



Welcome to Willow Primary School



Willow
Primary
School



Exceed Learning Partnership

• EVERY CHILD • EVERY CHANCE • EVERY DAY •



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About our Trust

Exceed Learning Partnership was formed out of Hill Top Academy in 2017 with a key remit to make a difference to the lives of young people. We are proud to have grown to eight primary academies, and one secondary academy.

Academies within our Trust:



Hall Cross
Academy



We jointly have responsibility for the learning of 4745 pupils across all our schools and the expertise of a staff compliment of over 600.

We also look forward to welcoming further schools in the future.



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On behalf of the Directors, Governors, staff and pupils of Exceed Learning Partnership I would like to welcome you to our foundation unit induction evening and start by thanking you for taking the time to visit our academy.

At Exceed Learning Partnership we value the importance of early years education and recognise that high quality teaching and learning can have a massive impact on children's future success.

Our belief is that every child deserves the best possible start in their school life and we aim to support each of our pupils by providing a happy, caring, safe and secure environment for learning.

Childhood is a time of play and through play we discover the rewards of achievement and begin to acquire the skills we need for life



Mrs Beryce Nixon, CEO



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Our Motto:

Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day!

Children within our Trust will always be our main priority, with personalised learning as our starting point, making the challenges of 'Helping Children Achieve More' a reality.

Every child will have the opportunities to expand their horizons, and build the confidence, talents, interests, skills and qualifications to succeed as they make their way towards a fulfilling and prosperous adulthood.

The amount of time children spend in education is finite. We have a responsibility to ensure every moment a child is in an Exceed Learning Partnership School, must be spent productively. Once wasted, it is gone forever and cannot be given back.



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Inspire

Embodied in the Trust motto, “Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day”, all members of our organisation aim for excellence in their individual professional roles, in our innovative, evidenced-based practice and in our pupils so that we can all fulfil our potential in whatever we aspire to do or be!

Include

At Exceed Learning partnership we are concerned with achieving equitable, diverse and quality education for all pupils. ... **Social justice** includes a vision of society in which the distribution of resources is equitable and all members are physically and psychologically safe and secure.

Our Values

Integrity

We respect the individuality of our academies and their communities and always act with integrity. By allowing high levels of autonomy wherever possible, we are able to nurture personalised learning approaches and focus on developing holistic people

Exceed

Excellence and enjoyment should be an entitlement for all children and adults working in our Trust. We are developing cutting-edge, research-informed and highly engaging pedagogies that ensure high levels of progress and rapid development of staff; leading to the highest levels of achievement for all!



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Meet our Team!



Leadership Team & Hedgehogs and Fieldmice



Mrs Sumner,
Principal



Mr Martin,
Vice Principal



Mrs Cullen,
Assistant
Principal



Mrs Brown,
Teacher



Miss Ellway,
Teacher and
Early Years
Champion



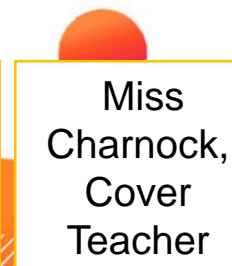
Mr
Copestick,
Inclusion
Manager



Mrs
Squires,
Teaching
Assistant



Mrs
Cotton,
Teaching
Assistant



Miss
Charnock,
Cover
Teacher

The word 'ASPIRE' is written in large, bold, green capital letters. Each letter has a descriptive phrase written around it: 'A' is 'Ambitious to achieve', 'S' is 'Self-motivated', 'P' is 'Positive', 'I' is 'Independent', 'R' is 'Respectful', and 'E' is 'Engaged'. The 'E' also contains the Willow Primary School logo, which features a stylized tree and the text 'Willow Primary School'.

Ambitious to achieve
Self-motivated
Positive
Independent
Respectful
Engaged



Willow Primary School

Our School's Values are central to everything we do

- A** We are **AMBITIOUS** to achieve our best
- S** We show we want to succeed by being **SELF-MOTIVATED**
- P** We enjoy school life and overcome challenges by being **POSITIVE**
- I** We show bravery and **INDEPENDENCE**
- R** We care for others and always show **RESPECT**
- E** We focus on learning by being **ENGAGED** in everything we do



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“This is a school where **staff, leaders and pupils live the school values**. They ASPIRE to be the best they can be every day...The changes leaders have made are making a significant and positive difference to the lives of pupils.”

“There is an **ambitious curriculum** in place for pupils”

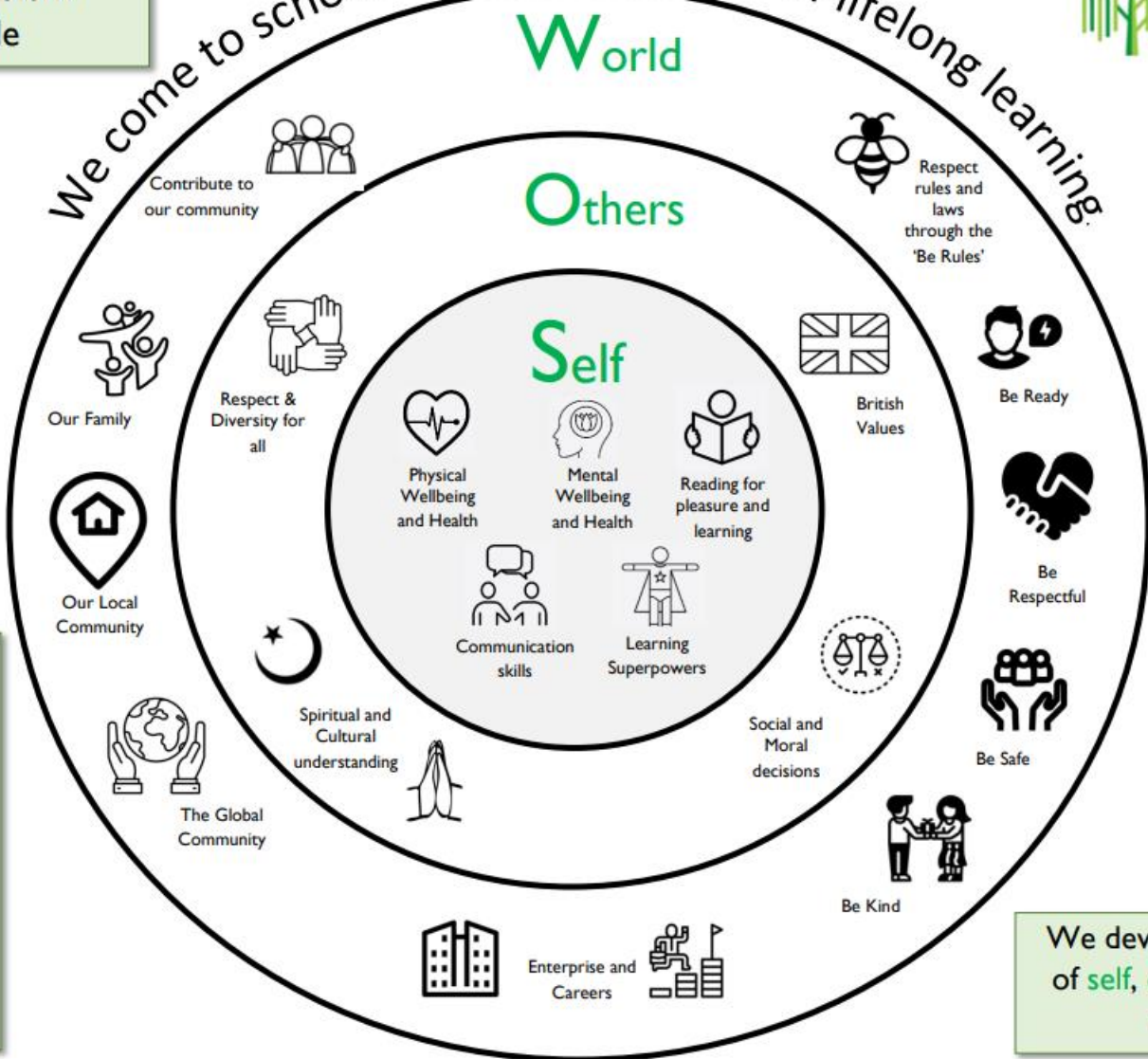
“Leaders have created an **ambitious, well structured and sophisticated plan for pupils’ personal development**. Pupils have extensive opportunities for leadership... Pupils are supported to understand their place in the world through the model of SOW (self, other, world).”

“**Pupils in the early years benefit from a strong start to their education**. They are quickly introduced to routines and expectations that support them to learn. The environment pupils learn in is calm, orderly and purposeful.”

Ofsted, October 2022

Our Curriculum Rationale

We come to school to **SOW** the seeds of lifelong learning.



ASPIRE VALUES

- Ambitious
- Self-Motivated
- Positive
- Independent
- Respectful
- Engaged

We develop our sense of **self**, **others** and the **world**.

A key feature of the Willow's curriculum builds the characteristics of learning across the whole school.

This focuses on developing a string philosophy for learning and important skills for life.

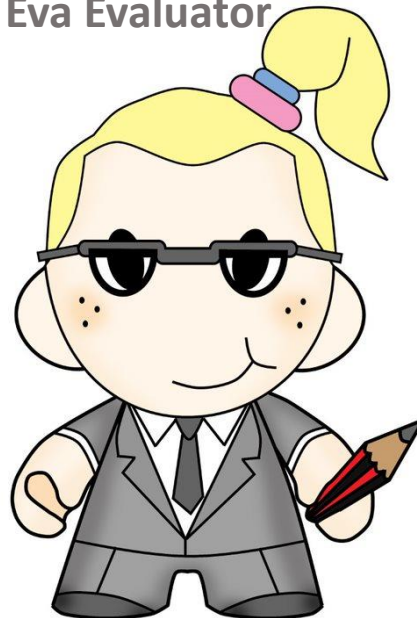
We call them **Learning Superpowers.**

Meet our Learning Superheroes:

Cora Collaboration



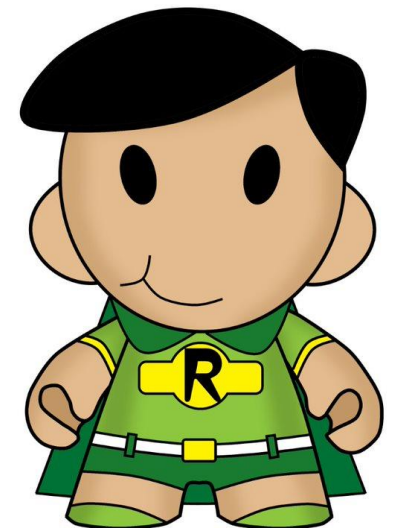
Eva Evaluator



Ivan Investigator



Ricky Resilient



Willow's Fantastic Fifty!

Fifty fantastic opportunities available to children throughout their time at Willow.

Learn a dance	Go on a Residential trip	Touch or hold a snake	Go on a bug hunt and build a den	Improve our local environment
Visit a museum	Visit Yorkshire Wildlife Park	Learn to cross the road safely	Write and recite a poem	Learn about wellbeing and mental health
Visit the local and central library	Visit Yorkshire Sculpture Park	Visit a farm	Collect for the Foodbank	Hablar Español (speak Spanish)
Visit Doncaster Minster	Learn Life Saving and First Aid Skills	Design, create and sell a product	Perform to an audience	Learn about careers
Visit Doncaster Mosque	Bake or cook a meal	Build a model locomotive	Do a charity run	Navigate using a map
Visit a Gurdwara	Visit a Church	Learn to play a musical instrument	Be an evacuee for the day	Have a debate with others
Fundraise for local, national and international charities	Sing in a choir	Compete in a competition	Visit the Racecourse	Meet an author
Watch a play or live performance	Go to the seaside	Read at least 100 books	Write and publish a book review	Paint and exhibit a portrait
Visit an art gallery and work with an artist	Visit a Castle	Plant a plant or seed and watch it grow	Become a leader or ambassador	Order food and drink in Spanish in a café experience
Visit the Coal mining museum	Watch a chick hatch	Dissect a pig heart	Take part in an election and vote	Learn a sport and take part in a race



Follow us on Social Media

We regularly post updates and celebrate achievements using our school's Facebook and Twitter accounts

@WillowPrimarySchool – Facebook

@AcademyWillow - Twitter



Half Termly Newsletters on Sway

We share a summary of the school's highlights on a newsletter at the end of each half term.

Celebrating Achievements

Fortnightly achievement assemblies identify amazing performance linked to our school's ASPIRE values and the Learning Superpowers. Teachers will nominate children for our ASPIRE Certificates, or for a Proud Award.

Teachers can also send postcards home or make celebration phone calls.

Stay and Share - Parents sessions

We regularly host Stay and Share events where parents can visit their child's classroom, see their learning and participate in activities with their child.

Parent volunteers

The school welcomes parent volunteers. We always need parents to read with children, help out on trips and events.

Get in touch with us to find out more.

Reading Records

Every child in school is given a reading record at the start of the year, this record is to keep all comments related to reading between home and school. We expect children to read five times a week.

Each week parents should sign the reading record, comments can be added too. We have included suggested questions in the reading record to ask your child about their book when reading.

Scheduled reports about your child's learning

Parents' meetings take place twice per year, in Autumn and Spring Term. The purpose of this is to discuss your child's learning and progress. Teachers will also discuss their health and wellbeing in school, behaviour and attitude to learning.

These meetings are either via the phone or over video-call.

In summer term, teachers provide families with a written report this will include assessment levels.

ParentPay

All letters are sent home electronically through the ParentPay system.

Teachers2Parents/ Eduspot text message service

We use Teachers2Parents to send out short or urgent messages through texts.

Staying Connected: supporting your child's learning

The school website contains detailed information about the school curriculum. We make our Knowledge Organisers available to parents.

The school also runs sessions to support parents further such as Reading, phonics, maths and online safety workshops. All dates are given via the newsletter in advance.

Your Views and Feedback

We regularly seek your views and feedback to find out what you think we are doing well and how we can continue to improve.

Full surveys to parents go out twice per year and other surveys and feedback is requested when appropriate.

Meet and Greet






Teachers meet and greet children each morning and are available for quick messages and information.



If parents have any concerns then they should always be shared with the class teacher in the first instance.


How to contact the school


Messages sent over social media can not be responded to.





To contact the school, please call 01302 539249 or email the admin email address admin@willow.doncaster.sch.uk
Emails to class teachers can be sent via each year group's email address: yearXhomelearning@willow.doncaster.sch.uk
(change the X to the year group you want to email)



Essential Uniform Items	
	<p>Red Willow Primary Logo Cardigan or Jumper</p> <p>We expect all pupils to wear the school's logo jumper or cardigan.</p>
	<p>Grey knee length skirt or pinafore dress in traditional school uniform tailored material.</p> <p>Mid-Grey smart school skirt or dress, knee length only. No denim or jersey material skirts or dresses.</p>
	<p>Summer Uniform</p> <p>Red and white, knee length gingham design dress or romper with shorts.</p>
	<p>Grey trousers or shorts.</p> <p>Mid-Grey smart school trousers only. Shorts must be mid-grey and to the knee, all in traditional tailored school uniform material.</p> <p>We do not allow black, navy blue or cargo style shorts or trousers with large pockets on the sides. No denim or jersey trousers or shorts.</p> <p>Leggings or tight trousers are not allowed.</p>
	<p>Plain white polo shirt in cotton material.</p> <p>We do not allow polo shirts in any other colours, including red, blue or grey.</p> <p>Embroidered logo polo shirts are available to buy through Gooddies (optional item with the logo).</p>

Essential Footwear	
	<p>Shoes (to be worn on all days apart from PE or Forest School)</p> <p>Smart Black traditional school shoes.</p> <p>Low heeled and full shoes are allowed.</p> <p>Boots or different coloured shoes are not allowed.</p>
	<p>PE Uniform trainers (to be worn on PE or Forest School days)</p> <p>Sensible trainers that enable both indoor and outdoor activity are permitted.</p> <p>We urge parents to provide either black or white trainers with discrete logos, preferably plain.</p>

	<p>Years 5 & 6 only - option</p> <p>White traditional school shirt with a plain collar. Shirts can have either long or short sleeves.</p> <p>This option is only available if worn with an elasticated or clip-on grey and red striped school tie (only available via Gooddies).</p> <p>Pupils in Year 5 and Year 6 are allowed to wear the polo shirt and jumper/ cardigan too if they choose not to wear the shirt and tie option.</p>
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Hair Accessories	
	<p>Small hair accessories including bows must be in school uniform colours.</p> <p>Red, Grey and Black accessories are allowed.</p> <p>We do not allow multi-coloured or non-uniform colours.</p>

Essential PE and Forest School Uniform Items	
	<p>Plain black shorts or plain black jogging bottoms.</p> <p>No branded/ logo items to be worn.</p> <p>Shorts must be no shorter than mid-thigh length.</p>
	<p>Round, plain white t shirt with no logos.</p> <p>Polo shirts are not allowed for PE uniform.</p> <p>No Football tops, branded items or tops with slogans are allowed.</p>
	<p>Plain black outdoor training top with no logos</p> <p><i>A logo version of this is available through Gooddies, however, this is an optional item.</i></p>
	<p>White plain sports socks</p>

Optional Outdoor Items	
	<p>Polar Fleece with School Logo (available via Goodies)</p>
	<p>Showerproof Jacket with School Logo (available via Goodies)</p>

All Pupils are expected to wear full uniform.

Please refer to the policy document that has been shared with you for further details.

Attendance and Punctuality

Poor attendance can affect children's ability to make and keep friendships; a vital part of growing up.

In primary schools less than 65% of children achieve good results in English and Maths with an average of 15 days absence a year compared to almost 90% where the average is less than 8 days.

- **When your child starts at Willow, we expect they will have a minimum of 97% attendance and we use the whole school policy whether your child is 5 or not.**
- Every day that is missed at this age have a huge impact on their progress so, unless your child is really unwell, we expect them to attend school every day.
- We do not authorise term time holidays.
- Learning starts at 8.45am each day so your child must be one time and ready to learn from the start of each day. On site by 8.40am
- Our Attendance Officer, Mrs Paterson and our Inclusion Manager, Mr Copestick, will support any parents or families who are struggling with this.

Being in school at least 97% of the time (184 to 190 days)

That is no more than 6 days off per year.

365 days in a calendar year

190
school days in each year.

180
days in school

171
days in school

161
days in school

152
days in school

143
days in school

100%
attendance

95%
attendance

90%
attendance

85%
attendance

80%
attendance

75%
attendance

Best chance of success

Poor attendance - less
chance of success

Very poor attendance -
serious impact on
education

Did you know?

There are 175 non-term
dates in a school year.



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Exercise

I know how to take my coat and shoes off and put them back on

Hygiene

I can go to the toilet by myself and flush independently

Hygiene

I can wipe my nose

Hygiene

I know when to wash my hands and can operate a tap

Mental Health

I know I can ask my teachers for help

Mental Health

I know it's ok to feel nervous about new things





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Healthy Food

I am happy to try new foods, even if I am not sure

Healthy Food

I can use a knife and fork to open my lunchbox

Independence


I can recognise my name and my possessions

Independence

I know I will have a special place for my coat, bag and water bottle

Sleep

I have a good bedtime routine and am not tired for school



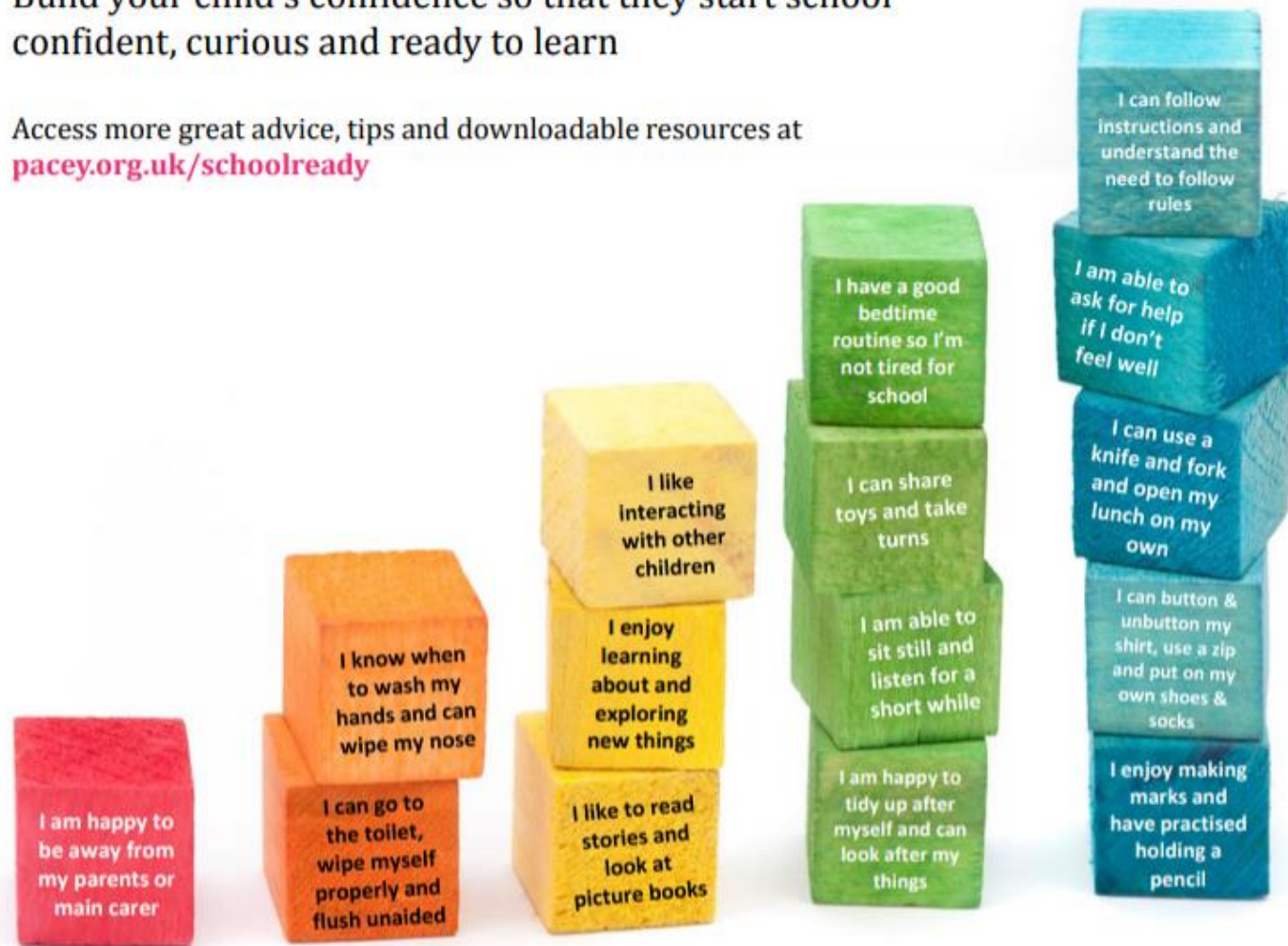
Helping your child to prepare for school the healthy way

- Punctual
- Attendance

Steps to starting school

Build your child's confidence so that they start school confident, curious and ready to learn

Access more great advice, tips and downloadable resources at pacey.org.uk/schoolready



More top tips:

- ★ Get your child ready for their new routine by switching their meal times to match those of the school day
- ★ Encourage your child to explore new environments and interact with new people
- ★ Talk to your child about what they are most looking forward to at school
- ★ Let your child practise putting their new school uniform on and taking it off
- ★ **And remember**, every child is different and starts school with different abilities

General Information



- We do not allow toys or items from home to be brought into school
- Jewellery is not allowed
- Bags – Reading bag only needed – important for home reading & planners. Your child won't get a home reading book at the start of the term, when they are ready, we will send one home too.
- Names on **EVERYTHING – not Biro, stickers and labels please.**
- Water bottles must be brought every day and named (no juice!). Water bottles need to have a lid and not a screw top.
- Snack – free fruit scheme, water or milk.
- Please note in Reception we do not celebrate birthdays with treats and ask that parents ensure no food other than packed lunches is brought to school.
- Poorly children to stay at home please for 48 hours after last symptoms of sickness.

Food and Drink in school

- We use the 'Fruit in school' scheme
- Cool Milk – Free until their 5th birthday.
- Reception children eat their lunch in one of our halls.
- All children in Reception and KSI are provided with a free school meal, as part of the governments 'Universal Free School Meal' initiative.
- School meals are booked each week using the ParentPay website, which you will receive information about.
- There is always a vegetarian option and a main meal, with an additional choice of a jacket potato.
- Please note - we are a **NUT FREE** school due to children with severe allergies in school.

Parental involvement and support is essential to your child's success.

- Tapestry
- Half Termly Newsletter
- Parent evenings
- Workshop on Phonics and Maths
- Family Learning sessions
- Stay and Share events
- Homework Challenges
- Christmas and Summer Fayre
- Performances



The Early Years Framework

Prime Areas

Communication and
Language

PSED (Personal, Social
and Emotional
Development)

Physical Development

Specific Areas

Literacy

Maths

Understanding the
World

Expressive Art and
Design

**More information:
Willow Primary Website,
Curriculum, Class Pages,
Foundation Stage/
Reception*

Developing Language and Communication

What does research tell us about impact?

Academic attainment

Mental health

Employability

Social interaction and relationships

Parents play a crucial role in supporting your child's learning, and levels of parental engagement are consistently associated with better academic outcomes.

(Education Endowment Foundation, Working with Parents to Support Children's Learning).

- Eating together as a family in the same room at least twice a week.
- Talking to children a lot, involving them in day to day chit chat.
- Singing and saying nursery rhymes.
- Reading a bedtime book every night.
- Asking them to choose favourite books to read.
- Going to the library once a month.
- Involving children in meal preparation.
- Limiting screen times and not allowing electronics in bedrooms beyond a certain time.
- Not allowing children to watch inappropriate TV programmes, internet content or games.
- Being patient.
- Telling children you love them and explaining why.
- Having firm boundaries and explaining them.
- Keeping to boundaries and not allowing children to negotiate.
- Having the same expectations as a partner.
- Not criticising children.
- Seeing children as partners in a relationship.
- Playing with them.
- Finding out from a school or nursery how you can help them.
- Listening to children and giving them time to talk.
- The above all require time but cost no money.

(Compiled by Greg Bottrill, Early Years Teacher and Author: Can I go and Play Now).



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Developing talk:

- BBC Tiny Happy People- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people>
- National Literacy Trust- <https://wordsforlife.org.uk/activities/>
- Speech and Language UK Talking Point-
- <https://ican.org.uk/i-cans-talking-point/parents>
- Advice for parents/ carers of bilingual children-
- [Parents | Bilingualismcen.com](https://www.bilingualismcen.com/parents)

Read Write Inc.

Phonics



Parents sessions about how we teach your child to Read and how you can help them make even better progress.

- Aims of the sessions:
- Practical and useful for all parents
- Led by our two Read Write Inc. Reading Leaders
- Build confidence
- Explain the terminology
- Know your phonemes from your split diagraphs!

Everyday maths workshops

- Maths talk at home is a great opportunity to explore how we understand and experience the world.
- During the Autumn Term, we will run a maths workshop designed to help parents explore mathematics in everyday life and to share mathematical thinking with your children.
- We look forward to seeing you there.





The aims of the Maths workshops

- To increase the quantity and quality of maths talk at home.
- To discuss activities you could do with your children and find the maths in the activities.
- To feed back activities/conversations you have had with your children.
- A great opportunity to meet other parents and share ideas.

Ten Town



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AqYG_Tv9VSE

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20



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Your child's induction in September

- ▶ Your child will be invited to one of four induction sessions on 5th or 6th of September.
- ▶ Your child must attend the session they are invited to because this will be in their Key Person group.
- ▶ Most children in Reception will start full time from Thursday 7th September.
- ▶ School starts at 8.45am (gates open 8.40am) and finishes at 3.05pm for children in Reception.
- ▶ We expect all children to be in time.

Have you completed all your online admissions forms?

- Have we seen your proof of ID? – this will be required at the start of the term
- Admission form
- Pupil premium
- Pick up/ safeguarding form
- Mode of transport
- GDPR and Photo consent
- Milk arrangements



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Any questions?

- If you have any questions, please stay and talk to us or contact the school.
- Check the website for general information
- Thank you for joining our meeting today.
- We can't wait for your little one to become part of the Willow Family!



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