



A huge thank you to all our judges and to Becky from First Give for her efforts in both the mentoring session and the final itself.

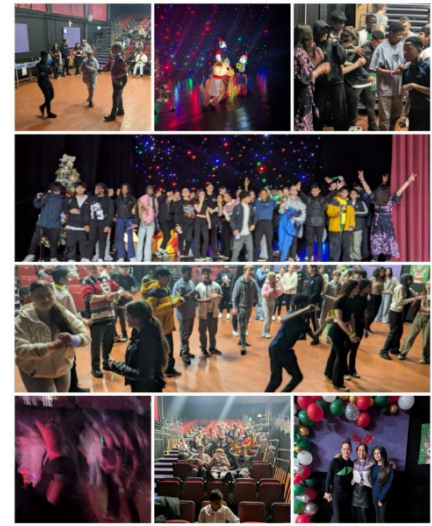
Well done year 8. Your hard work really paid off as the standard of your work was of an amazingly high standard.

## Our Valued Partners

### Year 9 Disco

On Thursday night, we were pleased to host our much – anticipated Year 9 Disco! As well as having an absolute blast, our pupils managed to raise over £120 which will go towards Miss. Cook’s ‘Go Fund Me’ campaign to provide her son, Bobby with an electric wheelchair.

Ms. Cherrett, Ms. Kelly and Mrs. Bubbins are all very proud of this year group and their kindness towards each other and others. Well done all!



### Year 11 Enrichment – ‘Making Memories’

As part of our ‘Making Memories’ programme, Year 11 were treated to ‘Sing-O’ on Wednesday afternoon. As well as party snacks and Christmas crackers, pupils played Bingo with a twist – identifying Christmas songs to mark off their cards.

A huge well done to Miss Watkins and Miss Bell for organising such an enjoyable event. We hope that this adds to Year 11’s fondest memories of their time with us.

### GCSE Media Studies and BBC Studios

This week, the GCSE Media Studies class took part in a workshop provided by the team at BBC Casualty. The costume department brought many props for us to manipulate and the team showed us how they would work on a television set. We had a live demonstration of the make-up the team would use to create scars, burns and bruises. The pupils were intrigued by the process and asked lots of questions regarding potential careers in this area.

The second half of the workshop was very hands on. Pupils were provided with a real-life scenario that a costume designer may face and had to design the sock for a character in that situation. Pupils used ‘fake blood,’ ‘Grass colouring’ and various food dyes to design their socks. Many pupils enjoyed the creativity involved and feedback that they would be interested in the BBC Apprenticeship scheme when they left school.

Thank you to Careers Wales for arranging the event.



Our Valued Partners



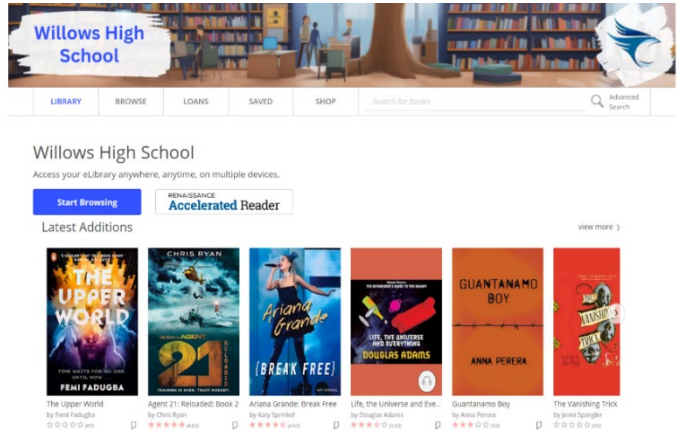
## E Platform Learning


We are pleased to confirm that our subscription for E-Platform is now live. All pupils have been provided with an account and login details. A letter confirming these details will also be sent out shortly.

E-Platform is an online library where our pupils can choose and read books of their choice in line with their reading age. It is a great addition to our school and allows pupils to read anytime and anywhere.

The E-books can be accessed via the E-platform app, which can be downloaded via the QR code below. Alternatively, use the following website: <https://willowshighschool.eplatform.co/> To use please use setup code 5452. Your username will be the same as your STAR test, password is *book*. All pupils have been provided with these details but please ask your English or J7 teacher will have these details if you are unsure.

STAR tests for this term have also been completed for KS3 and results will be shared shortly. As a reminder, we ask that all pupils read for a minimum of 20 minutes a day. This will have a huge impact on their literacy levels and ensure success in school and beyond. If you have any concerns about your child's reading, please do not hesitate to contact their English or Journey 7 teacher.






Access your eLibrary anywhere, anytime,  
on multiple devices

Download on the  
App Store

GET IT ON  
Google Play

SCAN TO LAUNCH APP



Or add using your setup code 5452

## Supporting Your Child During Exams

Please find a link below which may help you if your child is in Year 10 or Year 11 and has upcoming examinations, it is a Parent Workshop video around supporting your child during exam season. it is roughly 40 minutes and was created by the School In-Reach team, based within the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CrulgiNZXHg>



## Our Valued Partners

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VOCO

St. David's  
Cardiff





## Virtual Reality Staff Training



On Tuesday, Darryl from Eastmoors Community Centre demonstrated the power of using Virtual Reality to help young people make informed, ethical decisions.

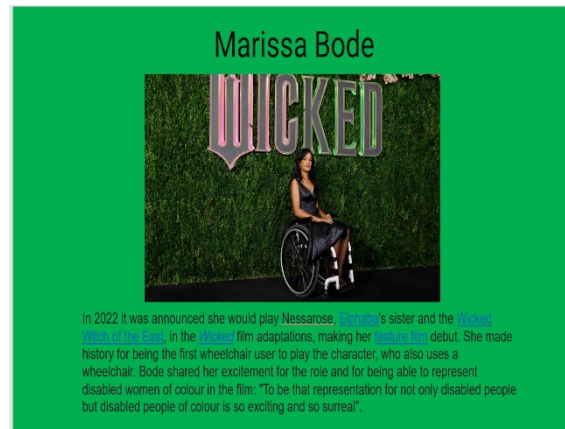
Members of our Senior Leadership Team and our Welfare Team tried the equipment to gain first-hand knowledge of the scheme that many of our pupils have been involved in, in recent years.

We were proud to hear that our school has had the most engagement and that our pupils have reported the powerful impact this has had on their lives outside of school.

We would like to thank the Eastmoors Team for their continued support.

## Disability Awareness week

'Every day this week we have been looking at inspirational role models for Disability Awareness week. Role models have included Bethany Hamilton, Stephen Hawking, Stevie Wonder, Marissa Bode and Nicholas Hamilton'



## Measles

# Measles

If you live in Cardiff and the Vale and are unsure if your child has had the MMR vaccine, you are encouraged to [check their personal child health record](#) (red book) in the first instance



If you remain unsure, other options include:  
 Contacting the Local Child Health Team on 02921 836926 or 02921 836929.  
 Contacting your GP Practice, avoiding peak times such as early mornings where possible.

Options for MMR vaccination include:  
 Your GP Practice  
 Your local Mass Vaccination Centre. Call 02921 841234  
 Phone lines are open Mon-Fri between 9am and 5pm

Having the MMR vaccine is the best way to prevent having measles and passing it on to others.  
 In some cases, measles can cause serious complications including pneumonia and meningitis.




We are working in partnership with Cardiff and Vale Health Board, enabling children who have missed their scheduled appointments for MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) vaccines to access this in school.

Measles can be very serious for children, and is very easily passed between people who are not vaccinated. There are currently outbreaks of measles in Wales, so we would encourage families to take up the opportunity of their child getting their MMR vaccination if they are offered it by the Health Board. Please note that if your child is invited and you would like your child to have the MMR vaccine which does *not* contain gelatine (Halal), this will be an option you can choose.

For more information about the MMR vaccine please go to [Measles, Mumps and Rubella \(MMR\) - Public Health Wales \(nhs.wales\)](#)'

### Our Valued Partners



## Adult Learning Classes



If you are interested in any upcoming courses or have any suggestions for courses that you would like us to look into running at Willows, please contact our Family Community Engagement Officer Karen Hunt using: [karen.hunt@willows.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:karen.hunt@willows.cardiff.sch.uk)

## School Essentials Grant

Registering as eligible for free school meals with your Local Authority unlocks access to the School Essentials Grant. It also means schools get more funding. With the introduction of free school meals for primary pupils, many parents/carers do not realise that schools will lose out unless they continue to register as eligible. Even if you don't need the grant, registering here: <https://www.gov.wales/get-help-school-costs> will mean schools get additional funding.



## School Prospectus 2024-2025

*The school provides beneficial opportunities to enable more able pupils to realise their potential.  
Estyn 2018*

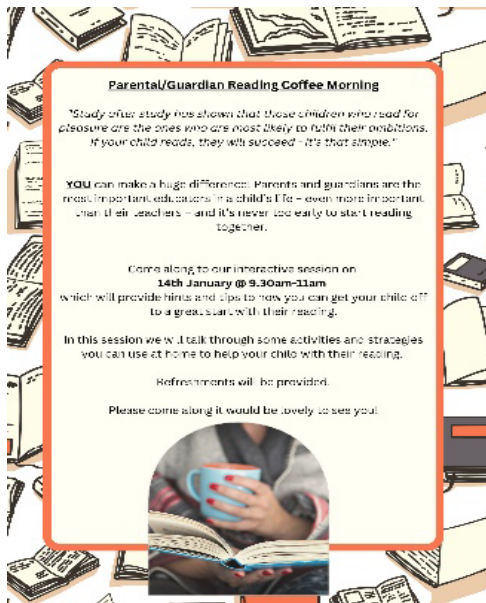
## School Prospectus/Parent handbook (2024-2025)

Our document containing all of the information you'll need for this year is available to view and download on our website [here](#). If you'd like to get your hands on a paper copy, they are available at the school Reception.

## Our Valued Partners



## Reading Coffee Morning



Come along to our interactive session on 14th January at 9.30am-11.00am which will provide hints and tips on how you can get your child off to a great start with their reading. In this session we will talk through some activities and strategies you can use at home to help your child with their reading. Refreshments will be provided. Please come along, it would be lovely to see you! Please click on the link below if you would like to attend.

<https://forms.office.com/e/NndTCP63zx>

## Employment & Training Support Coffee Morning.

We are holding an Employment Training and Support Coffee Morning on the 21<sup>st</sup> January in the Learning Lounge.

The Into Work team will be speaking to parents/members of the community to see what courses will be of interest for the New Year to help them get into the workplace.

Based on the feedback received these courses will start in February.

They have also agreed to 1-2-1 mentoring support so this is a fantastic opportunity to help people gain employability skills. If you would like to attend, please click on the link below.

<https://forms.office.com/e/1ah6fh1ZLW>



## Attendance Coffee Morning.



Please come along to our Attendance Coffee morning, you will have the opportunity to meet our Attendance Officers Donna & Amber to discuss any concerns or questions.

Lets pull together to make 2025 a great year for attendance!

If you would like to attend please click on the link below

<https://forms.office.com/e/uq1DDWrPVA>

Our Valued Partners



### Santa Meet & Greet at YMCA- Fundraiser

The YMCA are holding a Santa Meet & Greet at YMCA Plasnewydd Community Centre.

Date: 14th & 15th December

Time: 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Cost: £5 per child (includes a gift)

Venue: YMCA Plasnewydd Community Centre, CF24 3ES

This event is a fundraiser, and all proceeds will support the YMCA's community programs.



### Free Toys



Free **toys** to anyone who needs them in our local communities at The Cabin, Lamby Way

Please call in on the above dates to pick from one of their 'Free Toy Tables'

### The Light of Winter Trail

Experience 11 state-of-the-art light and sound installations across Cardiff city centre this winter. Free to enjoy, the Light of Winter Trail runs from 14th November – 5th January 2025.

Highlights include 'Cardiff Aurora', a breath-taking light and sound projection onto Cardiff Central Station that runs from 5pm – midnight every evening, 'Illuminated Reeds Symphony', an interactive installation on the Churchill Way canal, and stunning festive lights on the entrances to Cardiff's historic arcades.



Trail maps can be downloaded on the [Visit Cardiff website](#) or picked up from Cardiff Castle, Cardiff Central Station guest services, and St David's Dewi Sant guest services desk.

### Our Valued Partners



## Attendance

### Contact Details - Willows High School

To Report an Absence:

**Year 8, Year 9 and the first half of Year 11 – (Surname - A to Khan)**

Contact Donna Whitney using Classcharts (see How to report an absence in Classcharts)

**Year 7, Year 10 and second half of Year 11 – (Surname - Khanal to Z)**

Contact Amber Short using Classcharts (see How to report an absence in Classcharts)

**Please do not use the old mobile numbers or email.**



### Attendance Draw Winners (week ending 6th December)



Fantastic Friday Weekly Draw - £50 of Amazon vouchers

**Winner:** Zack Fender (8MO)

Fast Pass Weekly Draw – go to the front of the canteen queue for a week with a friend

**Year 7 winners:** Aaron Nicolau, Sama Shbib

**Year 8 winners:** Mylo Ryder, Jacob O'Brien, Ethan Higgins

**Year 9 winners:** Menam Adem, Josyanne Gonclaves

**Year 10 winners:** Asef Alkarouf, Tina Zhang

**Year 11 winners:** Marwa Omar, Ibrahim Khan

Attend Like a Champion!

**It's the last week of the autumn term next week, so that means there's £20 of Amazon vouchers up for grabs every single day!**

Our Valued Partners

cowshed



VOCO St. David's Cardiff



ARUP Taylor Wimpey

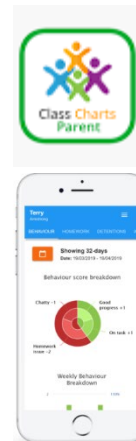
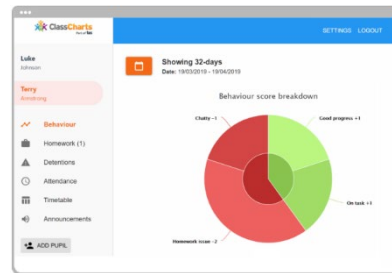


## Class Charts

### What is Class Charts?

Class Charts is an app that can be downloaded to your phone. You can use it to:

- keep track of your child's behaviour
- view attendance records
- access your child's weekly timetable
- be informed of and track detentions
- award your child merits for completing their home reading tasks
- view announcements from school.



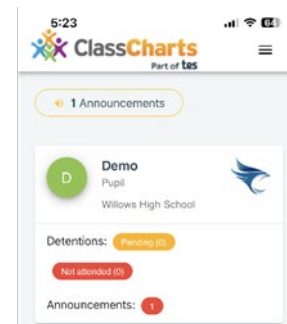
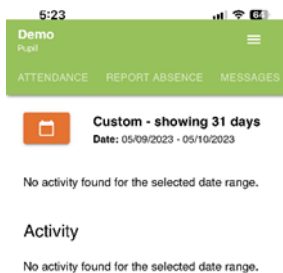
We would like all parents to sign up to Class Charts, as we are also going to be using this as the main way of sending all messages to you. Likewise, from after half term this will also be the main way that you can report your child's absence to us.

Thank you to all parents who have signed up to Class Charts this year and to those of you who continue to use it.

**Please let your child's Head of Year know if you need a login code.**

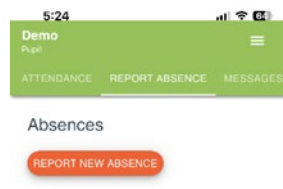
### How to report an absence on Class Charts

1. Click on your Class Charts app and click on your child's name.

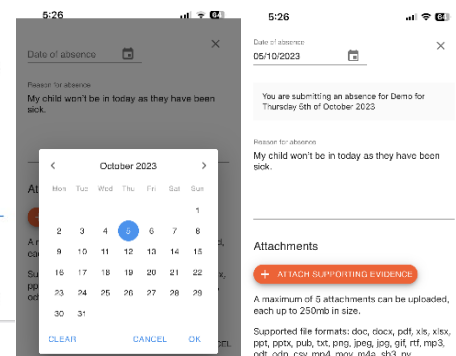
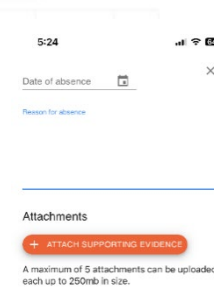


2. Scroll across the green band at the top and click 'report absence'.

3. Click on 'report new absence'



4. Tap the calendar for the date, type in the reason and attach any pictures of medical evidence, such as letters, emails or texts from the doctors, dentist or hospital



5. Click submit...it's as easy as that!

**Please contact your child's Head of Year if you have any problems logging on and they will be happy to guide you through the process.**

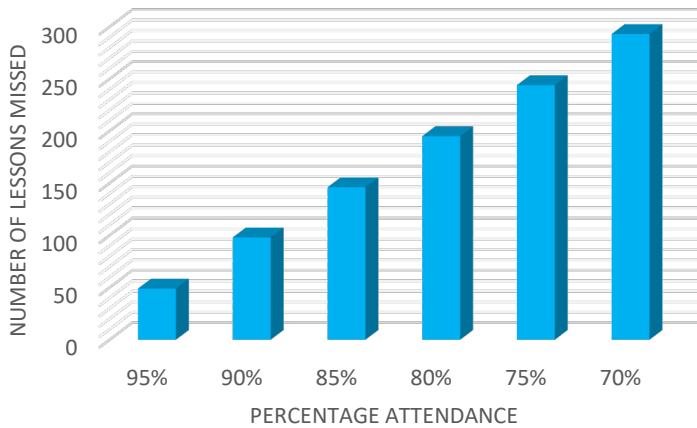
### Our Valued Partners



## Important information about attendance to school

In an exam, if you got 90% of the questions correct, you would probably think that this is a very good result.

### Number of lessons Missed



Unfortunately, this doesn't translate to your child's attendance.

**90% attendance** for the school year means that your child has **missed 98 lessons**. How are they going to make that time back?

Even **95% attendance** which is the Welsh Government's threshold for good attendance means your child would have **missed 49 lessons** over the school year. This is a lot of work for your child to miss.

The chart above shows how quickly the number of lessons your child misses increases as their attendance drops.

The greatest gift that we can give your child is an amazing set of examination results at the end of Year 11. To provide the best possible conditions for this to happen, your child needs to have as high an attendance percentage as possible.

Pupils are in school for 190 days of the year, **they are not in school for 175 days of the year.**

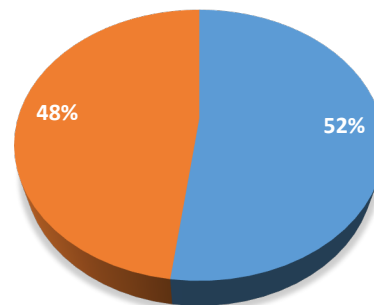
We believe that this is plenty of time for the majority of appointments to be made out of school hours.

Please consider your child's education before making appointments during the school day, and if you have no option, please consider how they are going to catch up on the work they have missed and report the absence every day through Classcharts.

**Every pupil who is not in school is a potential safeguarding concern if we have not been notified by you.**

We would be grateful if families would take the information above on board and we look forward to your support.

### Days in School / Not in School



■ In School ■ Not in School

#### Our Valued Partners

## Important Information for All Parents and Guardians

Please be aware that **Fixed Penalty Notices** are now being issued by Cardiff Council again.

If your child has more than 5 days of unauthorised absence since September 2022 or takes an unauthorised holiday, then you are at risk of a Fixed Penalty Notice Fine being issued.

Fines are **£60** at first, then rising to **£120** - if the fine is still not paid then you will be summoned to court and the fine and costs will rise again. **Please note these fines do not go away.** Please make sure to read any correspondence carefully.

To avoid being fined, please ensure that your child attends school every day - if there is a valid reason for absence, please contact the Attendance Team giving evidence where possible.



### Lateness to School: Fixed Penalty Notices

Fixed Penalty Notices are already being requested for **poor attendance** and for **term-time holidays**.



After the Easter holidays we will be looking to request Fixed Penalty Notice fines for **lateness to school**. We ask that you speak to your child and discuss the importance of **arriving at school on-time for 9:00am line-up every day**. Your child is missing hours of education if they are consistently late to school.

If your child is regularly late to school then a request for a Fixed Penalty Notice fine will be actioned to the Education Welfare Service. The fine for this is £60, rising to £120, leading to a court summons & increased fines imposed. We **do not** want to have to request this – we would much rather your child be in school on time.

If your child is late to school because of an appointment then please provide evidence to the Attendance Team in the form of an appointment card or letter, etc.

Please help your child to arrive at school in good time. The main gates close at 9am – after this time your child is considered to be late and will need to sign in through Late Gates in the Learning Lounge, and then main reception.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

### **Willows Words**



Did you know that accuracy with writing is worth 50% of the marks on the GCSE English writing tasks? It's also written into the marking schemes for most subjects. You can help your child by quizzing them on the spelling of our Willows Words; these are words that have been found to be commonly misspelled at GCSE. Every week, we'll publish a selection for you to quiz and repeat them in a loop to ensure that the learning is embedded.

1. beautiful
2. because
3. believe
4. ceiling
5. disappear
6. disappoint
7. extremely
8. necessary
9. persuade
10. queue

### Our Valued Partners



## Uniform Reminder to Parents

Unfortunately, we are seeing a rise in the number of pupils who are attending school wearing the incorrect uniform, especially on days when they have P.E.

We would appreciate the support of families to ensure that pupils come to school appropriately dressed. On the right is the information in our Parent Handbook which sets out clearly the expectation for our pupils at Willows.

We have uniform for a reason, it is to act as a leveller for pupils. Everyone wears the same, so no-one can feel disadvantaged by those who might want to come into school wearing the latest brands and expensive labels. It is also there to ensure that the clothes that are worn are appropriate to the age of your child, not too revealing and suitable for walking around in throughout the day.

Pupils will be sent home to change if they are wearing inappropriate clothing, this will be the school's decision.

We would appreciate if you would discuss this with your child and take steps to ensure that they are appropriately dressed for school when they leave your house in the morning.

The school will make parents aware if there is any change to the school uniform due to increases in temperature, please do not send your child in P.E. kit if the weather is warm.

Crocs are definitely not part of the school uniform! Our Parent Handbook can be accessed on our website or by clicking the link below:

<https://indd.adobe.com/view/1dbf54a5-38cf-494f-9166-50b358b2e824>

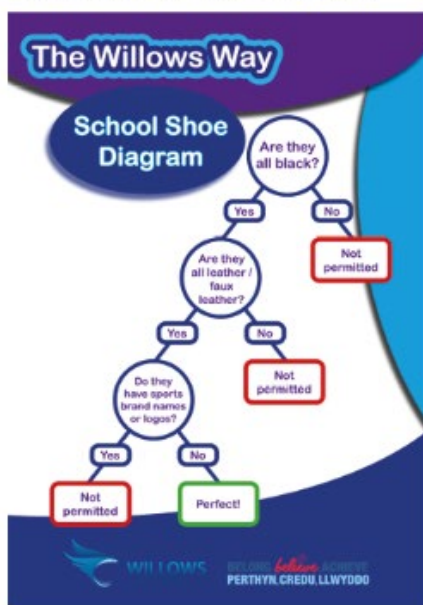
**If you are intending to buy new P.E. for next year, please remember that it is the Mid-Layer that is the compulsory item and must be worn. If you want to wear the old P.E. tops, they must be worn under the Mid-Layer.**

**P.E. Kit:**  
 School P.E. midlayer top, plain black sport shorts, plain black tracksuit trousers or plain black sports leggings.  
 No jeggings, tight fitting trousers, jeans, jean like trousers or low rise trousers.  
 No hoodies

Currently if your child has P.E. they should wear their P.E. kit to school for that day.  
 If you are concerned about the cold weather, pupils may wear their blazer as an extra layer of clothing.



### Acceptable shoes flow diagram:



**Hair:**  
 No extreme styles / non natural colours.

**Shoes:**  
 Black leather or faux leather shoes or ankle boots only.  
 No canvas, no trainers, no logos.

**Black to go with the uniform.**  
 Leather to be weather resistant.



Uniform will be checked during the first line-up of the morning.

Pupils who are not wearing correct uniform will be sent home to either change or collect a part of their uniform that was missing

### Our Valued Partners



## Mobile phone use in school FAQs

### What will happen if my child is using their phone on the school premises or during the school day?

Staff will request that pupils hand their device(s) in, these will be stored in a secure place, in a padded envelope and will be clearly labelled ready for collection at the end of the same day. In an attempt to discourage use of electronic devices we will operate an escalated approach:

- Initial offences - Device handed-in, pupil can collect at the end of the same day, Parent/Carer informed.
- Repeated offences – Device handed-in, parent/carers must collect.
- Continued offences – Device handed-in, parent/carers must collect. Parent/carers to attend a meeting.



In the event of an exceptional circumstance, your child's Head of Year should be made aware and an individual solution will be applied.

### Can my child bring their phone/electronic device to school?

Yes of course, we ask that they are switched off and out of sight during the school day and when on the school premises.

### What if I can't collect my child's phone/electronic device?

That's ok, we will keep any devices secured at the school until it is convenient for you to collect.

### What will happen if my child refuses to hand in their electronic device/mobile phone?

This is something we all want to avoid and as such we will also have an escalated approach to this:

Discussion with Head of Year / SLT > time in the APC until handed in > exclusion

Please encourage your child to not use their device in school to avoid the above escalation, we are giving plenty of advance warning to avoid this.

### What happens if I need to speak to my child during the school day?

There are rare occasions whereby you may need to speak with your child for emergency reasons, if this is the case, please contact the school via the main number (02920 414243) and we will endeavour to pass on messages or collect your child to use a school phone. If we feel that your child needs to speak with you, we will provide a private space using a school phone to contact you.

### Can devices be used during breaks/lunches?

No, we want pupils to communicate with their friends, develop their social skills and be present with each other.

### I really find it hard to separate my child from their phone, can you help?

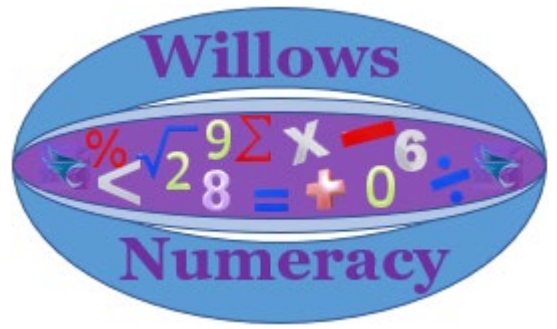
Yes, absolutely, we want our pupils to use their electronic devices responsibly and in moderation. We can work with you to put in place plans to avoid overuse and misuse and will support you in ensuring your child is meeting the school expectations. We will also be educating pupils on how to use devices responsibly and sharing further information on how parents/carers can monitor their child's use.

## Our Valued Partners

## Mathematics Department

### Numeracy Boost Session (NBS):

Using a variety of digital (e.g. TT-Rock Stars) and non-digital resources, all KS3 pupils will benefit from using laptops in Numeracy Boost Session to enrich their Mathematics skills; they are delivered fortnightly by Mathematics teachers. It is a great opportunity to support low abilities further and stretch high potential pupils



### Numeracy Competition Dates - KS3:

Year 9 - Wednesday 26th March 2024

Year 8 - Thursday 27th March 2024

Year 7 - Friday 28th March 2024

### **Junior UKMT Challenge – Year 7 and Year 8 MAT pupils:**

**Challenge date: 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025**

UKMT Challenge is an external Mathematics competition giving Year 7 and Year 8 MAT pupils the opportunity to tackle a variety of mathematical activities which inspire their love to problem solving. Relevant emails have been sent to pupils.

Below is the link to the UKMT website where pupils can familiarise themselves with the challenge and can practise as much as they need to increase their confidence:

<https://www.ukmt.org.uk/competition/solo/junior-mathematical-challenge/archive>

(Go to - View past papers)

For any related question, please contact Mrs Ait-Brahim at:

[Halima.Ait-Brahim@willows.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:Halima.Ait-Brahim@willows.cardiff.sch.uk)

Day	Activity	Room/Teacher
Tuesday	Y7, Y8 & Y9	G14 - Miss Santos
Tuesday	KS4	G15
Week 1 Only	Intermediate	Miss Wrennall
Tuesday	KS4	G17
Week 2 Only	Higher	Mrs Ait-Brahim
Wednesday	KS4	G19
Week 1 Only	Intermediate	Miss Koncar
Wednesday	Fun Maths (Chess club)	G20
Week 1 Only		Miss Higgins

### Our Valued Partners



**Numeracy Terms and Question of Week 14, starting 09/12/24:**

To help our pupils boost their mathematical vocabulary and Numeracy skills, The "Terms & Question of the week" will be emailed to them in a weekly basis.

Any questions, please email: [Halima.Ait-Brahim@willows.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:Halima.Ait-Brahim@willows.cardiff.sch.uk)

The solution to the actual weekly question will be emailed to pupils on **Monday** with the new question.

**Numeracy Answer of the week 13**

**Storage containers:**

A) Since the containers are the same height, the capacity of each will depend on the area of each base. By either using the formula area = length x width, or by drawing the bases on grid paper, we see that:

Area of the base of Container X =  $25 \times 18 = 450 \text{ cm}^2$ .  
 Area of the base of Container Y =  $20 \times 20 = 400 \text{ cm}^2$ .  
 Since the area of the base of Container X is greater than the area of the base of Container Y, that tells us Container X would hold more water.

B) To maximize the number of blocks in each container, Jillian can stack layers of blocks, where each layer is a rectangle made of blocks lying flat. The diagram below shows the largest rectangle of blocks that will fit in each container.

When we count the blocks, we see that  $6 \times 4 = 24$  blocks can fit in one layer in Container X, while  $5 \times 5 = 25$  blocks can fit in one layer in Container Y.

Therefore, Container Y can store more of these blocks than Container X.

**Numeracy Answer for week 13**

**Numeracy Question for week 14**

**Numeracy Question of the week 14**

**Pet Problem:**

There are 30 students in Ms. Chan's class. They were discussing their pets. They were asked three questions and the results are shown in the table below:

Question	Number of Students Who Answered Yes
Do you have at least one dog at home?	16
Do you have at least one cat at home?	19
Do you have both at least one cat and at least one dog at home?	11

How many students have neither cats nor dogs at home?  
 You may use a Venn diagram to help solve this problem.

**Numeracy Terms for week 14**

**Terms of the week 14**

**Mixed numbers, Proper and Improper Fractions:**

A fraction can be a proper fraction or an improper fraction. An improper fraction written as an integer with a fraction is called a mixed number.

**Proper Fraction:** A proper fraction has a numerator that is less than the denominator. In a diagram a proper fraction is shown as less than a whole shape.  $\frac{3}{5}$

**Improper Fraction:** An improper fraction has a numerator that is greater than the denominator. In a diagram an improper fraction is shown as greater than one whole shape.  $\frac{9}{4}$

**Mixed Number:** A mixed number is an integer written with a fraction. In a diagram a mixed number is shown as a combination of complete shapes and parts of a shape.  $3\frac{4}{5}$

$3\frac{1}{2}$

**Our Valued Partners**



## MathsWatch

All of our pupils' weekly Mathematics homework is accessible on MathsWatch, which can be found at <https://www.mathswatchvle.com/>. They must be completed by their given deadlines. Each set homework is open for a month, so that pupils can keep improving their scores. This will also help your child to revise and to practice the mathematics and numeracy skills, knowledge and understanding that they have been learning in class. There are videos available for each topic and interactive questions that they can try. Please ensure your child completes and submits their homework on time. Any outstanding homework must still be completed, and they should all aim to achieve 100% on them.



### Whole School Leaderboard

#	First Name	Surname	Year	Class
1	Emmanuel	Ogedengbe	7	7PL/Ma
2	Kashifa	Asif	7	7SO/Ma
3	Miqdad	Folorunsho	7	7PL/Ma

### Year Group Leaderboards

#	First Name	Surname	Year	Class
1	Emmanuel	Ogedengbe	7	7PL/Ma
2	Kashifa	Asif	7	7SO/Ma
3	Miqdad	Folorunsho	7	7PL/Ma

#	First Name	Surname	Year	Class
1	Grace	Seager	8	8SC/Ma
2	Aseel	Sumaily	8	7CY/Ma
3	Prince Uriel	Boleigha	8	8SC/Ma

#	First Name	Surname	Year	Class
1	Ishaan	Shine	9	9HP/Ma
2	Demilade	Ayo-Onipede	9	9HP/Ma
3	Sajel	Nasir	9	9HP/Ma

#	First Name	Surname	Year	Class
1	Gina	Kong	10	10CU/Ma
2	Ethan	Godwin	10	10GO/Ma
3	Asef	Alkharouf	10	10ME/Ma

#	First Name	Surname	Year	Class
1	Dominion	Adebote	11	11MC/Ma
2	Mohamad	Bouni	11	11MK/Ma
3	Ahmed	Obaed	11	11MC/Ma

## TimesTable Rockstars

Single numeracy boost sessions are provided to all our Year 7, 8 & 9 pupils on a fortnightly basis to enrich their Mathematical Skills, specifically with a focus on times tables. Pupils will be accessing their TTRS accounts and improving their knowledge of the times tables.



At home, pupils should log on to TTRS via their technological devices at home. There is also a phone app that they can download via Apple or Android, free of charge.

**All the pupils have 5-10minutes daily tasks** on there to help consolidate their times tables. It will also earn them coins to use for customising their own individual avatars. Similarly to MathsWatch, there will be a leaderboard and certificates to reward their efforts.

Please congratulate the **“Top 3 TTRS”**, who have improved their speed time in answering times tables questions! Keep practicing everyone!



For any login issues, please email Miss Santos at [dana.santos@willows.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:dana.santos@willows.cardiff.sch.uk)

### Our Valued Partners



## Community

You will find plenty of information on community and local goings-on at:

[The Community Noticeboard » Green Squirrel](#)



[Inksplott | Community Is Everything](#)

### Cardiff Salad Garden Community Research 2024

Cardiff Salad Garden has two community garden sites in Bute Park and Riverside Community Garden in Pontcanna Allotments.

They work to help people access good quality, locally-grown food, develop their physical and mental wellbeing and feel part of a supportive community.

Please could you take a few minutes to complete the survey below to share your views about how the project could develop.



<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdZM9dPoRZh5gIEUV7BLYmFSa2l1Zb4mrMR-smLsIKWPwzvnA/viewform>

**The Splott Community Volunteers** run a community breakfast on Thursday Mornings 8am – 10am in The STAR Centre, Splott Road, Splott CF24 2BZ.



If you have any of the following spare, please drop them off at the school reception so that we can help Splott Community Volunteers provide food for those in need:

- **Tins:** rice pudding, custard, tuna, chopped or plum tomatoes, soup, any meals in tins
- **Cereals:** corn flakes, bran flakes, rice crispies, shreddies, weetabix
- **Dried items:** pasta, rice, noodles

### The Tremorfa Community Pantry

The amazing Tremorfa Community Pantry are always busy finding ways to support the community. You can find them at:

**Tremorfa Community Hall, Tweedsmuir Road, CF24 2QZ.**



Our Valued Partners



## Craftitude - Creative Craft and Wellbeing

£15

Single Parents Wellbeing Rhieni Sengl

young person's project presents

**CRAFTITUDE!**

CREATIVE CRAFT & WELLBEING

6 SESSION COURSE

CLAY MODELLING  
EMOTIONS

DECORATING JENGA  
SAFE PEOPLE

TEXTILE KNOTTING  
CONFIDENCE

Learn techniques each week!

SEWING PILLOWS  
SLEEP

VISION BOARD/  
JOURNALLING  
BOUNDARIES

DRAWING/  
PAINTING  
SELF-CARE

Drinks & Snacks included!

Alternate Saturdays  
18th January - 29th March  
Churchill Way, Cardiff  
12.30-2.30pm

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE FROM A SINGLE PARENT FAMILY  
TO GET THE BEST OUT OF THE COURSE,  
PLEASE ATTEND ALL SESSIONS

BOOK YOUR PLACE AT  
SINGLEPARENTSWELLBEING.COM

There is a new **Craftitude** Series launching in January! Named by our young people!

### Craftitude! Is a Creative Craft and Wellbeing Series For 10-17 Year Olds from Single Parent Households

Dates: Alternate Saturdays, January 18th to 29th March

Time: 12.30-2.30pm

Place: The Hangout with Platform, Churchill Way, Cardiff CF10 2DY

Week 1: Intro - **Who am I? Self Care**

**Drawing/ Painting** with Getting to know yourself and each other

Week 2: **Emotions & Stress**

Work with **Clay** to learn stress-busting techniques! Enhance your creativity, Explore mental health tools and breathe your way to success.

Week 3: **Inner Voice and Confidence - Positive Thinking**

**Macrame Textile Knotting!** Conquer negative thoughts, name your inner critic, and harness the power of positivity with creative strategies!

Week 4: **Talking & Safe People - Communication and Support Networks**

**Decorate, decoupage and design your own Jenga** whilst discovering the importance of communication. Identify trusted individuals and support organizations.

Week 5: **Sleep** - Unlock Your Creative Potential, Sew your own way!

**Sew a pillow or Plush**, learning the benefits of quality sleep and learn to build a good routine to unleash your full potential!

Week 6: Future Toolkit **Journaling & Vision Boards**

Celebration of everything you've achieved and created over the series.

Experienced and compassionate facilitators who use supportive language with mental health management with creative skill development- Neurodivergent friendly!

Weekly Structure: Check in & Creative Session, Break and Mental Health Tool Advice, check out and take-home craft. **Drinks and Snacks at every session!**

Mental health & wellbeing through creative craft, building healthy relationships in a fun social and calm environment, using your own voice and expression through creative craft.

Book on here:

<https://SingleParentsWellbeing.as.me/craftitude>

£15 for 6 sessions, or £2.50 per week. Including take home keepsake and food. However, there are needs based, **FREE** spaces available too! Please email [julie@singleparentswellbeing.com](mailto:julie@singleparentswellbeing.com) to enquire.

Our Valued Partners



## SploTT Community Volunteers – Christmas Grotto

SploTT Community Volunteers are holding their Christmas Grotto at the Star Centre on the 21<sup>st</sup> December. With lots of fun and festivities, it'll be the perfect way to get you into the Christmas Spirit.

Raffle tickets for the prize draw, with some fantastic prizes, are available at the school's main office at £1 per ticket.



## Christmas Challenge

See if you can solve the Christmas puzzle! Each of the seven puzzles at the end of this newsletter will lead you to name of a UK Landmark

Use the names of these landmarks, and the map, to discover where people across all of the GCHQ locations will be this Christmas.

Scan the QR code to find out the answers.

Give it a go!

## Splo-down



Splo-down is a member-run community food cooperative open to residents of Adamsdown, SploTT, and Tremorfa. They buy food in bulk and use sliding-scale pricing so they can make good quality food accessible to everyone. They currently run a weekly stall 5-7pm every Wednesday where they sell veg boxes and run a zero-waste shop selling other food and household products such as rice, lentils, pasta, spices, and washing up liquid.

They try to source our products from sustainable and ethical suppliers as much as possible. For any questions, please email them at:

[ask@splo-down.org](mailto:ask@splo-down.org)

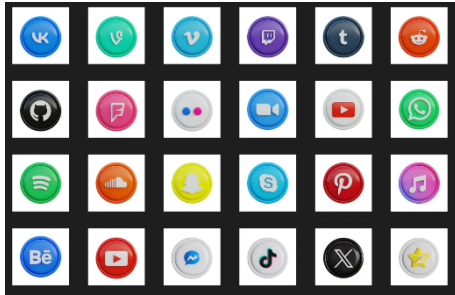
## Our Valued Partners





## Social Media

Social media is increasingly playing a role in the lives of our pupils and for the majority of time, this is a positive thing. However, we are increasingly seeing how social media can have quite a negative impact on our pupils and in some cases, the impact has been quite significant.



We need to work together to harness all of the positive aspects of social media (and there are many) and to cancel out those aspects which can do harm. Whilst it is easy to focus on the fact that the age guideline for most sites is 13, it is also recognised how difficult it is to stop children from accessing these especially when all of their friends are using a certain platform.

Perhaps a more realistic place to start is to ensure that, if social media sites are to be used then they are set up in a way which helps to protect privacy. For example, most platforms allow you to:

- **set an account to private** (many of our pupils don't do this and some have been approached by people they don't know)
- **not allow friend requests** – again, some pupils have had friend requests from unknown users
- **hide the user's location** – worryingly, so many pupils share their location and with the development of ever more sophisticated software, it is becoming relatively easy to pinpoint exactly where the social media account is being used from (without sharing any address details).

Changing the settings to not allow the issues to happen takes a few minutes and can significantly improve the level of online safety when accessing social media. The NSPCC site 'Keeping children safe online' really is excellent and I would urge all families to access this: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

## South Wales Police - Sextortion

We have been informed that South Wales Police are concerned about the rapidly growing number of 'sexortion' cases involving young people across Wales.

This is where individuals are targeted and threatened that inappropriate images of themselves that have been previously uploaded will be shared unless money is sent. This is obviously extremely worrying and the first action must be to ensure that no such photographs or videos exist – and, if they do so, they must be deleted immediately.

The advice to families from South Wales Police is as follows:


- Don't pay, do stop contact and block: you may be tempted to pay, but there is no guarantee that this will stop the threats. As the offender's motive is to get money, once you have shown you can pay, they will likely ask for more and blackmail may continue. If you have paid, don't panic but don't pay anything more. Help your child to stop all communication with the offender and block them on any accounts that they have been contacted on.
- Avoid deleting anything: try not to delete anything that could be used as evidence such as messages, images, telephone numbers, and bank account details.
- Report to the police or CEOP: call 101 or 999 if there is an immediate risk of harm to your child. Or you can use the [CEOP Safety Centre](#) to report any online blackmail attempts.

The NSPCC website is also a very good source of information and support should you require it.

Our Valued Partners

## Learning Lounge & Families

### Adult Learning in the Learning Lounge



**ACCREDITED COURSE**

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO UNDERSTAND HOW A CHILD'S BRAIN DEVELOPS AND HOW THIS CAN EFFECT THEIR EDUCATION?**

**HAVE YOU ALREADY COMPLETED CHILD PSYCHOLOGY LEVEL 1 WITH US?**

Adult Learning will be running the following course at Willows High School starting in January 2025

**Developmental Psychology Level 2**

**Wednesday 15th January 9.30-11.30**

Dygio Codiann / Adult Learning



**MONEY MANAGEMENT WITH THE MULTIPLY TEAM**

**Mondays Starting on 13th January 3 weeks 10am - 2pm Willows High School Learning Lounge**

**YOU WILL...**

- Understand the need for personal budgets and money management.
- Learn who to contact for support with household bills.
- Gain a certificate in Agored Money Management - Level Ent-y 3

Contact your Family Engagement Officer to book your space:

Karen Hunt: [karen.hunt@willows.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:karen.hunt@willows.cardiff.sch.uk) 07707818093

### Willows Pantry

We are working with the MCKS Charitable Foundation UK to reduce the instances of food poverty in our area. We are provided with a donation on a fortnightly basis which can then be distributed amongst our community.

There is no need to access the school through the Main Reception, if you'd like to engage with this service, go straight to the Learning Lounge on a Monday between 10am - 1pm, if you would like to use the pantry at any other time, please email Karen Hunt who will be happy to help

[karen.hunt@willows.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:karen.hunt@willows.cardiff.sch.uk)




**Our School Pantry Cupboard is proudly supported by MCKS Charitable Foundation UK**



### Citizens Advice

A reminder that members of our community can make appointments with staff from the Citizens' Advice at our Learning Lounge. They can provide advice of a range of topics such as housing, benefits and legal matters. To make an appointment, please e-mail the school using [karen.hunt@willows.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:karen.hunt@willows.cardiff.sch.uk) or by phone using 07733889062

### Our Valued Partners



## Wellbeing in school

At Willows High School, we aim to promote positive mental health and wellbeing for our whole school community; pupils, staff and families, and recognise how important mental health and emotional wellbeing is to our lives in just the same way as physical health. We recognise that children's mental health is a crucial factor in their overall wellbeing and can affect their learning and achievement. All children go through ups and downs through their school career/life and some face significant life events.

Our aim is to help develop the protective factors which build resilience to mental health problems and be a school where:

- All pupils are valued
- Pupils have a sense of belonging and feel safe
- Pupils feel able to talk openly with trusted adults about their problems without feeling any stigma
- Positive mental health is promoted and valued
- Bullying is not tolerated

## Pupils

If you feel you need some support with your wellbeing we want to help and there are many places to go: Staff in the Learning Lounge are here to look after your wellbeing so please come down for a confidential chat.

If you are a young carer and feel you need more support or would like to know about more opportunities out there for you, Ms. Mackintosh, our Safeguarding Officer, can provide information on what is available.

Your Head of Year or any member of the Welfare Team are there to support you. You can find them at line-up time, in the welfare office or anywhere around the school.

A member of staff you trust. All members of staff will be there for you. If you want to confide in someone please do and they will help get you the support you need.

**Are you a parent who has had depression or struggled with low mood?**  
Do you have a child aged 13-19?

**Our study will...**  
offer young people the opportunity to learn wellbeing skills through an online cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) group program

**and...**  
offer additional support to parents with depressive symptoms

Receive up to £160 in vouchers

**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU**  
Scan the QR code to register your interest in taking part.

Please get in touch:  
SWELL@cardiff.ac.uk  
07720 145111

NHS Wellson Cardiff Cardiff Council

## Parents and Families

We want to help you as best we can and there is a lot of support out there for parents and families.

Please contact the school using [karen.hunt@willows.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:karen.hunt@willows.cardiff.sch.uk) or by phone using 07733889062 if you need any information on who you can turn to.

Your child's Head of Year and the Welfare Team can also help. Please do not suffer alone. Reach out to us.

## Our Valued Partners



## Allergies

At Willows, we are very conscious of pupil and staff sensitivity to the 14 food allergens. The food that our canteen produces is clearly labelled and the pupil information displayed at the tills identifies any allergies that the pupil in front of them has.

We do have a number of staff and pupils who have strong reactions to certain allergens, **particularly nuts**, so we ask for the support of all families to be aware of what your child is bringing into school and be sympathetic to the sensitivities of our school community.

We cannot 100% guarantee that the school is nut free, it is not possible to check what food is brought into school by every pupil, every day. We ask for your support in ensuring that the risks of allergic reactions are minimised.

For more information on allergies, please visit <https://www.allergyuk.org/>.



## Safeguarding

A reminder that the school safeguarding lead is Danielle MacKintosh. If you are worried or concerned about a child and any time (including over the holidays) then please e-mail her on [Danielle.MacKintosh@willows.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:Danielle.MacKintosh@willows.cardiff.sch.uk) If you are a pupil that needs help, please also contact Danielle via this e-mail address.

## Chat Health

A reminder that all secondary school pupils can text the school nurse service for any medical support and advice. This may be useful if your child is too anxious or embarrassed to talk to a doctor in the first instance. Please chat about this with your child and make them aware of the service and number (below):

**IF YOU'RE 11-19 YEARS OLD TEXT YOUR SCHOOL NURSE ON 07520 615718 FOR CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE AND SUPPORT**

We help young people with all kinds of things like...

**BULLYING** **HEALTHY EATING**  
**SMOKING** **CHANGES TO YOUR BODY**  
**EMOTIONAL WELLBEING** **DRUGS**  
**FEELING SAD OR ANGRY**  
**EXAM ALCOHOL**  
**STRESS RELATIONSHIPS**

We do not usually inform your parents, teachers or anyone else if you contact the school nurse. We might inform someone if we were concerned about your safety, but we would usually speak to you first. Your message and details can be seen by other teachers staff who follow the same confidentiality rules. We aim to reply to your text on one working day and you should get an immediate bounce back to confirm we received your text. Texts will not be sent on school or national working hours. If you need help before you have back to school, contact a member of school staff or your doctor. Our text number does not receive messages on weekends or bank holidays. The support message team do not have a number only contact with our health messages that from services, international mobile numbers and some 'national roaming' mobile apps. Forward the school nurse from sending messages to you by text 111P to our number. Please report your school mobile phone policy. Messages are charged at your usual rate.

## Cardiff Foodbank

Willows High School is a partner agency for Cardiff Foodbank.

If you need a Foodbank Voucher please contact the school using [karen.hunt@willows.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:karen.hunt@willows.cardiff.sch.uk) or by phone using 07733889062. Where we can help, we will do so confidentially.

## Our Valued Partners



## Period Dignity

We have been working hard to reduce the stigma over periods for the last two years in line with all Wales objectives. We are hoping to achieve the 'Period Standard' award soon. Please take a few moments to familiarise yourself with the document featured in the link below:

<https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2023-02/period-dignity-strategic-action-plan-young-people%27s-version.pdf>

Just a reminder that school can provide tampons, pads, menstrual cups and period pants for pupils which are provided by the LA. Please direct pupils to form tutors, the Welfare Office, the Main Office or to Mrs. Bubbins if you think they may need help with this.

All Year 8 pupils received a 'Period Dignity' workshop from qualified advisors from Brook.

We would like to hear your views on improving period provision. We have implemented many of your ideas from our last survey and value your opinions. The link to the Parent Questionnaire is here:

<https://forms.office.com/e/RBkJKggA1Z>

Likewise, we would like more feedback from our pupils in this area. The link to the Pupil Questionnaire is here:

<https://forms.office.com/e/i2wscPQX7s>

Please take time to help us, help you have a dignified period.

A reminder that pupils can collect free period products from school at any time. Pupils can ask any trusted adult for these or can access them in the school office, from Mrs. Bubbins or from the Welfare Office.

## Cardiff Youth Service

Cardiff Youth Service can support young people on a variety of topics such as emotional health, housing, finance and help lines. More information can be found on their website:

<http://cardiffyouthservices.wales/>

## Key Services

Here is a reminder of some of the key services available for young people and their families:

- **School nurse** – pupils can text 07520615718 or 'chat' on 'Chathealth.NHS.UK' for confidential advice and support.
- **Family Gateway** – 03000133133 – provides advice for families no matter how big or small the problem.
- **Food Bank** - our nearest food bank can be found at St. Saviours Church on Splott Road. For dates and times, go to <https://cardiff.foodbank.org.uk/>
- **Period Poverty** – Please e-mail Mrs. Bubbins at [Kelly.Bubbins@willows.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:Kelly.Bubbins@willows.cardiff.sch.uk) if you need feminine hygiene products and we'll do our best to help.



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## Careers Wales

Newsletter for parents and carers of children in mainstream education:

[https://publicfiles.careerswales.gov.wales/cw-marketing/newsletter\\_parents\\_autumn.pdf](https://publicfiles.careerswales.gov.wales/cw-marketing/newsletter_parents_autumn.pdf)

Newsletter for parents and carers of children with additional learning needs:

[https://publicfiles.careerswales.gov.wales/cw-marketing/newsletter\\_parents\\_autumn\\_aln.pdf](https://publicfiles.careerswales.gov.wales/cw-marketing/newsletter_parents_autumn_aln.pdf)



## Diolch

As always, thank you for your support. If there are any problems, we would appreciate that you contact the relevant person in school straight away rather than using social media platforms. We will always try our best to reach a solution and this will ensure your concern is seen and avoid any misinformation and miscommunication.

Please could parents refrain from turning up at the school reception without an appointment. Heads of Year, Teachers and Support Staff are incredibly busy during the school day looking after our pupils. If there is a problem, please arrange an appointment with your child's Head of Year in the first instance. To organise this, please ring the school reception on 029 20414243.

Alternatively, you can e-mail the relevant member of staff, details below:

<b>Headteacher</b>	Mr. Christopher Norman	Christopher.Norman@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk
<b>Welfare Manager</b>	Miss. Kimberly Williams	Kimberly.Williams@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk
<b>Year 7 – Head of Year</b>	Miss Savannah Reed	Savannah.Reed@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk
<b>Year 7 – Leadership Link</b>	Mr. Marcello Lo Celso	Marcello.Locelso@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk
<b>Year 8 – Head of Year</b>	Miss Marcella Sansom	Marcella.Sansom@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk
<b>Year 8 – Leadership Link</b>	Mr. Jack Smith	Jack.Smith@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk
<b>Year 9 – Head of Year</b>	Mrs. Roisin Cherrett	Roisin.Cherrett@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk
<b>Year 9 – Leadership Link</b>	Mrs. Kelly Bubbins	Kelly.Bubbins@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk
<b>Year 10 – Head of Year</b>	Mrs. Tara David	Tara.David@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk
<b>Year 10 – Leadership Link</b>	Mrs. Suzie Warren	Suzie.Warren@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk
<b>Year 11 – Head of Year</b>	Mrs. Catherine Watkins	Catherine.Watkins@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk
<b>Year 11 – Leadership Link</b>	Mr. Simon Thomas	Simon.Thomas@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk
<b>Edison</b>	Ms. Helen Amos	Helen.Amos@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk
<b>Tesla</b>	Ms. Jane Crawshaw	Jane.Crawshaw@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk
<b>Family Engagement Officer</b>	Mrs. Karen Hunt	Karen.Hunt@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk
<b>SRB Leader</b>	Mrs. Zahra Nurmohamed	Zahra.Nurmohamed@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk

By working together, we can ensure your child's success.

## Team Willows

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**SUPPORT  
OUR LOTTERY  
TODAY**

**£1 per  
week**

**Weekly  
cash prizes**

**£25,000  
jackpot**



**Splitting the £1.00**

**How it works...**

It's simple—choose 6 numbers between 0-9 and if they match the weekly lottery draw, you win great prizes. One of our players will win a cash prize every week, maybe even the £25k jackpot! Tickets cost just £1 per week and the proceeds are donated to Willows High School

Every Saturday at 8pm the numbers are drawn and posted online. Winners are notified by email and winnings paid into the account of your choice.

The easiest way to join our lottery is online by direct debit or debit card.

**It's so easy to join and will make a real difference to Willows High School**



- 40p goes to our school
- 36p goes to cash prizes
- 20p goes to admin costs
- 4p goes to VAT

**The Maths...** 100 tickets sold a week means  
= £30 weekly cash prize  
= £2,080 a year for our school



**Buy A Ticket**



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# The Willows Menu

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Meal of the day</b> £3.40	Butternut squash, courgette, feta and basil pasta Focaccia garlic bread Pomegranate salad pot	Halal chicken sausage with vegetable mash and gravy	Oven baked lemon chicken Herb roasted new potatoes and Mediterranean vegetables  Alt: Rice	Jerk chicken with Mediterranean vegetable rice and peas	Fish, chips and beans  Salmon fishcake  Alt: ½ Jacket potato
<b>Vegetarian option</b>	Butternut squash, courgette, feta and basil pasta Garlic bread	Vegetarian sausage bake with vegetable mash and gravy	Vegan meat balls with lemon cream sauce	Asian influenced lentil and chickpea dhal with pitta bread	Pitta kebab with mint yogurt
<b>Salad of the day</b>	Pomegranate salad	Salad of the day	Salad of the day	Salad of the day	Salad of the day
<b>Dessert</b>	Toffee and banana sponge with custard	Vanilla cheesecake	Orange jelly fruit pot	Brownie	Apple and berry crumble
<b>Hot snack</b>	Cheeseburger (£1.75)	Southern fried chicken burger (£2.75)	Calzone (£1.75)	Hotdog (£2.60)	Pitta kebab with mint yogurt (£2.50)
<b>Hot wrap</b>	Cheese burrito (£3.00)	Reggae Reggae chicken (£3.00)	Garlic mayo chicken (£3.00)	Nandos chicken (£3.00)	Sweet chilli Chicken (£3.00)
<b>Everyday snack</b>	Jacket potato (£2.50)  Tuna mayonnaise Cheese Beans (£2.80)	Jacket potato (£2.50)  Tuna mayonnaise Cheese Beans (£2.80)	Jacket potato (£2.50)  Tuna mayonnaise Cheese Beans (£2.80)	Jacket potato (£2.50)  Tuna mayonnaise Cheese Beans (£2.80)	Jacket potato (£2.50)  Tuna mayonnaise Cheese Beans (£2.80)

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## Extra-Curricular Activities 2024 – 2025 (Autumn Term)

	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
<b>Before school</b>	8.45 – 9.00 am Free breakfast for all years	8.45 – 9.00 am Free breakfast for all years	8.45 – 9.00 am Free breakfast for all years	8.45 – 9.00 am Free breakfast for all years	8.45 – 9.00 am Free breakfast for all years
<b>Lesson time</b>	Individual Instrumental lessons TBC with individuals.	Individual Instrumental lessons TBC with individuals.	Individual Instrumental lessons TBC with individuals.	Individual Instrumental lessons TBC with individuals.	Individual Instrumental lessons TBC with individuals.
<b>After school</b>	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Library open for homework	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Library open for homework	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Library open for homework	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Library open for homework	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Library open for homework
	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Wellbeing Art and Craft PAWB – SP / OA	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Group Instrumental lessons PAC – FG	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Group Instrumental lessons PAC - FG	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Group Instrumental lessons PAC - FG	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Book Club NLC – F3
		3.10 – 4.00 pm: Mini robot programming AH – G12	Week 2 – 3.10 – 4.00 pm: Art Club EJ – F4	Week 1 - 3.10 – 4.00 pm: LGBTQIA+ Club EJ – F5	
		3.10 – 4.00 pm: Science Club CB – S7	3.10 – 4.00 pm: 'A Night at the Musicals' Rehearsals PAC / Theatre – SG, JM, SR	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Eco-Committee JK – G19	
		3.10 – 4.00 pm: Dungeons and Dragons NH – S9	Week 1 - 3.10 – 4.00 pm: Fun Maths (Chess Club) KH – G20	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Creative Writing Club FS – F9	
		Week 1 - 3.10 – 4.00 pm: Welsh Club – Y7, Y8 and Y9 AGR – G7	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Debate Club JEN – F11	3.10 – 4.00 pm: K-Pop Club DS – G14 / theatre	
		Week 2 – 3.10 – 4.00 pm: Ciw Cymraeg AGR - G7		3.10 – 4.00 pm: 'Beads by Willows' Jewellery Making Club CC – F9	
		3.10 – 4.00 pm: Y7, 8 and 9 Maths DS – G14			

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## Extra-Curricular Activities 2024 – 2025 (Autumn Term)

### PE Extra-Curricular Sport Programme:

Venue	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Gym		KS4+KS3 Boys Basketball KS4+KS3 Girls Basketball AR/MC	All Girls Fitness Week 2 only SM	KS4+KS3 Boys Basketball KS4+KS3 Girls Basketball AR/MC	
Barn		KS4+KS3 Boys Basketball KS4+KS3 Girls Basketball AR/MC	<b>Coming Soon</b> Cricket Week 2 only SHM/RK	KS4+KS3 Boys Basketball KS4+KS3 Girls Basketball AR/MC	
3G	KS3 Boys Football (Fixtures tbc) JLS – JG - SJ	KS3 Boys Football (Training) JG – SJ	KS3 Boys Football (Fixtures tbc) JLS – JG - SJ	KS3+KS4 Girls Football KH/NA/SM	KS3 Boys Football (Fixtures tbc) JLS – SJ - JG
Pitch 1				KS3 Boys Football (Fixtures tbc) JLS – JG - SJ	
Rugby Pitch		Cross Country Autumn Term SM			
CV/Weights Room					
Muga			<b>Coming Soon</b> Cricket Week 2 only SHM/RK		
Dance Studio					

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## Years 10 & 11 Revision Timetable 2024 – 2025

WEEK 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
After school	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Library open for homework. STAR Hub library open until 6.00 pm	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Library open for homework. STAR Hub library open until 6.00pm	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Library open for homework. STAR hub library open until 7.00 pm	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Library open for homework. STAR Hub library open until 6.00pm	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Library open for homework. STAR Hub library open until 6.00pm
	<b>Science Revision (See Time-table below)</b>	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Y10 and Y11 Intermediate Maths Miss Wrennal – G15	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Y10 and Y11 Intermediate Maths Miss Koncar – G19	3.10 – 4.00 pm: French Revision with your French teacher	
		3.10 – 4.00 pm: Y7, 8 and 9 Maths Miss Santos – G14	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Y7, 8 and 9 Maths Miss Higgins – G20	3.10 – 4.00 pm: English Revision Mrs. Lo Celso (F3)	
		3.10 – 4.00 pm: French Revision with your French teacher.	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Y11 Media Studies revision Mrs. Bubbins – G25	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Y11 RE revision Ms. Guilfoyle (S10)	
		3.10 – 4.00 pm: Y11 History Revision (after Christmas) Y10 History Revision (after Feb half-term) Mr. Henwood (S9)	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Hospitality and Catering Revision Ms. Davies (G4)		
		3.10 – 4.00 pm: Y10 RE revision Ms. Guilfoyle (S10)	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Y11 Computer Science Unit 2 support Miss Charles – G13		
		3.10 -4.00pm Art GCSE A* Masterclass Ms Elkes-Jones (F2)	Starting 09/10/24 – 3.10 – 4.00 pm Product Design catch up Mr. Konten (G2)		

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## Years 10 & 11 Revision Timetable 2024 – 2025

WEEK 2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
After school	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Library open for homework. STAR Hub library open until 6.00 pm	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Library open for homework. STAR Hub library open until 6.00pm	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Library open for homework. STAR hub library open until 7.00 pm	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Library open for homework. STAR Hub library open until 6.00pm	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Library open for homework. STAR Hub library open until 6.00pm
	<b>STAFF MEETING</b>	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Y11 Higher Tier Maths Ms. Ait-Brahim (G17)	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Y11 Media Studies revision Mrs. Bubbins (G25)	3.10 – 4.00 pm: French Revision with your French teacher.	
		3.10 – 4.00 pm: French Revision with your French teacher.	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Y10 and Y11 Art and Photography catch-up Ms Elkes-Jones (F2) and Ms Jones (F4)	3.10 – 4.00 pm: English Revision Mrs. Lo Celso (F3)	
		3.10 – 4.00 pm: Y11 RE revision Miss.Guilfoyle (S10)	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Y11 Computer Science Unit 2 support Miss Charles (G13)	3.10 – 4.00 pm: Y11 RE revision Ms. Guilfoyle (S10)	
		3.10 – 4.00 pm: Y11 History Revision (after Christmas) Y10 History Revision (after Feb half-term) Mr. Henwood (S9)			

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**Science Revision 2024 – 2025 (Up to Christmas):**

Date	Year 10	Year 11
16/09/2024	Biology	Chemistry
23/09/2024	Physics	Biology
30/09/2024	Chemistry	Physics
07/10/2024	Biology	Chemistry
14/10/2024	Physics	Biology
21/10/2024	Chemistry	Physics
28/10/2024	<b>Half Term</b>	<b>Half Term</b>
04/11/2024	Biology	Chemistry
11/11/2024	Physics	Biology
18/11/2024	Chemistry	Physics
25/11/2024	Biology	Chemistry
02/12/2024	Physics	Biology
09/12/2024	Chemistry	Physics
16/12/2024	Biology	Chemistry

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**The GCHQ Christmas Challenge**

Each of the seven puzzles below will lead you to the name of a UK landmark. Use the names of these landmarks, and the front cover of the card, to discover what people across all of our GCHQ locations will be this Christmas.

**1**

What does this say?



**4**

Solve the clues. Only write in each square the single letter, if any, which appears in both the across answer and the down answer.

	Indian butter (4)			
	Voidmort, or ___ Ariel (4)			
	Football anti-racism campaign (4, 2, 3)			
	Woodwind reed instrument (7)			
Material that jeans are made from (5)				
Slang word for food (from a pub?) (4)				
Latin dance (3-3-3)				
Life ___ free ___ or hair ___ (5)				

**2**

What are you left with once you've removed the award, carrier, character, programme, route, and safety guide?

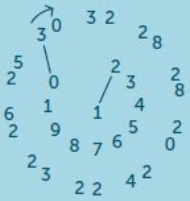
Black	Brick	Badge
Pink	Cross	Bag
Blue	Panther	Code
Brown	Paper	Hood
Green	Peter	Road
Yellow	Pool	Show
Red	Riding	Tower

**5**

Replace the words in brackets: An American (soldier) named Joe said that avoiding a huge colony of (insects) was the (basis) of him losing his (path).

**6**

We wrote the numbers 1-20 in order below, but made some mistakes. Calculate how far off we were.



**3**

Complete the sequences:  
TROI, DEUX, \_\_\_  
II, III, \_\_\_ V  
OD, \_\_\_ IM  
QG, RH, \_\_\_  
QW, ER, \_\_\_  
JOAN, \_\_\_ ARC  
DLA, NOD, \_\_\_ DLO  
GRE, AT, \_\_\_ TA, IN  
KNO, WLE, \_\_\_

**7**

PERHAPS READING the start of this substitution cipher will help you solve it.  
ISKGWIM KSWEBDU BN DFN LBIGSKSE BM IKBCWKQBQX W QSWEBDU BDEBLWNBFDF NF XFO  
MFQPBUDU NGBM WECBNNSEQX ESPBFOM BDBNBWQGX ODKSWEWAQS CSMWUUS.

Follow us or scan the QR code to find the answers soon.  
www.gchq.gov.uk/xmas2024

@GCHQ

**The GCHQ Christmas Challenge**



- 1, 2, 3, 4
- 11, 7, 5, 2
- 6, 14, 8, 10
- 20, 19, 11, 15
- 18, 4, 6, 11
- 16, 4, 5, 6
- 4, 9, 2, 6

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