



















Facebook: @willowshighcardiff Instagram: @willowshighcardiff X: @willowshigh

Weekly Newsletter - 24.10.2025

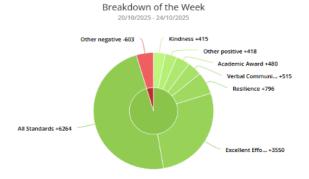
Hello! مرحباً! Ahoj! Ola! Dzień dobry! Salut! Helo!



Use Google Translate to change to your preferred language.

Belong, Believe, Achieve:

This week, our pupils have been learning about Diwali, completing their English, History & Drama NEAs, taking part in careers talks and workshops, visiting Caerphilly Castle & Crafts in the Bay, they attended a Diwali cultural breakfast, a Halloween disco and an evening to celebrate African culture.



Merits: 20.10.2025-24.10.2025.

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	3712	7Markova	Harri Williams
Year 8	2295	8Cavendish	Riley Shirley/Rana Abdelhaleem
Year 9	2389	9Beethoven	Mylo Ryder
Year 10	2044	10Hepworth	Daniel Conka
Year 11	1998	11Curie	Murishidat Bakare

Dates for your Diary:

25th October – 2nd November – Half Term Break

3rd November – All pupils return to school

4th November – GCSE Numeracy Exam (Unit 1)

4th November – Year 10 Careers Carousel

6th November – GCSE Numeracy (Unit 2)

6th November – Debate Mate Launch

14th November – GCSE Art Museum Trip

19th November – International Mens' Day Event

20th November - Year 11 Parents' Evening























School news

9am start

Please would you remind your child that the start of the school day is 9am. We expect all pupils to be in their Line-up at this time. It is an important start to the day where we pass on necessary information, check that everyone is ready to learn and where we can all reflect on issues that affect us all.



Social Media



Please follow us on Instagram by scanning the QR code or searching WillowsHighCardiff to keep up to date with all the brilliant things we do!

@WILLOWSHIGHCARDIFF

Year 9 SEREN Debate Trip to County Hall

Our Year 9 pupils recently took part in an exciting debate event at County Hall, where they had the incredible opportunity to speak in the prestigious council chamber. Competing against other schools and presenting in front of the Lord Mayor and three councillors, the team performed exceptionally well. Their confidence, clarity, and teamwork were praised by the councillors, who shared fantastic feedback about how impressive and articulate our pupils were throughout the debate.

We have lots of events coming up - if you are interested in joining the debate club, please contact Ms Nelms. The club is starting after half-term every Tuesday at 3.15pm!



Halloween

Years 10 & 11 had a fantastic Halloween party filled with fun and excitement! The atmosphere was truly Willows-tastic, with pupils enjoying dancing and singing with joyful energy. The whole event was a brilliant celebration of Halloween spirit. Everyone had a blast.













Our Valued Partners





















Semi-Conductors Workshop

This week, the pupils in Year 9 worked with two visitors, Bradley and Ellie, from a company called lungo Solutions. The aim of the workshop was to understand what a semi-conductor is, and to realise how important they are in our daily lives. Semiconductors are essential components in modern electronics, used in a wide range of applications including computers, smartphones, solar panels, and various consumer and industrial devices.

As part of the project, the pupils were firstly shown, then tried on, the protective clothing and equipment that is used in the semi-conductor industry. Whilst fully dressed up, they were then set a task to replicate what it would be like to work in such conditions.









What made this project even more special, is that lungo Solutions is owned by a former pupil of Willows High School, Jessica Jones, who became the first woman to win the Young Engineer of the Year Award.

Many thanks to Jessica for setting up this project

Mining Engineer Talk



This week, Year 11 pupils were given another Employer Tutor Time Talk. This week's visitor was Francois Nell, from SRK Consulting. He is a mining engineer who explained to the pupils, what the mining industry involves and what he does on a daily basis. The pupils were surprised by how many different roles exist in the mining industry. He then gave them examples of different routes into the industry, such as Science A Levels and/or BTEC.

As always, there was a lot of interest from the pupils, who listened intently to the talk.

Many thinks to Francois, and to Adrian Cole, from Careers Wales for organising the talk.





















Year 11 Prom

Our pupils work hard all year, and we want to give them the prom night they deserve! We're raising funds for tickets, decorations and an inclusive celebration where everyone can attend and no one left out.

Donate or share our GoFundMe QR code to support our school's prom dream!



Uniform Recycling



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!





The-Little-Mermaid-

Rehearsal-Schedule¶

Day¤	Cast¤	Scenez
Tuesday-7 th -October¶	Whole-Cast¶	Under-the-Sea¶
Until-4.10¶	Prince-Eric-Auditions	Singing-¤
X		
9	Whole-Cast-¤	Under-the-Sea¶
Tuesday-14 th -October¶		Singing∙¤
Until-4.10¤		
9	Whole-Cast-¶	Scene-1-¶
Tuesday-21st-October¶	Ħ	Fathoms-Below-¶
Until-4.10¤		Singing·¶
		×
9	1	¶
Half-Term¶	Half-Term¶	Half-Term¶
Ħ	Ħ	Ħ
¶	King-Triton-¶	Scene-2¶
Tuesday-4 th -November-¶	Sebastian¶	Daughters-of-Triton¶
Until·4.30¶	(Seahorse)·¶	Scene-3-¶
Ħ	Mersisters¶	Human-Stuff¤
	Ariel¶	
	Sebastian¶	
	Flounder¶	
	Scuttle-¤	
9	Whole-Cast¤	Scene-1-¶
Tuesday-11 th -November-¶		Fathoms-Below-¶
Until-4.10¤		Singing/Blocking¤
1	Ursula¶	Scene-4-¶
Tuesday-18 th -November-¶	Flotsam¶	Scene-5¶
Until-4.10¤	Jetsam¶	Blocking¤
	Ariel¶	
	Sebastian¶	
	King-Triton¤	
Tuesday-25h-November-¶	Whole-Cast-¤	Scene-6-¶
Until-4.30-¤		Under the Sea¶
		Blocking

School Production - The Little Mermaid

Our Little Mermaid Rehearsals are under full swing! We can't wait for you to see it.

Look out for ticket information coming soon.



























New build

Every week sees us getting closer and closer to moving into the new school.

You can see regular photo updates on our website:

www.willowshighschool.wales

























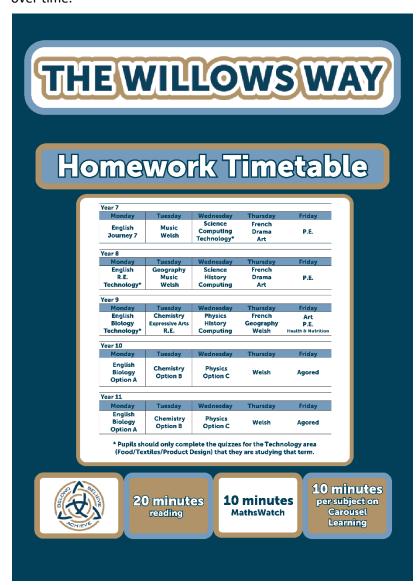
Homework: Carousel Learning

We're excited to share that Carousel Learning is up and running smoothly for the new academic year!

This fantastic online platform is dedicated to homework for all students at Willows and is designed to support their learning both in and out of the classroom.



Each week, students will be set five questions tailored to their specific topics. These short, focused tasks help reinforce lesson content and prepare students for their GCSEs, building confidence and knowledge over time.



We encourage all students to engage with Carousel Learning regularly and make the most of this valuable resource.

We're pleased to share students now have access to Carousel Learning in the library after school until 4pm, with support from Miss Davies.

This provides a quiet and focused environment for completing weekly homework tasks and reinforcing learning.

For students who may struggle to access the platform online, the library also offers a wide range of knowledge organisers to help them stay up to date with their studies.

To encourage engagement, students will be rewarded and **praised** for completing their work. Miss Davies will be monitoring progress weekly and reporting back to teachers to ensure every student is supported in their learning journey

Willows Homework Small Tasks, Big Impact!





















Textiles Masterclass at Craft in the Bay



Year 10 Pupils took part in Inspiring Textiles Masterclass at Craft in the Bay.

A group of enthusiastic Year 10 pupils attended a Textiles Masterclass workshop at Craft in the Bay, hosted by Guild Members Lynda Shell and Claire Cawte. The workshop provided a unique opportunity for students to deepen their understanding of textile art through hands-on learning and expert guidance.

During the session, pupils explored the creative processes of felting and hand appliqué, gaining valuable skills in fabric manipulation and design. Lynda introduced intricate techniques in stitched textiles, while Claire shared her expertise in natural materials and ecofriendly practices.



The workshop was a fantastic chance for students experiment with texture, colour, and composition in a professional studio setting. It sparked fresh inspiration and confidence in their artistic abilities, and many left with ideas for future projects.





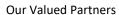


African Culture Night.

We held an African Culture night on Thursday, African Culture Night is a joyful celebration where pupils come together to honour the rich and diverse traditions of the African continent. Through vibrant dance performances, music, storytelling, and cultural displays, students showcase the beauty and spirit of African heritage. The event creates a space for unity and pride, allowing young people to connect with their roots and learn from one another. It's a night filled with rhythm, colour, and community, where culture is not only celebrated but lived through movement, expression, and shared joy.































September 2025

Help keep your child well this winter - make sure they have their flu vaccine.

Dear parent or guardian,

The School Nursing Team will visit your child's school soon. It's very important to protect your child from flu, to make sure they stay as healthy as possible.

Click here to fill in and return the online consent form as soon as possible and at least 5 days before the flu school session.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=uChWuyjigkCoVkM8ntyProwc0tRo7SIFodPDo7 y1M5RUQ1BFV0hZQkcwV0c4UzNWQjMzS01SVFI1Ri4u



Further information and school dates can be found on the website below:

Flu vaccine in schools: information for parents - Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

NHS recommends that your child has a flu vaccination every year.

We welcome correspondence and phone calls in Welsh. We will respond to correspondence in Welsh without delay.

Yours faithfully,

School Nursing Immunisation Team

Riverside Health Centre

Email: Immunisation.CavuhbSchoolNursing@wales.nhs.uk

Tel: 02920 907661/664

After you have returned the consent form, please contact the School Nursing Immunisation Team on 02920 907661/664 before the vaccination session if:

- · there are any changes to your child's health, or
- · their asthma medication is increased, or
- they are prescribed oral steroids, or
- they become wheezy.























By law, an e-bike cannot propel a rider unless they are pedalling as well. If you see what you think is an e-bike and the rider isn't pedalling, it is classed as an electric motorcycle and they have much stricter rules.

have a licence or insu electric motorcycle! urance - the rules are exactly the same with an



e-scooters

than 15.5mph.

Some people may be considering an electric scooter (e-scooter), particularly if they ha

However, it is illegal to use a privately owned e-scooter on public roads, pavements or cycle lanes. In fact, the only place to legally ride an e-scooter in Wales is on private land with the permission of the landowner everywhere else it is against the law.

Some people may not appreciate the effect that riding illegally has. For someone with sight or hearing loss, it could have such an effect on ther that they feel unable to go out on their own, hampering their mobility options and perhaps even resulting in the loss of their independence.

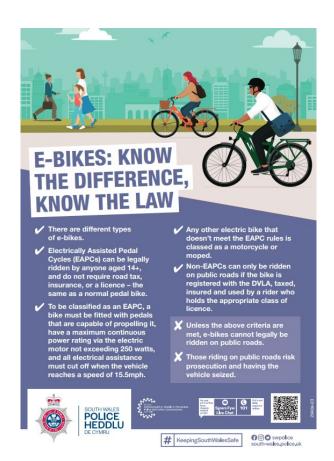
Unfortunately, people have already been killed and seriously injured when riding inappropriately and illegally. Nobody wants to see other families having to cope with the aftermath of similar heartbreaking incidents.

In some parts of the UK, government trials are taking place where you car rent an e-scooter and use it on the road and in cycle lanes if you hold a fu or provisional driving licence. In Wales, there are currently no trials takin,

Please don't get caught out by riding illegally. Make sure you know the law on e-bikes and e-scooters



We have been informed by the Police that e-scooters and illegal e-bikes will need to be confiscated and handed over to them if seen on the school site. We would be grateful if you would talk this through with your child and ensure that they are only using legal modes of transport to and from school. Please read the information on this page carefully.





























Social Media **Guidance for Parents**

HOW CAN YOU HELP US?



Monitoring Online Activity

- · Regularly check your child's social media accounts and online interactions.
- Use parental control tools and privacy settings to limit exposure to harmful content.
- Encourage open communication about their online experiences.



Record Misuse 2

- Take screenshots of any inappropriate or harmful messages.
- Keep a log of dates, times, and platforms where incidents have occurred.
- Save any relevant messages or posts as evidence.



Sharing Concerns with Teachers

- Report incidents to the school as soon as possible.
- Provide documented evidence to help staff understand the situation.
- · Work collaboratively with teachers and school counsellors to support your child.



Report to 101 #NoPlaceForHate

You can report online hate/bullying to South Wales Police via:

- The South Wales Police Website: https://www.southwales.police.uk/ro/report/hatecrime/information/v1/hate-crime/how-to-reporthate-crime/
- Calling 101
- Visiting a police station

We are committed to collaborating with families to safeguard children from the threats of social media and online bullying, ensuring a safe and supportive environment for all students.





















Welsh Department

Shwmae! Why not practice your Welsh at home Use the phonetic column to see how it should be pronounced.

Q					Ö		
	·Wels	·Welsh·Terms·of·the·Week					·Week·Eight¶
	1¤	Un¤	Een¤	6¤	Chwech¤	Chh-weh-chh¤]¤
	2¤	Dau¤	Die¤	7¤	Saith¤	Sigh-th¤	¤
þ	3¤	Tri¤	Tree¤	8¤	Wyth¤	Oi-th¤	n o
	4¤	Pedwar	Ped-waar¤	9¤	Naw∙¤	Now¤	¤
	SX PumpX PimpX 10x DegX DehgX						
	willowswelsh@willows.cardiff.sch.uk						

Canteen Menu

We continue to listen to feedback from the meals that our canteen provides. As a result, we have made changes to the menu which will come into effect from September. Please see the end of this Newsletter. There have also been changes to the pricing, we should have done this in April but have held off until the new academic year.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Meal the d £3.5 Vegeta optio	Mac & cheese	Chicken Kiev with cheesy vegetables mashed potatoes	Hunter chicken served with herb rice	Chicken Tikka curry Naan bread	Fish fillet Salmon fishcake (every other week)
		Cheese, leek and potato ple with cheesy vegetables mashed potatoes	Red pesto & roasted veg pasta	Veggie Tikka curry Naan bread	Spinach ricotta tortellini in a mushroom cream sauce
Sides the d		Green beans / carrots onions / butternut squash Side salad	Rice Boiled potatoes Peas Side salad	Rice Chunky mixed peppers / onions Side salad	Chips Mushy peas / beans Side salad
Desse	Toffee muffin with custard	Fruit jelly	Trifle	Rhubarb crumble with custard	Brownie
Sides the d Desse Hot a cold	Cheeseburger £3.00 or Cheese burrito £3.00	Katsu curry wrap £3.00 or Chicken burger £3.00	Hotdog £3.00 or Veggie hotdog £3.00	Reggae Reggae chicken wrap £3.00 or Calzone £3.00	Cheesy chips & beans £3.00 or Cheese and salsa ciabatta £3.00
Snac Meal D	With Tuna mayo £3.00 Cheese £3.00	Jacket potato £2.75 with Tuna mayo £3.00 Cheese £3.00 Beans £3.00	Jacket potato £2.75 with Tuna mayo £3.00 Cheese £3.00 Beans £3.00	Jacket potato £2.75 with Tuna mayo £3.00 Cheese £3.00 Beans £3.00	Jacket potato £2.75 with Tuna mayo £3.00 Cheese £3.00 Beans £3.00
Snacl fruit 8 muffi £3.55	Sandwiches £2.90 / £3.00 Cold wrap £3.00	Sandwiches £2.90 / £3.00 Cold wrap £3.00 Salad box £3.00 Yogurt £0.90 / Fruit £0.50 Muffin £1.00	Sandwiches £2.90 / £3.00 Cold wrap £3.00 Salad box £3.00 Yogurt £0.90 / Fruit £0.50 Muffin £1.00	Sandwiches £2.90 / £3.00 Cold wrap £3.00 Salad box £3.00 Yogurt £0.90 / Fruit £0.50 Muffin £1.00	Sandwiches £2.90 / £3.00 Cold wrap £3.00 Salad box £3.00 Yogurt £0.90 / Fruit £0.50 Muffin £1.00

As you may be aware, school budgets are getting tighter and tighter. As a result, we are no longer able to manage with the amount of school meal debt that some pupils are accumulating.

We have reduced the amount a pupil account can be in debt to £10. If a pupil goes over this limit, we will provide them with something to eat but they will not be able to choose from the Canteen Menu. If this occurs, our Finance Team will be in touch to support families through the process.

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

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.





















Star Tests



Over the past two weeks, our pupils in Years 7, 8 & 9 have been completing their Star Reading Tests, with the support from Miss Davies the school Librarian and their English teachers we've been able to monitor progress closely and ensure every pupil is getting the guidance they need on their reading journey.

These assessments involved a multiple-choice reading quiz designed to determine each student's overall reading age.

Well done to all the students for their focus and effort during the Star Reading Tests! The results will not only help us support each student's reading development, but also ensure they are placed in the most appropriate classes for their ability.

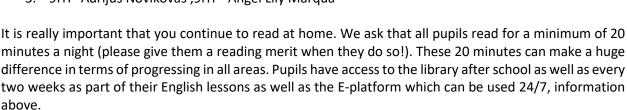
This is an important step in preparing them for success in their future GCSEs.

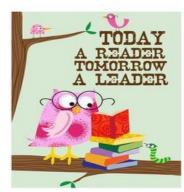
Student Librarians for This Week

Congratulations to these outstanding pupils who have shown the highest standards in reading and attitude at Willows High School this week!

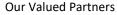
These pupils have shown dedication to their reading and a positive attitude towards the Willows Library. Their enthusiasm, respect for staff and peers, and commitment to developing their literacy skills have truly stood out. As a reward for your amazing efforts, you will each receive a Golden Ticket from Miss Davies **a** special recognition of your achievement

- 1. 7FA Cade Adams, 7FA Lottie Coopey
- 2. 8CA- Ahmed Ali, 8DB Martina Hovathova
- 3. 9HT- Adrijus Novikovas ,9HT -Angel Lily Marqua

























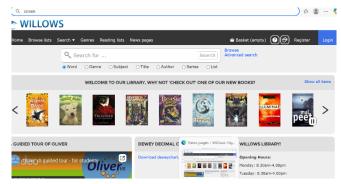




Willows Library Software: Oliver

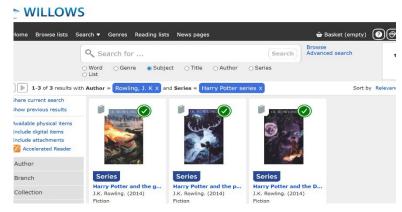
We're thrilled to announce that our new library software, Oliver is already making a positive impact this academic year!

Oliver gives every student their own personalised page which they will allowing them to search for books available on our library shelves, check availability, and even write book reviews. As



part of our Readers' Workshop lessons, pupils will now have the opportunity to use the library computers to explore our new library system, Oliver.

With guidance from Miss Davies, students can search for books that match their interests and reading levels, helping them find the right book for them.



Connected with Accelerated Reader, Oliver helps track reading progress and encourages thoughtful engagement with Oliver, every child has the opportunity to find and enjoy the right book for them!

This fantastic online platform is a powerful tool to support our students' reading journey and nurture a lifelong love of books.

Let's get reading, Willows!

Period Standard Award

We are pleased to announce that we have been accredited with Merit in the 'Period Standard' and we are now on the pathway to achieving Distinction. This week, all of our Year 8 girls have been provided with a free set of 'period pants' (worth up to £80.00) and talked through how to use / wash them. We are proud to promote more environmentally friendly approaches.

If pupils in any other year group would like these, then please ask them to ask their Welfare Officer, Mrs. Bubbins or any member of staff they'd prefer to ask.























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

Parent & pupil Cooking Sessions

We will be offering parent & pupil after school cooking sessions this term.

We provide everything you need so you can simply book in, turn up, grab an apron and get stuck in! Everyone makes their own dish from scratch, and there is something different and delicious on the menu each week.



The classes are relaxed, friendly and fun and because of that encourage a love of cooking and good food.

If you would like more information or would like to register please email Karen Hunt using: 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/Parent handbook (2025/2026)

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

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=CrulgjNZXHg























Attendance

Contact Details - Willows High School

To Report an Absence:

Year 7, Year 8 and top half of Year 11 – (Letter A - K)

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

Year 9, Year 10 and the bottom half of Year 11 - (Letter L-Z)

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

Please do not use the old mobile numbers, email or reception.







Attendance Draw Winners (week ending 17th October 2025)



Fantastic Friday Weekly Draw - £50 of Amazon vouchers

Winner: Violet Neale

Fast Pass +1 Winners

Year 7 winner: Talya Adam, Amila-Grace Collins

Year 8 winners: Jammal Madley, Jake Sage, Riley Shirley

Year 9 winners: Sarah Safrova, Hollie Casey.

Year 10 winners: Areef Algahtani, Abdul-Qudus Irale..

Year 11 winners: Amiee Lia, Awwal Olode-Ankirun.

Attend Like a Champion!





















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.



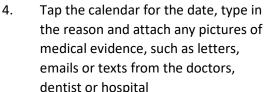


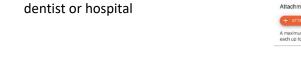
Activity

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

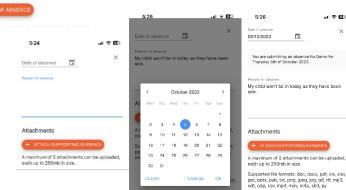


3. Click on 'report new absence'





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.

















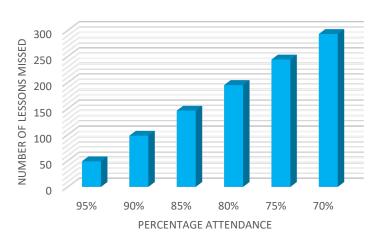




Important information about attendance to school

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.

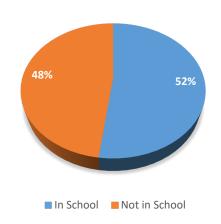
Pupils are in school for 190 days of the year, they are not in school for 175 days of the year.

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.

Days in School / Not in School



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





















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. accommodation
- 2. argument
- 3. neighbour
- 4 nervous
- 5 quiet
- 6 quite
- 7 receive
- 8 sincerely
- surprise
- 10 until





















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

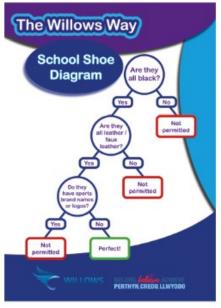
P.E. Kit: School P.E. midlayer top, plain black sport shorts, plain black tracksuit trousers or plain black sports leggings. No jeggings, tight fitting trousers, jeans, jean like trousers or low rise

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

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.





















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/carer must
- Continued offences Device handed-in, parent/carer must collect. Parent/carer 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.













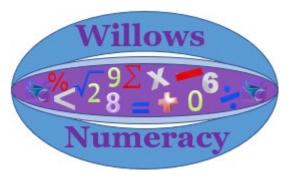








Mathematics Department Numeracy Enrichment



Numeracy Boost Sessions (NBS):

Using a variety of digital (e.g. TT-Rock Stars) and nondigital 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.

Internal Numeracy Bee Competition - KS3:

Some Numeracy competitions are taking place throughout the year. KS3 pupils will be provided with relevant resources that can be used to prepare for the guizzes.

Numeracy Bee Dates - Term 1:

Year 7: 12th December Year 8: 11th December Year 9: 10th December

Junior UKMT Challenge - Y7 and Y8 MAT pupils: Challenge date: 29th April 2026

Junior UKMT Challenge is an external Mathematics competition giving Y7 and Y8 MAT pupils the opportunity to tackle a variety of mathematical activities which inspire their love to problem solving.



A 60-minute, 25 multiple choice Challenge. It encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought and fluency to make students think. Pupils can use the links below:

For past papers:

https://ukmt.org.uk/competition-papers/jsf/jet-engine:free-past-papers/tax/challenge-type:67/#freepast-paper-anchor

For video solutions:

https://ukmt.org.uk/video-solutions-list/jsf/jet-engine:video-solutions-grid/tax/video-solutionchallenge-type:191/

coordinator at: Halima.Aitany related question, please contact the Numeracy Brahim@willows.cardiff.sch.uk





















Weekly Numeracy of Week 8, starting 20/10/25:

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

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

Numeracy Question for week 8

Question of the week 8

Trading Treats

Owen went to his neighbourhood convenience store where he bought 25 small packages of different kinds of candy. After counting the candies in his purchase, he calculated that he had 100 candies in total.

A) If each package contained the same amount of candy, how many candies were in each package?

B) Owen decided to give one-fifth of the candy that evening to his brother, Clive. Owen saved the rest for another day. How many candies did he give to Clive?



C) The following day, his sister Charlotte bought some candy. Charlotte had a lot of sour cherries, which Owen adores. Owen had many red lollipops, which are Charlotte's favourite candy. They decided that one lollipop was worth two sour cherries. Owen traded 25 of his lollipops for sour cherries. How many sour cherries did he receive from Charlotte?

D) After the trade, Owen eats the same amount of candy each day until his candy is finished. This takes 3 weeks. How many candies does he eat each day?

Numeracy Terms of the week 8

Base and Exponent:

Exponents are used in Mathematics to represent larger or smaller numbers that cannot be read easily.

The exponent of a number shows how many times a number is multiplied by

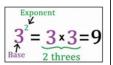
Exponents are also known as powers or indices; they can be a whole number, a fraction, a negative number, or a decimal.

For example:

The exponent of 34 is 4; 3 is the base.

Answer of the week 7

The exponent of $7^{1/2}$ is the fraction 1/2; 7 is the base.



Numeracy Terms for week 8

Answer of the week 7

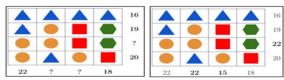
Shape Sums:

There are many ways to solve this problem. Here is one approach:

Since the leftmost column has two triangles and two circles, and the column beside it also has two triangles and two circles, the sum of the columns must be the same. So, the sum of the second column must be 22. From the top row we know that the sum of 4 triangles is 16. So, the value of one triangle must be 1/4 of 16 or 16+4=4.

Since the value of one triangle is 4, then the sum of two triangles is 4 + 4 = 8. The leftmost column shows the sum of two triangles and two circles is 22, so the sum of two circles is 22 - 8 = 14. Therefore, the value of one circle must be 1/2 of 14 or 14 + 2 = 7. Since the sum of the bottom row is formed by two circles, one triangle, and one square, and we know the sum of two circles and one triangle is 14 + 4 = 18, then the value of one square is 20 - 18 = 2.

Now we know that the sum of the third column is 4 + 2 + 2 + 7 = 15. Since the sum of Now we know that the sum of the third column is 4+2+2+1=15. Since the sum the second row is formed by one triangle, one circle, one square and one hexagon, and we know the sum of one triangle, one circle, and one square is 4+7+2=13, then the value of one hexagon is 19-13=6. Now we know that the sum of the third row is 7+7+2+6=22. Here is the completed grid:



Here is a second of way to find the sum of the third row without actually finding the value of the hexagon. Notice that the second and third rows have the same shapes in the last three columns, and only the first column shape is different. Since we know that the difference between the values of a circle and a triangle is 7-4-3, then the sum of the third row must be 3 more than the sum of the second row, which is 19+3-2=22.





















MathsWatch Homework



All of our pupils' weekly Mathematics homework is accessible on MathsWatch (https://www.mathswatchvle.com/). They must be completed by their given deadline. Mathswatch homework is set every Tuesday and due the following Tuesday morning.

Each set homework is open for a month, so that students 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.

For any login issues, please email Miss Santos at dana.santos@willows.cardiff.sch.uk

There are videos available to 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.

On that note, we would like to say a huge congratulations to all those who have been working so hard on their MathsWatch!

Here are this week's Superstart Mathematicians:

#	First Name	Surname	Year	Class
1	Mason	Evans	7	7FA/Ma
2	Yusuf	Mohamed Rimshad	7	7FA/Ma
3	Jack Rhys	Drewen	10	10L1/Ma

First Name

#	First Name	Surname	Year	Class
1	Mason	Evans	7	7FA/Ma
2	Yusuf	Mohamed Rimshad	7	7FA/Ma
3	Danya	Adam	7	7MK/Ma

1	Abdullah	Yassin	8	8R2/Ma
2	Yawar	Hama Amin	8	8R3/Ma
3	Abdullah	Althani	8	8R3/Ma

#	First Name	Surname	Year	Class
1	Ellexus	Mantle-Williams	9	9EI/Ma
2	Sophia	Bamidele	9	9L1/Ma
3	Yara	Magidub	9	9L2/Ma

#	First Name	Surname	Year	Class
1	Jack Rhys	Drewen	10	10L1/Ma
2	Sajel	Nasir	10	10L1/Ma
3	Akhnaton	Okoh	10	10L1/Ma

#	First Name	Surname	Year	Class
1	Aira	Setiadji	11	11L1/Ma
2	Gina	Kong	11	11L1/Ma
3	Sultan	Sanusi	11	11L1/Ma

<u>TimesTableRockstars</u>

Single numeracy boost sessions are provided to all our KS3 students on a fortnightly basis to enrich their Mathematical Skills, specifically with a focus on times tables. Students will be accessing their TTRS accounts and improving their knowledge of the times tables.



At home, students must 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 students 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.

For any login issues, please email Miss Santos at dana.santos@willows.cardiff.sch.uk





















Maths Afterschool clubs

Day	Activity	Teacher/Room
Tuesday	KS3	Miss Santos - G14
Week 1	7,8 &9	
Tuesday	KS4	Mrs Ait-Brahim - G17
Week 1	All	
Tuesday	KS4	Miss Wrennall - G15
Week 2	All	
Wednesday	KS4	Miss Koncar - G19
Week 2	All	
Tuesday	KS3	Miss Richmond - G20
Week 2	7,8 &9	

Please encourage your child to attend the afterschool clubs we are providing.

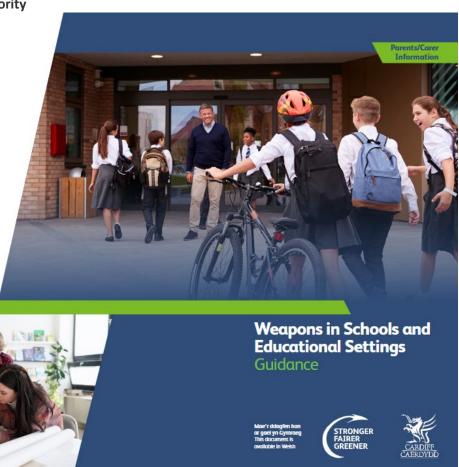
For any login issues, please email Miss Santos at dana.santos@willows.cardiff.sch.uk

Information from the Local Authority

Guidance Aims

Cardiff Council is committed to keeping your child safe through a fair and consistent approach, and preventing violence and weapons possession in Cardiff. As a Child Friendly City, Cardiff upholds The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and puts young people at the centre of processes and decisions.

This guidance will be used when a young person is found in possession of a weapon on an education establishment's site either deliberately or unintentionally. Cardiff Council recognised that there are many issues facing young people today and there are many reasons why a young person may carry a weapon. It is expected that there will be a multi-agency approach to support the school or educational setting to identify suitable early interventions and create positive change through the curriculum and the culture of the setting.



Cardiff Council have released new guidance to schools regarding weapons in educational settings. The parents' leaflet can be found here.





















Half term & Halloween Local Events



Mermaid Quay Tuesday 28th October 11am-4pm for a Spooktacular Ghostbusters Day!

Ghost Themed balloon model making Glitter tattoos with spooky, ghostly designs Green Slime making workshop

It's going to be frightfully fun for all the family!!!!

Halloween Island Festival 25th-31st October

The popular Cardiff Halloween Festival has had a major revamp for 2025, moving from the outskirts to a new waterfront home at Alexandra Head in Cardiff Bay. Rebranded as Halloween Island, this family festival will feature a ghostly boat ride from Mermaid Quay, live stage shows, immersive creative zones, and a twilight programme with glowing pumpkins, fire performances, and even owl encounters. It's designed for all ages, with daytime activities for families and magical after-dark sessions for those who want a little extra atmosphere.





Free October Half Term Activities in Splott, Adamsdown & Tremorfa

Come along to Roath Police Station, face painting, pumpkin carving and loads of treats

Red Dragon Centre

Head to The Red Dragon Centre this Halloween for a fun afternoon at the Spooky Studio! On Friday 31 October, from 12-4pm, kids can enjoy free face painting and Halloween makeovers – perfect for getting trick-or-treat ready. Whether they want to be a witch, superhero, or something spooky in between, our team will bring their Halloween look to life.























Community

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

The Community Noticeboard » Green Squirrel





Inksplott | Community Is Everything

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

Volunteering at Splott Community Volunteers

As you can see, we have a busy summer ahead of us and would welcome a hand! If you are interested in volunteering at any of the events listed above, please contact joe@splottcommunityvolunteers.co.uk

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. Splo Down





<u>Splo-down</u> 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





















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 excellent and ı would urge all families this: is to access 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 'sextortion' 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 <u>CEOP Safety Centre</u> to report any online blackmail attempts.

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





















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



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



Support

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

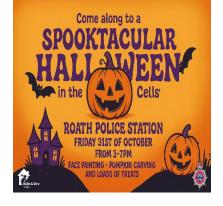
Please contact the school using karen.hunt@willows.cardiff.sch.uk by phone using 07733889062 if you need any information on who you can turn

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

Roath Police Station

Go along to Roath Police Station for Spooktacular Fun!!!!





STAR After School Chill Club.

Available every Tuesday in term time 4-5pm, FREE games, crafts, books and wifi.

For children age 10-13





















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

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.

Parents and Families

If your child is unwell at school

If your child becomes unwell at school, we will contact you if necessary. We request that you ask your child to not contact home requesting for parents to collect them. Pupils should follow the correct procedure by telling a member of staff, the situation will be assessed and contact home will be made if required. Pupils will not be allowed to leave the school site without being accompanied by a responsible adult.

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 or by phone using 07733889062





















Measles

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)



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 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 embarassed 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):



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. or by phone using 07733889062. Where we can help, we will do so confidentially.

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-planyoung-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 of Year 8 and all of Year 9 have now been handed free pants but they are available for all.

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

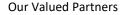
Likewise, we would like more feedback from our pupils in this area. The link to the Pupil Questionnaire is here:

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 if you need feminine hygiene products and we'll do our best to help.



Safe learning environments for pupils and staff

We are committed to ensuring Willows High School is a safe place where our pupils and staff are treated with respect and dignity, in a nurturing and positive learning environment.

Cardiff Council has recently launched a publicity campaign to highlight its commitment to pupil and staff safety and well-being, and to remind school communities that pupils and staff have a right to attend school free from abuse and any form of aggression.

Any form of written, verbal or physical abuse towards staff in our school will not be tolerated. The Council is committed to supporting schools and governing bodies to take any necessary action to keep staff safe. This may include restricting contact and communication with certain individuals, exclusion from the premises and reporting matters to the police when necessary.

Thank you for helping us to create a safe and nurturing learning environment for the children and young people attending our school by treating staff with dignity and respect.





















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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.

To ensure all of our pupils are safeguarded, we will not be able to release a pupil from our care until 3.10pm unless we are notified of a necessary appointment in advance. These can be communicated through the Report Absence tab on the Classcharts Parent app. Instructions on how to do this can be found in this Newsletter. We are grateful for your understanding and would appreciate your cooperation with this



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.

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

Have a great half term break and we look forward to seeing all our pupils again on Monday 3rd November.

Team Willows













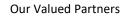
































*Please note that some subject areas will start revision sessions in the Spring Term and this time-table will be updated accordingly.

Monday Wednesday Thursday Tuesday Friday 8.45 - 9.00 am 8.45 - 9.00 am 8.45 - 9.00 am 8.45 - 9.00 am 8.45 - 9.00 amBefore school Free breakfast for all years Individual Instrumental lessons Individual Instrumental lessons Individual Instrumental lessons Lesson time TBC with individuals - guitar TBC with individuals - drums. TBC with individuals - piano and singing. 3.10 – 4.00 pm: 3.10 - 4.00 pm: 3.10 - 4.00 pm: 3.10 - 4.00 pm: 3.10 - 4.00 pm: Library open for homework 3.10 - 4.00 pm: Writing Club Well-being Art and Craft Mini robot programming Art Club Book club Ms. Parves - PAWB Mr. Hussein - G12 Miss. E. Jones - F4 Ms Gemmiti - F6 Mrs Lo Celso - F3 3.10 - 4.00 pm: Musical Theatre Club (school show rehearsals) Ms. Gorman and Mr. Mills -PAC After school clubs 3.10 - 4.00 pmDebating Ms Nelms - F10 3.10 - 4.00 pm: Y7, Y8 and Y9 Maths Help (Week 1) Miss. Santos - G14 3.10 - 4.00 pm: Y7, Y8 and Y9 Maths Help (Week 2) Miss. Richmond - G20 3:10 - 4.00 pm: Y11 Computer Science Unit 3 catch-up (Y10 and Y11 3.10 - 4.00 pm: 3.10 - 4.00 pm: 3.10 - 4.00 pm: After school Computer Science pupils also Y10 and Y11 French revision Y11 Geography Revision (Y11) Y10 Geography Revision (Y10) revision sessions welcome to work Mme. Brace - G11 Mr. Gill - F1 Mr. Gill - F1 independently for Unit 2) Ms. Charles – G13 3.10 - 4.00 pm: 3.10 - 4.00 pm3.10 - 4.00 pm: 3.10 - 4.00 pm: Hospitality and Catering Y10 and Y11 Maths Help Y10 and 11 Science Revision Y11 Media Studies Magazine revision (Week 1) catch up (Week 1) (Week 2) Miss. Davies - G3 Mrs. Bubbins - G6 Ms. Ait-Brahim - G17 Mr.Carter - S2 3.10 - 4.00 pm: 3.10 - 4.00 pm: 3.10 - 4.00 pm: Y10 and Y11 Maths Help Y10 and Y11 Maths Help Y10 and Y11 French revision (Week 2) (Week 2) Mme. Brace - G11 Ms. Wrennall - G15 Ms. Koncar – G19 3.10 - 4.00 pm: 3.10 - 4.00 pm: Y10 and Y11 Art Product Design Catch up (Week 2) (starts in October) Ms. Elkes-Jones (F2) Mr. Konten - G2















PE Extra-Curricular Sport Programme – Willows High School 2025/26

Subject to change – Updated Weekly



cowshed

Venue	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Gym		All Years Boys Basketball All Years Girls Basketball AR - MC – AHU		All Years Boys Basketball All Years Girls Basketball AR - MC - AHU	
Barn		All Years Boys Basketball All Years Girls Basketball AR – MC – AHU	COMING SOON Pickle Ball - Badminton	All Years Boys Basketball All Years Girls Basketball AR - MC	
3G	COMING SOON Years 7, 8 & 9 Boys Rugby (Training) TM - JLS	Years 7, 8 & 9 Boys Football (Training) (Fixtures tbc) JG – JSM – TM	Years 10 & 11 Boys Football Training (Fixtures tbc) JLS – JG – JSM - TM	All Years Girls Football SM – FR	Years 7, 8 & 9 Boys Football (Fixtures tbc) JLS – JSM – JG - TM
Pitch 1	Years 7, 8 & 9 Boys Football (Fixtures tbc) JLS – JG - JS		•	Years 7, 8 & 9 Boys Football (Fixtures tbc) JLS – JG – JSM - TM	•
Rugby Pitch	•	Cross Country Autumn Term SM	Cross Country Autumn Term SM		
CV/Weights Room					
Muga					

















Please find below a list of services we offer at our Learning Lounge.

If you have any questions please contact Karen Hunt on 07733889062 or email karen.hunt@willows.cardiff.sch.uk

Pantry



Our food pantry provides free food and toiletry essential items for families in our school community, It's a way for us to come together, share resources and make sure no one goes without. Please visit the Learning Lounge via a separate entrance, ring the doorbell and we will be happy to help. This service is completely confidential.

Citizens Advice Service Monday 9.30am-16.30pm



Citizens Advice Cardiff & Vale provide free confidential and impartial advice on a range of areas including debt. benefits, housing, employment and family matters. Please contact Karen to make an appointment, all appointments are confidential.

Cuppa With a Copper



Our local PCSO visits the Learning Lounge on a Thursday, together we can work closely with our families to solve local problems and make our community feel safer.

Adult Learning Classes



We offer multiple Adult Learning Classes, it's not just about learning new skills, it's about opening doors for yourself and your family. Boost your skills, build confidence and meet new people, when parents learn, families grow stronger.

Parent Well Being Sessions



Looking after yourself is just as important as looking after your family, take time out to build confidence and positivity and share experiences with other families.

Together We Achieve More

Support for Every Family, **Every Step of The Way**





We believe every family deserves support, connection, and encouragement.



Our Family Engagement Services bring parents, caregivers and schools together to help children to thrive.



Together we can make our community, stronger, happier and more connected.

> Stronger Families, Stronger Communities, **Stronger Together**





















	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Meal of the day £3.55	Mac & cheese Garlic bread	Chicken Kiev with cheesy vegetables mashed potatoes	Hunter chicken served with herb rice	Chicken Tikka curry Naan bread	Fish fillet Salmon fishcake (every other week)
Vegetarian option	Mac & cheese Garlic bread	Cheese, leek and potato pie with cheesy vegetables mashed potatoes	Red pesto & roasted veg pasta	Veggie Tikka curry Naan bread	Spinach ricotta tortellini in a mushroom cream sauce
Sides of the day	Peas / sweetcorn Side salad	Green beans / carrots onions / butternut squash Side salad	Rice Boiled potatoes Peas Side salad	Rice Chunky mixed peppers / onions Side salad	Chips Mushy peas / beans Side salad
Dessert	Toffee muffin with custard	Fruit jelly	Trifle	Rhubarb crumble with custard	Brownie
Hot and cold Snacks Meal Deal Snack fruit & muffin £3.55	Cheeseburger £3.00 or Cheese burrito £3.00	Katsu curry wrap £3.00 or Chicken burger £3.00	Hotdog £3.00 or Veggie hotdog £3.00	Reggae Reggae chicken wrap £3.00 or Calzone £3.00	Cheesy chips & beans £3.00 or Cheese and salsa ciabatta £3.00
	Jacket potato £2.75 with Tuna mayo £3.00 Cheese £3.00 Beans £3.00				
	Sandwiches £2.90 / £3.00 Cold wrap £3.00 Salad box £3.00 Yogurt £0.90 / Fruit £0.50 Muffin £1.00	Sandwiches £2.90 / £3.00 Cold wrap £3.00 Salad box £3.00 Yogurt £0.90 / Fruit £0.50 Muffin £1.00	Sandwiches £2.90 / £3.00 Cold wrap £3.00 Salad box £3.00 Yogurt £0.90 / Fruit £0.50 Muffin £1.00	Sandwiches £2.90 / £3.00 Cold wrap £3.00 Salad box £3.00 Yogurt £0.90 / Fruit £0.50 Muffin £1.00	Sandwiches £2.90 / £3.00 Cold wrap £3.00 Salad box £3.00 Yogurt £0.90 / Fruit £0.50 Muffin £1.00













