



WILLOWS
HIGH SCHOOL

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



The Willows Way

Be ready to learn



Work hard

Be kind



Parent Handbook 2020-2021

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

Estyn 2018

Contents

Page 3	Headteacher's Welcome	Page 17	Purposeful Transition
Page 4	Our Vision	Page 17	Student Ambassadors
Page 5	Contact Information	Page 17	Reading
Page 6	Attendance: The Willows Standard	Page 18	Homework
Page 7	Keep Track of Your Child's Attendance	Page 18	Equipment
Page 8	The Class Charter	Page 19	Self-Quizzing
Page 9	High Expectations Inside and Outside the Classroom	Page 20	Home-School Charter
Page 10	Useful Dates	Page 22	Rewards
Page 11	The School Day	Page 23	Sanctions
Page 12	Uniform and Appearance	Page 24	Anti-Bullying
Page 13	Mobile Devices	Page 25	Smoking
Page 13	Hair, Make-up and Jewellery	Page 25	Lost Property
Page 14	Why The Willows Way?	Page 25	Toilets
Page 14	The Willows Ladder	Page 25	Medical Requirements
Page 15	S.T.E.P.S.	Page 25	Medication
Page 15	S.H.A.P.E.S.	Page 25	First Aid or Illness
Page 16	S.L.A.N.T.	Page 26	High Aspirations
Page 16	Clap Transition	Page 28	Journey 7
		Page 29	The Canteen
		Page 30	Reading for Pleasure
		Page 34	Culture in the Capital



The school provides pupils with helpful support and guidance as they move between key stages.

Estyn 2018

Headteacher's Welcome

Dear Parent / Carer,

As Headteacher of Willows High School it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to our vibrant learning community.

I want you to be assured that we will provide a safe and stimulating environment in which your child will be happy, make good friends and be challenged in their learning.

At Willows we believe success comes from sustained effort and preparation, which is why it is very important for pupils, parents and staff to work closely together. With this in mind we provide you with 3 reports a year that will enable you to track the progress of your son or daughter. In addition, we offer information evenings during the year so parents can speak directly to members of our teaching staff. We also have a dedicated email address parentvoice@willows.cardiff.sch.uk where you can leave us comments or ask us questions that we will guarantee to answer within 24 hours.

Starting secondary school can be a daunting time for a child and their family. At Willows we will do everything possible to ensure that your child has a smooth transition from primary school. To assist you in this process, we have produced this 'Parent Handbook'.

This booklet acts as a guide, covering most of the commonly asked questions by parents and pupils. Contained within these pages you will find a wealth of information and an overview of the high standards and expectations at Willows High School.

As you read through this booklet it will become apparent that we are not like any other school in Cardiff. We have spent a great deal of time researching what works in education and what has the greatest positive impact on the development of your child as a learner and as a human being.

Our staff have visited numerous schools across the country and have read case studies about schools across the world, identifying good practice that can be 'Willowfied' and embedded into our practice at Willows High.

I hope that you find the information in this booklet useful. Please don't hesitate to contact us directly if you have any comments, questions or suggestions regarding the content.

Best wishes





The Willows Way

Our Vision

All our pupils achieve exceptionally well, have high aspirations and have acquired the knowledge, confidence and skills that lead to lifelong success

 **WILLOWS**
HIGH SCHOOL
BELONG, believe, ACHIEVE
PERTHYN, CREDU, LLWYDDO



Contact Information

School Address:

Willows Avenue
Tremorfa
Cardiff
CF24 2YE

Telephone:

02920 414243

General Email:

contact@willows.cardiff.sch.uk

Parent Comments:

parentvoice@willows.cardiff.sch.uk

Website:

www.willowshigh.co.uk

Twitter:

[@willowshigh](https://twitter.com/willowshigh)

[@willowsmrnorman](https://twitter.com/willowsmrnorman)

[@learnloungewhs](https://twitter.com/learnloungewhs)

Facebook:

[@willowshighofficial](https://www.facebook.com/willowshighofficial)

Senior Leadership Team:

Headteacher

Chris Norman

Deputy Headteacher

Kelly Bubbins

Assistant Headteachers

Gareth Ritter

Simon Thomas

Ian Whittaker (Safeguarding Lead)

Marcello LoCelso

Suzie Warren

Business Manager

Debbie Davies

Lead Practitioner

Nicola LoCelso (LNF / DCF)

Chair of Governors

Ed Stubbs

Vice Chair of Governors

Adrian Ford

Child's Welfare Officer

(Your child's Welfare Officer is your first point of contact with the school)

Child's Attendance Officer

Child's Form Tutor

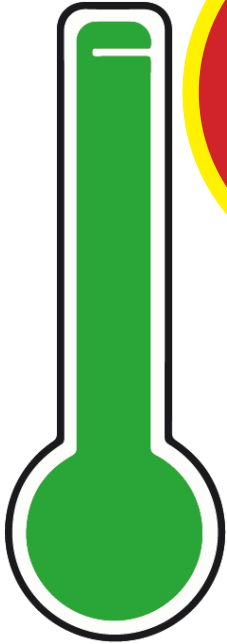
Child's Tutor Group

*"The Headteacher has developed a clear vision based around the school motto **Belong, Believe, Achieve.**"*

Estyn 2018

97%+ attendance

The Willows Standard



97%
6 days
absence

6 days
is 36 lessons.
How will
your child
catch up?

A two week
holiday in
term time
means that
the highest
attendance
a child can
achieve is
94.7%

There are
365 days in a
calendar
year

175 days
are not
spent in
school

**When pupils attend
school they:**

Can achieve their
full potential
Have better career
prospects
Learn how to look
after themselves
and be healthy
Grow in confidence
Keep up with work
and homework
Make new friends

So there's plenty
of time for shopping,
holidays and appointments

Attendance Enables Progress

Keep Track of Your Child's Attendance

With everything else that's going on throughout the year, it's easy to lose track of your child's attendance.

To ensure they hit the Willows Standard of 97%+, complete the table below each time they do not attend school.

Day 1	Absence Date: _____ Absence Reason: _____	Maximum Attendance 99%
Day 2	Absence Date: _____ Absence Reason: _____	Maximum Attendance 99%
Day 3	Absence Date: _____ Absence Reason: _____	Maximum Attendance 98%
Day 4	Absence Date: _____ Absence Reason: _____	Maximum Attendance 98%
Day 5	Absence Date: _____ Absence Reason: _____	Maximum Attendance 97%
Day 6	Absence Date: _____ Absence Reason: _____	Maximum Attendance 97%

Please contact the school on 02920414243 or at parentvoice@willows.cardiff.sch.uk to let us know that your child will not be attending school.

"The school tracks pupils' attendance and behaviour closely and an appropriate system of rewards and sanctions has contributed to an improvement in pupils' behaviour in lessons and around the school"

Estyn 2018

The Willows Way

Pupil Responsibilities

Be punctual and ready to learn with all equipment needed for the day.

Respect the views of all staff and students. Don't talk over your teacher or over students answering questions. Don't make fun of what somebody says.

Keep hurtful comments/opinions to yourself. Encourage your peers with positive comments.

Follow the Willows way, "Be kind". Students should not physically fight.

Bring healthier options to school to eat or purchase healthy options from the canteen. Students have a responsibility to report to staff if they or a friend are struggling with mental health issues. Students have a responsibility to ensure they are clean and presentable and adhere to the school rules regarding uniform.

Be motivated to come to school on time, show respect to all school staff, follow the Willows way homework timetable and attend extra-curricular activities to challenge yourself.

Students have a responsibility to remember their PE kit, stay focused during creative subjects and attend extra-curricular activities.

Article

Article 3 - The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all decisions and actions that affect children.

Article 12 - Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously.

Article 13 - Every child must be free to express their thoughts and opinions as long as it is within the law.

Article 19 - Governments must do all they can to ensure that children are protected from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and bad treatment.

Article 24 - Every child has the right to the best possible health.

Article 28 - Every child has the right to an education

Article 31 - Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.

Staff Responsibilities

Be ready to teach and treat all equally.

Offer help and advice where you can. Take on board what the student council have to say.

Crack down on bullying. Staff should allow the class ambassador to "Praise a Peer" as well as gratitude cards on a Friday.

Keep the ban on mobile phones to stop fights being filmed and prevent cyber bullying happening during school hours.

Staff should encourage healthy eating wherever possible. Staff should ensure they are approachable for wellbeing disclosures to be made.

Engage, enthuse and praise using Classcharts.

Staff have the responsibility to ensure students are engaged in creative subjects, have extracurricular opportunities and have recreational sporting facilities within the school.



Class Charter

High Expectations Inside and Outside the Classroom

The Willows Way Class Charter was developed by the pupils on our Rights Respecting Steering Group with the intention of providing every pupil with the best conditions to learn and every teacher with the best conditions to teach.

The school is the first secondary school in Cardiff to be awarded the Rights Respecting Bronze award. We are currently working towards the Silver Award.

We expect all of our pupils and staff to abide by the responsibilities it lists.



*"Pupils' rights underpin much of the school's work."
Estyn 2018*

Useful Dates

Term Dates 2020-2021

Autumn Term

Starts: 3rd September 2020

Half Term: 26th October 2020 - 31st October 2020

Ends: 18th December 2020

Spring Term

Starts: 4th January 2021

Half Term: 15th February 2021 - 19th February 2021

Ends: 26th March 2021

Summer Term

Starts: 12th April 2021

Half Term: 31st May 2021 - 4th June 2021

Ends: 20th July 2021

May Day Bank Holiday: 3rd May 2021

INSET Days

The school will be closed for staff training days on:
2nd September 2019 X
3rd September 2019 X
25th October 2019 X
24th February 2020 X
20th July 2020 X

“The Leadership Team share a sense of purpose and a commitment to the school’s values and ambitions of raising pupils’ aspirations and helping them to achieve.”

The School Day

We will be having split lunchtimes for different groups of pupils this year, so your child will be following one of the following orders of the school day depending on the Year Group they are in.

9.30 a.m.	Morning Tutor Time <i>Pupils follow a programme of reading that covers current issues as well as text to develop pupils' social, cultural and emotional development</i>			9.30 a.m.
10.00 a.m.	Lesson 1			10.00 a.m.
10.55 a.m.	Break			10.55 a.m.
11.15 a.m.	Lesson 2			11.15 a.m.
12.10 p.m.	Yr 7 Lesson 3	Yrs 8/10 Lunch	Yrs 9/11 Lesson 3	12.10 p.m.
12.40 p.m.	Lunch	Lesson 3	Lesson 3	12.40 p.m.
1.10 p.m.	Lesson 3	Lesson 3	Lunch	1.10 p.m.
1.40 p.m.	Lesson 4			1.40 p.m.
2.35 p.m.	Lesson 5			2.35 p.m.
3.30 p.m.	End of School			3.30 p.m.

"The daily tutorial sessions contribute well to pupils' personal and social education and enables them to reflect on their personal values and responsibilities."

Uniform and Appearance



Our mindset is:

Smart on the outside, smart on the inside.

The wearing of school uniform is compulsory at Willows and strictly enforced. School uniform promotes a positive attitude and sense of belonging to the school and a suitable image in the eyes of the wider community. We have seen the difference the smart uniform has made on the confidence and self-esteem of pupils.

Willows Uniform:

Grey traditional trousers (not tight fitting, no jeans, no leggings) or skirt (no shorter than 5cm above the knee), school blazer, white shirt and school tie. Grey tailored shorts may be worn in the summer term. School jumpers (whilst in stock) are optional.

Hijabs:

These should be plain black or blue and enable the school tie to be seen at all times.

All efforts will be made to ensure that families have access to the correct uniform, however, pupils who persistently contravene the uniform code will not be permitted to attend their lessons until the correct uniform is worn.

P.E. Kit:

School P.E. top, plain black sport shorts or plain black tracksuit trousers.

No leggings, jeggings, tight fitting trousers, jeans, jean like trousers or low rise trousers.

No hoodies

Hair:

No extreme styles / non natural colours.

The school has a supportive and inclusive ethos which supports pupils' wellbeing.

What do we mean by “black leather shoes?”

Shoes:

Black leather or faux leather shoes or ankle boots only.
No canvas, no trainers.

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



Examples of **acceptable**
black leather shoes



Examples of **unacceptable**
black leather shoes



Mobile Devices

Mobile devices are not to be used on the school site at any time, including lunchtime and break-time. We consider our school to be a sanctuary from social media.

Every tutor room has a secure locker where pupils are advised to store any valuables first thing in the morning. They can then be collected at the end of school.

If mobile devices, headphones etc. are seen or heard during the school day, they will be locked in the school safe for one week. They will then be returned to the pupil.

We have decided to do this to remove the constant distraction that mobile phones were becoming throughout the school. Social media was playing a large part in disagreements between pupils, causing ill feeling.

Hair, Make-up and Jewellery

The expectation at Willows is that there should be no non-skin coloured make-up worn in school including nail varnish. We made this decision to end the discussions teachers were having with pupils about what constitutes too much make-up. All the time we save not having these discussions can be used to help our pupils progress.

The expectation at Willows is that there should be no jewellery worn in school, except for a wristwatch (any queries regarding religious symbols should be made to the school before the start of the year.)

In the past we have allowed small stud earrings, but this became too time consuming to enforce. There were too many discussions about the size of earrings and what constitutes a small stud. In addition, we know that jewellery can be expensive and have sentimental value in some cases. We would not want these valuables lost while on the school site. All banned items will be confiscated for one week in the first instance.

The Willows Way

Why the Willows Way?

We want the pupils in our school to make the maximum progress in all areas, academically and socially, during their time with us. We have undertaken a lot of research into how the brain works and how pupils learn, and visited a lot of schools across the country to identify what works for them.

The Willows Way is the result of all of the best practice we have seen, adapted to work in our school, so that pupils feel safe, feel the pleasure of learning and achievement and leave us with the skills to communicate and function exceptionally in the next stage of their life.

Some people have commented that we have too many rules.

In reality, we have far fewer rules than other schools because the rules are the same in every single classroom and in every area of the school. In other schools, there are different rules for different teachers, different rules in the corridor and different rules in the canteen or yard. How can

a pupil remember what is expected of them if it changes almost every hour?

Our rules are short and simple. They are intended to enable all of our pupils to learn and feel safe, and for our staff to focus on teaching and the progress of our pupils.

The Willows Ladder

The Willows Ladder is a basic way of measuring character. At the bottom of the ladder, people are doing things because they don't want to get into trouble. As a pupil's character develops, we want them to get to the stage where they do the right thing because it's who they are, not because they are chasing some reward or avoiding a consequence.

Put simply, our definition of good character is 'Doing the right thing, even when no-one is looking.' You won't go far wrong in life with this mantra.

The Willows Way

Be ready to learn

Work hard

Be kind

"If you are not willing to learn, no-one can help you. If you are determined to learn, no-one can stop you."
Zig Ziglar

The Willows Way

Top of the Ladder

It's who I am

I want a great future

I want to build trust

I want to get merits

I want to avoid demerits, detentions and getting into trouble

"Your true character is most accurately measured by how you treat those who can do nothing for you"
Mother Theresa

The Willows Way

S	Sir / Miss
T	Thank you
E	Excuse me
P	Please
S	Sorry

“Good manners will open doors that the best education cannot”
Clarence Thomas



S.T.E.P.S.

We know that manners and politeness are not something that people are born with, we also know how important and how highly regarded they are in society. S.T.E.P.S is our acronym to easily remember the basics of this important characteristic.

If a pupil makes a request and doesn't say 'please' for example, a member of staff would simply say STEPS to identify that something was missing and warmly prompt the pupil to try again.

Please and Thank You are still 'magic words', they have a positive impact on the person you are communicating with, and will continue to do so for the rest of a pupil's life, whatever they choose to do.

S.H.A.P.E.S.

Similarly, being able to clearly communicate to people is an important life-skill to master. At some point, to be able to achieve anything in life you will need the help of others along the way and if you are a master at communicating, you will be more likely to get others on board.

Like STEPS, SHAPES is an acronym, listing the basics needed for clear communication and staff will use this acronym to develop pupils' communication skills throughout their time with us.

The Willows Way

S	Speak in full sentences
H	Hands away from mouth
A	Articulate words clearly
P	Project your voice
E	Eye contact
S	Smile

“The way you communicate reveals everything about you. Words are the clothes your thoughts wear.”
Amanda Patterson



*Pupils contribute well in activities to support the community.
Estyn 2018*

S.L.A.N.T.

In other schools, it takes vital minutes to get the attention of the whole class if a teacher is about to teach. Add these minutes up over the five years that pupils are with us and you get days of missed opportunities for learning. SLANT is our code for informing the pupils that the teacher needs the attention of all of the class.

The teacher will say '3-2-1, SLANT', at this point all pupils immediately stop what they are doing and pay 100% attention to the teacher.

We fold arms because this takes away the temptation to play with equipment or poke the person sitting next to you which takes away a percentage of concentration from their learning.

Pupils will only be SLANTing for a couple of minutes at the most as, with no behaviour issues to deal with, the teacher can work through their explanations a lot quicker. This, in turn, provides more pupils with more time for guided and independent practise.

Clap Transition

This was introduced to ensure the whole class can quickly move from one activity in a lesson to another with the minimum amount of time wasted. In other schools, this can eat away at learning time, with the pupils not listening to instructions, lethargically turning their focus onto the next part of the lesson.

In Willows, the teacher will start by saying 'On two', they will then explain exactly what the class is expected to do in the next part of the lesson. The teacher will then say 'One, Two' and in response all of the class claps twice in the same tempo.

It might sound strange, but the clapping energises the pupils to move on to the next activity quickly. It also draws a definitive line under one part of the lesson and marks the beginning of the next.



*The school promotes successfully pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural values.
Estyn 2018*

Purposeful Transition

Behaviour in corridors is an issue in most schools. Pupils can take a long time to get from one lesson to the next, they can wind each other up quite quickly and they can get quite rowdy.

We don't have that problem at Willows, despite having narrow corridors. Our corridors are calm, purposeful and safe.

Because of purposeful transition, all of our pupils move from one lesson to the next and are ready to learn in under three minutes. Students walk purposefully to the next lesson on the left side of the corridor, in single file, without talking (unless it's to say hello to teachers).

Of all of the changes we have made, this is the one that our current Year 7 found disconcerting at first, but after a matter of weeks it's become second nature.

Pupils feel safe, pupils arrive to lesson with the minimum amount of time lost and pupils arrive to lesson ready to learn.

Student Ambassadors

Each week a pupil from each Tutor Group is chosen to become a Student Ambassador.

They will be given a Student Ambassador Lanyard for the week. The Ambassadors have the responsibility for ensuring quick starts to lessons. We will be developing their role further to promote leadership skills.

At the end of the week, the Student Ambassadors are called together to fill in questionnaires about how they think the week has gone, what went well and how it could be improved.

Using this system, over the year, all pupils will have the chance to air their thoughts on how the school is run and how they are progressing in their subjects.

*The school increases pupils' aspirations.
Estyn 2018*

Reading

Every Willows pupil carries a reading book with them at all times: their own book chosen from our library or the local library. Pupils are advised every half term to choose books from their ZPD (Zone of Proximal Development) range or above. This means you will always be challenged by what you are reading and will be propelled forward to improve.

In Morning Tutor Time, we read material based on a topic that will enhance pupils' social and cultural knowledge. This will be taken from a variety of different source materials to give pupils the experience of reading different text types.

At the start of every lesson there will be around five minutes of group reading based around the topic that will be studied in that lesson.

Reading also forms part of daily homework.

We do this because we know the only way to get better at reading is to read more. We provide more opportunities than other schools for our pupils to develop their reading skills quickly.

Homework

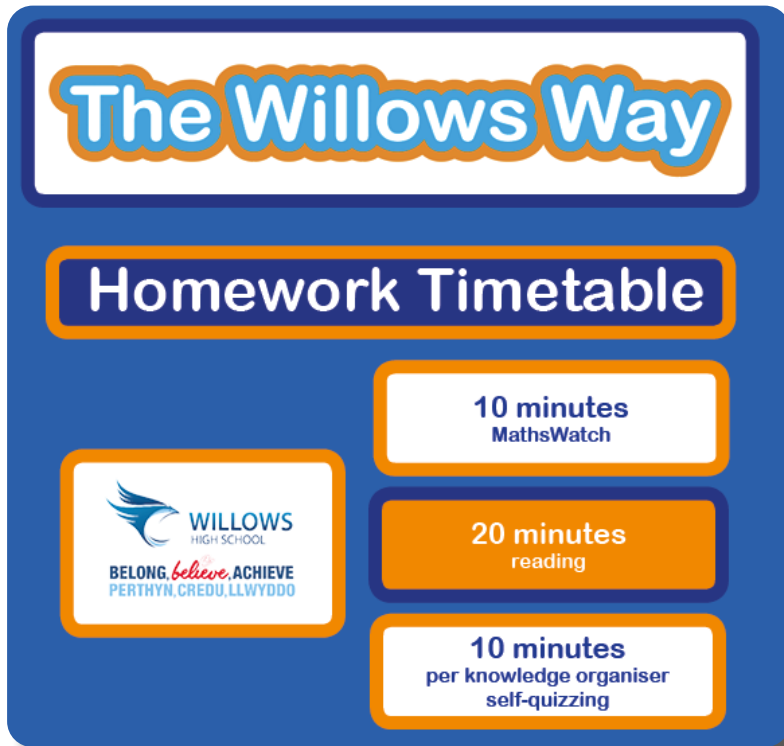
Homework at Willows is about 50-60 minutes each evening.

It consists of 3 things:

- 10 minutes of MathsWatch (a mathematics package accessed through the internet)
- 10 minutes of self-quizzing in practice books from two or three knowledge organisers
- 20 minutes reading.

The timetable for homework is set at the start of the year and will not change.

Whatever your child says, they will have homework every school night.



*Pupils benefit from a wide range of after school activities that support their social skills well.
Estyn 2018*

Equipment

Equipment is very important for learning at Willows. Arriving prepared with all your kit every day and learning to take responsibility for all your equipment are both vital to your success at school and in life.

We provide every Year 7 pupil with the following equipment, which they must bring every day:

- 1 Clear Pencil Case
- 2 Black Pens
- 1 Pencil
- 2 Green Pens
- 1 15cm Ruler
- 1 Rubber
- 1 Scientific Calculator

We provide clear pencil cases as these are the only type that are permitted to be taken into examination rooms.

When any of these run out or are lost, it is the pupil's responsibility to replace them. We have an equipment shop that is open from 8am in the canteen.

Self-Quizzing

The point of self-quizzing is to store subject knowledge securely in your long-term memory.

To self-quiz, you need four ingredients:

- A knowledge folder and the right subject knowledge organiser.
- A practice book, with the exact knowledge focus written at the top of the page.
- A black pen for writing from memory.
- A green pen for correcting any mistakes.

Here's how to do it: look, say, cover, write, check and correct.

Look: Read the information you want to commit to long term memory.

Say: Say it out loud a couple of times.

Cover: Cover up the definition, leaving only the left-hand column.

Write: Write the definition in a black pen from memory, without mindlessly copying!

Check: Check every word in the definition is accurate: tick accurate words with a green pen.

Correct: Correct inaccurate words by circling misspellings in a green pen and correcting it.

We have an acronym for this, L.A.S.A.C.A.W.A.C.

The Willows Way

Self - Quizzing

L. A. S. A. C. A. W. A. C.

Look
Read the information you want to commit to long term memory

and

Say
Say it out loud a couple of times

and

Cover
Cover up the information you want to commit to memory

and

Write
Write the information in your self-quizzing book from memory

and

Check
Check every word is accurate, tick with a green pen

“An investment in knowledge pays the best interest”
Benjamin Franklin

WILLOWS HIGH SCHOOL
BELONG. believe. ACHIEVE
PERTHYN. CREDU. LLWYDDO

The school provides a valuable programme of enrichment activities that supports pupils' learning and contributes well to their personal development
Estyn 2018

The Willows Way

Pupil Responsibilities

Attend every day on time, ready to learn and work hard.

Believe in yourself and aim to be the best version of you at all times.

Do your best in all areas of school work, both in lessons and at home.

Follow "The Willows Way" and abide by the Classroom Charter at all times.

To adhere to the school rules regarding uniform, including, jewellery and make-up.

Take advantage of all opportunities offered to you by the school, both inside and outside of lessons.

Treat all members of the school, all the property within the school and members of the wider community with respect.

Home Responsibilities

Ensure your child attends school regularly, on time, in the correct uniform and with the correct equipment including P.E. kit.

Inform the school immediately if your child is absent and / or if the contact details we have on record need updating. Sign up to ParentPay to support the school becoming a cashless school.

Attend any meetings that are arranged to support the progress of your child including Parents' Evenings, workshops, ALN meetings.

Support your child's learning by encouraging them to attend after school activities, ensuring they complete their daily homework and listening to them read daily.

Support the school's Behaviour Policy and Uniform expectations.

Whenever possible take your child on visits to museums, the theatre, art galleries etc to maximise their educational capital.

Support school events to encourage your child. Take advantage of the opportunities offered by the school and external agencies to widen your experience of education.

School Responsibilities

Care for your child's safety and happiness.

Create an excellent environment for learning.

Raise the aspirations of your child and help them to achieve their full potential.

Provide role models for your child to develop a strength of character and resilience.

Encourage and motivate your child to be the very best version of themselves.

Keep you informed about your child's progress, homework and about general school matters.

Be open and welcoming and offer opportunities for you to become involved in the school.



Home-School Charter



Signed: _____ on behalf of Willows High School

Signed: _____ Pupil

Signed: _____ Parent / Carer

Home - School Charter

At Willows we know how important it is to build partnerships with parents. That is why all pupils sign the Charter at the start of the academic year. The Charter is counter signed by Parents / Carers and the Headteacher.

Research has consistently shown that active parental interest makes a great deal of difference to how well children do at school. Parents can help more effectively if they know what the school is trying to achieve and what they can do to offer support. Home-School Charters provide a framework for the development of such a partnership. The contents of the Charter clarifies what the school aims to achieve, and the Charter will set out the role of the school, parents and pupils in this vital partnership.

The Charter states:

The purpose of this charter is to set out how our pupils, their home and our school should work together to ensure that they achieve the highest level of attainment possible whilst developing into independent and resilient citizens who are full of integrity. All pupils at our school and their Parents / Carers are required to sign this Charter to document that they endorse the principles that are set out within it and agree how we all work together for the educational benefit of our pupils.



We ask that you read it through thoroughly and contact us if you have any suggestions, comments or questions about its contents.

The school promotes parental engagement well through the Learning Lounge, an on-site facility that allows parents to meet senior and middle leaders. Leaders are able to have useful discussions with parents within this facility to provide guidance on how parents can support their children's education.

Rewards

Rewarding and Recognising Good Behaviour, Effort and Attitude

We believe it is vital that praise and reward should have a considerable emphasis within the classroom and that pupils should achieve recognition for a positive contribution to school life.

Promoting positive behaviour is the responsibility of all staff and can include:

- Verbal praise
- Regular encouragement
- Positive feedback in books
- Phone calls to Parents / Carers
- Merits logged on Class Charts

Commending good behaviour and praising good work is the most important aspect of our behaviour policy. Merits can be awarded for any reason and recorded on Class Charts, some examples include:

- An outstanding piece of work
- Consistently good work
- Consistently high level of effort
- Significant improvement
- Outstanding contribution in a lesson
- Excellent test result

The giving of praise is used at every opportunity in a consistent manner across all year groups. Willows High School has a set of rewards that are used by all teaching and support staff.

Merits

Merits are recorded on Class Charts in recognition for:

- Providing a good answer to a question in class
- Good manners
- Being helpful
- Providing a good piece of work
- Continued good attitude and effort
- Improved attitude and effort

Form tutors give regular feedback on the number of Merits gained by members of their tutor group. Subject Leaders will monitor Merits given out by members of their department to ensure praise is a regular feature of every lesson.

Awarding of Certificates

A certificate will be awarded to a pupil once the required number of Merits has been reached.

- 200 Merits = Bronze Certificate
- 400 Merits = Silver Certificate
- 600 Merits = Gold Certificate
- 800 Merits = Platinum Certificate
- 1000 Merits = Headteacher's Certificate

WILLOWS HIGH SCHOOL

Sanctions

Demerits

Demerits are the opposite of Merits, they are given when pupils are disrupting the learning of others or not following 'The Willows Way'. Demerits can lead to a number of different sanctions. Demerits are set to zero at the start of every school day.

4 Demerits in a day will lead to a 30 minute detention, 8 Demerits will lead to withdrawal from classes to spend 6 lessons in the Internal Isolation Room.

After School Detentions

These are held centrally on Monday-Friday from 3.30pm - 4.00pm.

Pupils who are removed from lessons are placed into an after school detention the same evening. Parents / Carers are informed via the ClassCharts app. If your child is unable to attend the detention due to a prior appointment, such as doctor or dentist, it is important to ring the school to inform them. Failure to attend the detention after school will result in a day in Internal Exclusion.

Punctuality Reflection Sessions

Pupils who are late to school will attend a Punctuality Reflection Session after school.

Equipment

It is important that pupils come to school each day equipped to learn and engage fully in lessons. Equipment is checked each morning in tutor time. Pupils who do not have the correct equipment will earn themselves a Demerit.

Homework

Homework is also checked daily in tutor time. Pupils are issued with a knowledge organiser and a timetable which clearly states which subjects need to be studied on which day.

Homework consists of reading, a maths exercise online and self quizzing. Failure to complete homework leads to a Demerit.

Placing on Virtual Report

A pupil can be placed on virtual report at the discretion of a Welfare Officer or member of the Leadership Team. A pupil will normally be placed on report for a week for unsatisfactory conduct or work. This is not so much a punishment, rather a means of drawing a pupil's attention to his / her short-comings and offering support for improvement. The pupil will meet with their Welfare Officer daily and the report will be reviewed at the end of each week.

Internal Exclusion

This is an exclusion from the normal school routine. Pupils remain in the Internal Exclusion Room throughout the day and are given their timetabled work to do.

Fixed Term External Exclusion

This is a formal suspension from school by the Headteacher which is then reported to the School Governors and local authority.

Permanent Exclusion

This is a permanent suspension from school by the School Governors and local authority.

Defiance of Reasonable Requests

We believe that if a pupil has done something to warrant one of these sanctions they should accept the consequences without question.

We do not accept pupils refusing to follow a reasonable request, therefore fixed term exclusions will be used whenever this occurs.

Anti - Bullying

We will not accept bullying at our school. Our goal is to develop and support respectful friendships.

We agree that it is everyone's responsibility to stop bullying.

We will:

Treat others with fairness and respect

Find ways to help others feel included in our activities

Speak out against bullying

Refuse to let others be bullied

Report bullying to an adult

Refuse to bully others

Be responsible bystanders who are part of the solution

Help others feel safe and comfortable at our school



If you have any concerns regarding bullying please contact your child's Form Tutor or Welfare Officer.

The school uses a wide range of external agencies and other providers to support vulnerable pupils' wellbeing and learning.

Smoking

Willows High School is a NO SMOKING site.

Smoking is not permitted anywhere on the school site and no pupil may bring cigarettes or tobacco products, e-cigarettes, matches or a lighter to school. Pupils may not smoke either on the way to or from school. Any pupil who is with a pupil who smokes will have the same consequence as the smoker.

Lost Property

If your child loses an item he / she should enquire at Pupil Services. We ask that all items brought into school are named as it will help to ensure any lost property is returned.

Toilets

Unless pupils have a medical condition, these should only be used before school, during break time, at lunch time or after school to ensure that as much time as possible is spent in lessons learning. Pupils will only be allowed to access the toilets during lesson time in exceptional circumstances.

Medical Requirements

If your child has any special medical requirements please inform Mr. Whittaker, the school's ALNCo (Additional Learning Needs and Disability Co-ordinator).

Medication

All medication that needs to be taken during school hours, must be administered by a member of staff. An 'Administration of Medicines in Schools' form must be completed for each request for medication to be administered.

Where the request is for a non-prescribed medication, a new form must be completed after 2 weeks.

Please note that medication will only be administered at lesson change over or break times, to avoid any disruption to learning.

First Aid or Illness

Pupils who become ill or have an accident in school should inform a member of staff. The school is able to offer basic first aid and deal with minor ailments but it is not possible to prescribe paracetamol or other medication.

When pupils need to go home, the school will telephone a parent or emergency contact and make appropriate arrangements. Pupils are never sent home without permission from a parent or other responsible person.

High Aspirations

The Willows Way Where will it take you?



With over 12,800 undergraduate and 4,000 postgraduate students, the university's parkland campus is on the outskirts of the city of York in the north of England. The University has an annual turnover of almost £340 million and employs more than 5,000 staff, and under a third of the University's academic staff and 22% of its student body are from outside of the UK.

York is an ambitious dynamic, research-intensive university committed to the development of leading disciplines, new technologies and cultural sciences to tackle some of the most pressing global issues. The seven pillars of its research strategy align the University's academic strengths to meet the great scientific, social and environmental challenges of our time. In the recent UK-wide assessment of the quality of research in universities, 35% of its research was rated as world-leading and a further 42% rated internationally excellent.

The intellectual rigour and global perspective of the University's research informs its excellent teaching and learning environment. The University's collegiate system, combined with substantial personal care and support, and class-sized facilities and a vibrant free public engagement programme, including the York Festival of Ideas, ensures that the student experience at York is world-class.

The Willows Way Where will it take you?



The University was formed in 2004 by the amalgamation of the Victoria University of Manchester and the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology - institutions which both had their origins in the mid-19th century. It now offers more than 1,000 undergraduate courses, has nearly 22,000 overseas students, almost 12,000 postgraduates and more than 10,000 staff. This is the largest of European and a growing sector and culture has.

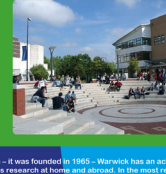
Since 2004 the University has generated more than 100 patents or commercial contributions to Greater Manchester's position as the business capital of the north-west of England and a thriving sector and culture has.

Manchester has a rich history of ground-breaking research, from the jetting of the atom by Professor Sir Ernest Rutherford to the Nobel Prize for Physics for their research. Today, some of the most exciting work at the University is in the area of nanotechnology and quantum computing.

The University won a Queen's Anniversary Prize in 2011 for the outstanding research of its Dalton-Nuclear Institute for Earth and Environmental Science. In 2012, the Dalton-Nuclear Institute received the highest award in UK universities, 98% of its research was rated world-leading and a further 47% rated internationally excellent.

Manchester is also transforming its campus and surrounding area, with a total of £1.76 billion to be invested by 2022 - the largest ever estates investment by a UK university.

The Willows Way Where will it take you?



Despite its relative youth - it was founded in 1965 - Warwick has an excellent reputation for world-class research at home and abroad. In the most recent assessment of the quality of research in universities 57% of the university was rated as world-leading and a further 36% rated internationally excellent.

It has an annual turnover of more than £510 million and 37% of its academic staff are from overseas. The university's Department of Mathematics is one of the UK's Few Fields Medalists. Professor Martin Hairer, an Austrian mathematician, won the Fields Medal in 2018.

More than 14,700 undergraduates, 8,900 postgraduates and 8,000 staff from studying and working in Warwick's innovative, research-rich environment also has a huge impact on the West Midlands region where it is just one example is the WMG (Warwick Manufacturing Group), which integrates manufacturing industries in the region, brought in significant investment and improved the competitiveness of hundreds of businesses. Queen's Anniversary Prize in 2020.

The Willows Way Where will it take you?



For more than a century, the University of Birmingham has thrived by being purposeful, pragmatic and pioneering. Founded in 1900, it now employs more than 7,000 staff and has an annual turnover of almost £300 million.

With more than 20,000 undergraduate and 14,000 postgraduate students, Birmingham is constantly developing and adding to its research excellence. It is a leading global university, benefiting the national and international economy. It is doing this in clinical, legal, social and the arts to build partnerships and develop innovative solutions to address big international issues, enhancing its research and internationalising the educational experience for its students. Today three per cent of the university's academic staff and 24% of its student body are from outside the UK.

Characterised by a tradition of innovation, research at the University has broken new ground, pushed forward the boundaries of knowledge and made an impact on society and the world. In the most recent assessment of the quality of research in universities, 28% of its research was rated as world-leading and a further 50% rated internationally excellent.

In September 2015 the University marked another first with the opening of the University of Birmingham School. The pioneering institution is a free, mixed ability, co-educational state school for students aged 11-16, with a selective academic sixth form, providing an innovative educational experience for all of its pupils.

The Willows Way Where will it take you?



The university has over 16,000 undergraduates and more than 5,500 postgraduate students, who enjoy life in the heart of the vibrant and buzzing city of Bristol. With an annual turnover of £530 million, it drives its employability 8,000 staff. Approximately 30% of its academic staff and 23% of its student body are from outside the UK.

As a research-intensive university, Bristol supports both individual and interdisciplinary or thematic research of the highest quality. In the recent UK-wide assessment of the quality of research in universities, 34% of its research was rated as world-leading and a further 47% rated internationally excellent.

The University of Bristol is at the forefront of research which is changing lives. In 2015 it was awarded a Queen's Anniversary Prize in recognition of its research into the risks posed by volcanoes to aviation, developing an innovative computer model for predicting ash plume movement and helping to make airspace safer for the public. It came on the back of a 2013 Queen's Anniversary Prize for its research in plasticity and neuronal plasticity, which has made a positive difference to mothers and babies throughout the world.

The Willows Way Where will it take you?



Its reputation for outstanding academic achievement is known world-wide. High-quality original research carried out by its staff and the intellectual rigour of its students. The university employs more than 10,000 staff, while more than 17,000 postgraduate students live and work at the university's 31 autonomous Colleges.

In the recent UK-wide assessment of the quality of research in universities research was rated as world-leading and a further 40% rated internationally excellent. In the most recent assessment of research quality in UK universities, 53% of its research was rated as world-leading and a further 41% rated internationally excellent.

The excellence and diversity of the university's research attracts students and business interest from across the world: 41% of faculty and 53% of its staff are from outside the UK. When combined with its international commercial businesses, the university has an annual turnover of over £3.8 billion.

The Willows Way Where will it take you?



Driven by creativity and curiosity, the university strives to fulfil its social, cultural and economic obligations to Cardiff, Wales and the wider world. It provides an educationally outstanding experience for its 25,500 undergraduate and 8,000 postgraduate students. Nearly 20% of its student body and 22% of its academic staff are from outside the UK. It employs more than 6,000 staff and has a turnover of £462 million.

The university ensures its research has global impact by working across disciplines to tackle the major challenges of our time. The discoveries of stem cell pioneer and Nobel Prize winner Professor Sir Martin Evans are now being applied in virtually all areas of biomedicine and have been key to establishing Cardiff as a world-leading centre for biomedical research. In the recent UK-wide assessment of the quality of research in universities, 40% of the university's research was rated as world-leading and a further 47% rated internationally excellent.

In 2015 its Centre for Neuro-psychiatry in Genetics and Genomics won a Queen's Anniversary Prize for pioneering research in the genetics of mental disorders, making landmark discoveries about the risk of schizophrenia from cannabis use and genetic links to autism, ADHD and Alzheimer's.

The Willows Way Where will it take you?



The university has an outstanding history of discovery, invention and innovation, which include the theory of the Higgs boson, for which Professor Peter Higgs was awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics in 2013, and the cloning of Dolly the Sheep at the university's Roslin Institute. This year's Queen's Anniversary Prize was awarded to the university for its research in the UK and abroad. It was also awarded the Queen's Anniversary Prize for its research in plasticity and neuronal plasticity, which has made a positive difference to mothers and babies throughout the world.

Edinburgh provides a high quality learning and teaching environment for its 20,000 undergraduates and more than 8,700 postgraduate students, 33% of whom come from outside the UK. The university is also leading the development of new forms of education. It was the first university in the UK to provide massive, open, online courses (MOOCs) to students right around the world and was awarded the Queen's Anniversary Prize in 2013 for its distance learning masters programmes, which have re-shaped postgraduate education for finance students.

More than 13,000 people work at the university, with 38% of faculty are from overseas, helping the university to make a significant, sustainable and locally responsive contribution to Scotland, the UK and the world. In 2015, the University's Centre for Cardiovascular Science received a Queen's Anniversary Prize for its research into coronary heart disease, research which has played a major role in the reduction in death rates through innovative treatments and guidelines and has saved many lives.

The Willows Way Where will it take you?



Research excellence within disciplines and interdisciplinary teams are at the heart of the University's strategy and are helping Glasgow to address global challenges. The university's Royal Centre won a Queen's Anniversary Prize for its impact on infectious diseases that blight agricultural communities in the UK and in other countries. In the most recent assessment of research quality in UK universities, the university's research was rated world-leading and a further 50% rated excellent.

The university's campus boasts more than 100 listed buildings as well as its teaching and research facilities, and hosts over 19,000 undergraduates and 7,600 postgraduates. Glasgow was the first university in the UK to appoint a Vice-Chancellor in 1840, and its many pioneering businesses including the world's first ultrasound images of a foetus in 1958. Over the next few years campus will expand by a quarter as part of a £725 million development plan.

Since its foundation, Glasgow has established creative and vibrant links to the world, and today, 27% of students and 31% of academic staff are from overseas.

The Willows Way Where will it take you?



Located in the heart of London, Imperial is committed to developing the next generation of researchers, scientists and leaders. It provides an educationally outstanding experience for its 25,500 undergraduate and 8,000 postgraduate students. Nearly 20% of its student body and 22% of its academic staff are from outside the UK. It employs more than 6,000 staff and has a turnover of £462 million.

The College focuses on the four main disciplines of science, engineering, medicine and business, and is renowned for the application of these skills to industry and enterprise. In 2014, Fields Medalist Professor Sir Simon Donaldson won one of the inaugural Breakthrough Prizes in mathematics and Professor Sir John Pendry won the Kavli Prize in Nanoscience in recognition of his contributions to nanotechnology and quantum physics. The College attracts the world's very best scientists, engineers and medics. More than half of the college's faculty are from overseas and many are award-winning. In 2014, Fields Medalist Professor Sir Simon Donaldson won one of the inaugural Breakthrough Prizes in mathematics and Professor Sir John Pendry won the Kavli Prize in Nanoscience in recognition of his contributions to nanotechnology and quantum physics. The College attracts the world's very best scientists, engineers and medics. More than half of the college's faculty are from overseas and many are award-winning. In 2014, Fields Medalist Professor Sir Simon Donaldson won one of the inaugural Breakthrough Prizes in mathematics and Professor Sir John Pendry won the Kavli Prize in Nanoscience in recognition of his contributions to nanotechnology and quantum physics.

The Willows Way Where will it take you?



Since the university received its Royal Charter in 1903, researchers at Liverpool have been pursuing novel interdisciplinary research that is helping mankind to understand and solve the problems of our time. In the most recent assessment of research quality in UK universities, 27% of the university's research was rated world-leading and a further 54% rated internationally excellent.

The university is globally recognised for its research in health and life sciences, science and engineering, and humanities and social sciences. Its interdisciplinary research includes the National Centre for Zoonosis Research and the Bioprocess Institute for Renewable Energy. Liverpool's pioneering reputation attracts students, nearly 300,000 from the around the world. Around 30% of its near 18,000 undergraduates and 4,800 postgraduates, and 20% of its academic staff are from overseas.

The Willows Way Where will it take you?



The university offers an intellectually rigorous environment supported by world-class teaching and research facilities, and is dedicated to the advancement of knowledge, the understanding of the service of society, both in the UK and internationally. More than 17,000 undergraduates and 11,000 postgraduate students, 20% of whom are from overseas.

Research at King's is challenging and ground-breaking, leading to new thinking and perspectives. In the most recent assessment of research quality in UK universities, research was rated world-leading and a further 45% rated internationally excellent. King's Health Partners, the university's partnership with three NHS Foundation Trusts, together with research, education and clinical practice for the benefit of the communities of south London. It is a founding member of the Federal University of London but has conferred on it since 2008. The university is based across five campuses in the heart of the city, the academic community at King's is diverse, with staff and students from over 100 countries.

Way
you?

Knowledge
ent UK-wide
ity's research
ient.

entics and 31%
omics tools
ian by fifth.

It benefit
ment. The
is based
helped to
ent overseas.
It won the

The Willows Way

Where will it take you?

UNIVERSITY OF
Southampton



The University has a turnover of over £325 million a year, around 6,500 members of staff and over 16,000 undergraduates and over 7,000 postgraduates, based in its five campuses across the city of Southampton and one in Winchester in the south of England. In 2012, the University opened a campus in Malaysia offering students the chance to study for engineering degrees across both countries.

Southampton is one of the UK's top research universities, with 33% of its research rated world-leading and a further 51% rated internationally excellent in the most recent UK-wide assessment of the quality of research in UK universities. It attracts talent from across the globe with 32% of its academic staff and 20% of its students from outside the UK.

Through world-leading research and education activities, Southampton connects with businesses to create real-world solutions to global issues. It works with partners around the world to offer relevant, flexible education, which trains students for jobs not even overseas, as are a third of academic staff.

One of its most renowned academics is Professor Sir David Payne, who pioneered the optical fibre technology that provides the backbone to the Internet and modern telecommunications. Everywhere you use the Internet, your mobile phone or an ATM you are using technology developed at Southampton.

The Willows Way

Where will it take you?

UNIVERSITY OF
EXETER



The university has invested heavily in science, engineering, mathematics, and medicine research, and has a world-class reputation in the humanities and social sciences. It is constantly seeking new ways to engage with government, industry, and the community to build productive, sustainable partnerships and tackle some of the fundamental issues facing humankind.

The interdisciplinary Environment and Sustainability Institute was born from its research into the consequences of environmental change. In the most recent assessment of research quality in UK universities, 25% of Exeter's research was rated world-leading and a further 41% rated internationally excellent. 2016 will see the opening of its £52.9M Living Systems Institute, designed to explore complex systems in nature and how they can be better understood.

Over 16,000 undergraduates and 3,000 postgraduates study across its five campuses in Exeter and its Penryn and Torquay campuses in Cornwall, with more than a quarter of students coming from outside the UK. The university is proud of its partnership working with its students, who are involved in the earliest stages of strategic planning.

Over four thousand people work at the university, with 32% of faculty coming from overseas, and the university collaborates extensively with international partners on research and education.

The Willows Way

Where will it take you?

UCL



UCL was one of the best-performing universities in the most recent assessment of research quality in UK universities, with 43% of its research rated world-leading and a further 39% rated internationally excellent. In 2014 the neuroscientist Professor John O'Keefe was a recipient of both a Nobel Prize in Neuroscience and a Nobel Prize for his discovery of specialised brain cells that allow humans and other animals to orient themselves.

Almost 17,000 undergraduates and nearly 19,000 postgraduates fill its tightly-sited campus in Bloomsbury in central London. The university has plans to open a second campus on the site of the London 2012 Olympic Park in east London in 2019.

UCL is a truly global university, with 40% of its academic staff and 38% of its students from overseas. Its excellence has inspired all academic disciplines. From the Bartlett, its world-renowned centre for architecture, to the Institute of Education, which won a Queen's Anniversary Prize in 2015. It is also one of Europe's most productive centres of medical and life science research, which has led to UCL's major research prizes.

Way
you?

reflecting the
achievement,
than 12,000
of the

47% of its
excellence
three Nobel
and medicine.

academics
a student body
and publishing

The Willows Way

Where will it take you?

The University of
Nottingham

UNITED KINGDOM · CHINA · MALAYSIA



The university's foundations lie in University College Nottingham, a constituent college of the University of London set up in 1881, which was then granted its own Royal Charter in 1948. It was the first British university to establish a campus in Malaysia, in 2000, and the first foreign university to open a campus in China, in 2004.

Across the three countries it has more than 8,000 staff, 32,300 undergraduates and 9,500 postgraduates. At its main Nottingham campuses, 23% of students are from overseas, as are a third of academic staff.

The University of Nottingham conducts world-class research across a wide range of disciplines and has a long history of excellence in research quality in UK universities. 32% of the university's research was rated world-leading, and a further 40% rated internationally excellent. One example of great research that has had global impact is that of Professor Sir Peter Mansfield, who was awarded the 2003 Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine for his discovery of magnetic resonance imaging, now used in hospitals worldwide.

The Willows Way

Where will it take you?

Durham
University



Durham was one of England's leading centres of medieval scholarship, although it was not until 1828 that it formally became a university in its own right. Today it has a turnover of £288 million, employs 4,400 staff and has a student body of 12,870 undergraduates and 700 postgraduate students. Twenty-nine percent of its student body and 30% of its academic staff come from outside the UK.

The university seeks the highest distinction in research and scholarship, and is committed to excellence in all aspects of education and transmission of knowledge. In the most recent UK-wide assessment of the quality of research in universities, 33% of the university's research was rated as world-leading and a further 40% rated internationally excellent.

While the university has a medieval World Heritage Site at its heart, it has always been forward-looking. It was one of the first universities to admit women on an equal footing to men, in 1890, and the first to invest in and fund engineering degrees (a first among regional and national universities in the country).

Durham's research directly informs teaching of both undergraduates and postgraduates, and creates multidisciplinary programmes through research centres and institutes. Its partnership with policy-makers, industry, the public sector, and communities around the world, Durham's cross-disciplinary and cross-cultural research shapes local, national and international agendas.

The Willows Way

Where will it take you?

Newcastle
University



Founded in 1963, with origins in the nineteenth century, nearly 17,000 undergraduate and over 6,200 postgraduate students are now engaged in its excellent research-formed degree courses, learning from and working alongside academics who are at the cutting edge of their discipline. Twenty-nine percent of students and 30% of academic staff are from overseas, and the university now has medical and engineering campuses in Malaysia and Singapore. A new London campus opens in September 2015.

A critical part of its role as a civic university is the positive difference it makes to the city of Newcastle and the wider north-east of England. Newcastle has also committed to ensuring that its research helps address some of the world's key issues by focusing on selected societal challenges: ageing, social renewal and sustainability. In the most recent assessment of research quality in UK universities, 31% of Newcastle's research was rated world-leading, with a further 46% rated internationally excellent.

The University received its third Queen's Anniversary Prize in 2013, for its long-term research and development of new strategies for the real economy, having won twice before - in 2005 for innovative solutions to cleaning up riverine pollution, and in 2009 for its pioneering research in the field of ageing and health.

Way
you?

the heart of the
city. In 2013 the
at on leading
developing
cities, 31% of
internationally

modern
and more than
a Professor
publishing
the Glasgow's
on.

ing and
overseas.

The Willows Way

Where will it take you?

Queen Mary
University of London



With almost 11,000 undergraduates, 4,000 postgraduates and over 4,000 staff, Queen Mary is one of the largest colleges of the federal University of London. It has awarded its own degrees since 2012.

Queen Mary has made a strategic commitment to the highest quality of research, investing in cutting-edge facilities and recruiting the best academics in their disciplines from around the world. Thirty-three percent of its student body and 41% of its academics are from overseas, and in the most recent assessment of research quality in UK universities, 24% of its research was rated world-class, with a further 52% rated internationally excellent.

The university teaches and researches across a wide range of subjects in the humanities, social sciences, law, medicine and dentistry, and science and engineering. Based in a creative and culturally diverse area of east London, Queen Mary has had a strong standing commitment to the creation and expansion of knowledge through public engagement. The university prides itself on the diversity of its student body and its support for the local community, including work to improve school education and reduce poverty across London.

The Willows Way

Where will it take you?

UNIVERSITY OF
LEEDS



The combination of increasing knowledge and opportunity is the defining feature of life at Leeds. The university provides an outstanding student experience, and with its strong commitment to nurturing talent and developing people, has built a vibrant PhD and postdoctoral community. Its industry-facing networks are at the heart of its interdisciplinary research, focusing on health, water, food, energy, climate, and high value engineering. The university is investing in key technologies which will become a platform for its research in future, including imaging in biomedical and physical sciences, robotics and laser engineering. In the most recent assessment of research quality in UK universities, 32% of its research was rated world-leading and a further 30% rated internationally excellent.

Closer to home, the university plays a huge role in the economic and cultural prosperity of Leeds and the region. It is the city's third largest employer and has a turnover of nearly £400 million. Leeds encourages collaboration and enterprise at all levels, as seen through unique partnerships with Marks & Spencer and Opera North. The university hosts several outstanding cultural institutions on campus such as the Sainsbury Centre for Fine Art, the International Concert Series and the University Library Special Collections, which houses collections of national and international importance.

Over a quarter of staff and one fifth of students are from overseas, creating a single, cosmopolitan campus on the edge of one of the UK's largest cities.

The Willows Way

Where will it take you?

LSE THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE



LSE has a worldwide reputation for the quality of its research - fifty-percent of its research was rated world-leading and a further 37% internationally excellent in the most recent assessment of research quality in UK universities. In 2010, Professor Sir Christopher A. Pissarides was awarded the Nobel Prize for Economics for his analysis of markets with search friction.

The school is a constituent college of the federal University of London, with over 4,400 undergraduates, 6,200 postgraduates and 3,300 staff. It has an annual turnover of nearly £300 million.

LSE benefits from a student and staff community that is truly international, with around two-thirds of students and faculty from overseas. The school also has extensive research and advisory links around the world, with other universities, businesses, charities and NGOs, and organisations like the United Nations and World Bank.

Way
you?

coming
and
ing's has more
come from

ing and
ates 40% of its
talent.

on Traits, brings
of patients and

The Willows Way

Where will it take you?

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST




With almost 19,000 undergraduates and nearly 5,000 postgraduates, Queen's is a dynamic and diverse institution at the heart of the city's cultural, arts and social scenes. It is one of the largest employers in Belfast and each year contributes more than £700 million to the Northern Ireland economy. To date it has developed 86 spin-out companies with a combined turnover of £1.71 million. The university is a magnet for inward investment, a patron of the arts and a global player in fields ranging from cancer studies to sustainability, and from pharmaceuticals to creative writing. Of its student body, 14% are from outside the UK, as are 42% of its academic staff.

In the most recent assessment of research quality in UK universities, 25% of the university's research was rated world-leading and a further 52% rated internationally excellent. The university has won the Queen's Anniversary Prize on six occasions, for Northern Ireland's Comprehensive Cancer Services programme and for world-class achievement in green chemistry, environmental research, palaeoecology, cyber-security and law.

The Willows Way

Where will it take you?

UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD



The University of Oxford is the oldest university in the English-speaking world, dating back to the 12th century. It is one of the world's leading centres of scholarship, a collegiate university with a turnover of more than £1.5 billion a year.

More than 17,000 undergraduates, 10,000 postgraduates and around 15,000 staff work across Oxford's four independent colleges and a third global medical, legal and academic staff. Almost 40% of its students and 41% of academic staff are from overseas. Among its alumni are current and former leaders of many countries including former US President Bill Clinton, Mark Zuckerberg (founder of Facebook), former member of the British House of Commons, and former Prime Minister Gordon Brown.

Oxford University ranked number 1 in the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings for 2016, and was named one of the world's most prestigious research-led universities. Co-founded by the university's staff, students and alumni, it has led an enormous impact on the world, and the benefits are still being felt today. In the most recent assessment of research quality in UK universities, 38% of its research was rated world-class and a further 38% rated internationally excellent.

Oxford's international profile rivals that of any university in the world, highlighted by the breadth and depth of its research collaborations and a truly global medical, legal and academic staff. Almost 40% of its students and 41% of academic staff are from overseas. Among its alumni are current and former leaders of many countries including former US President Bill Clinton, Mark Zuckerberg (founder of Facebook), former member of the House of Commons, and former Prime Minister Gordon Brown.

The economy and wider society benefit from the academic prowess of the University, with £5.68 billion gross value added (GVA) flowing to the UK economy, and 90,000 jobs created by the University's research, teaching and professional services.

The Willows Way

Where will it take you?

The University
Of
Sheffield



With twenty-nine percent of students coming from more than 120 countries outside of the UK and 31% of academic staff also from overseas, there is a vibrant, diverse community on the university's campus in the north of England.

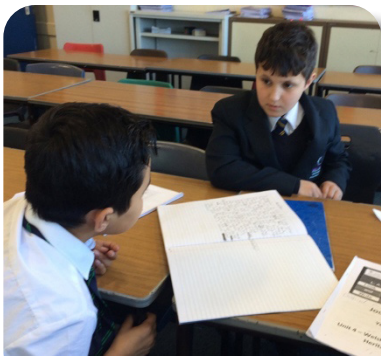
The university's research spans the disciplines and in the most recent assessment of research quality in UK universities rated 33% of its research world-leading and a further 52% as internationally excellent. The university has forged close links with local businesses as well as large multinationals. In particular, its Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre is a partnership with 75 companies, bringing together the expertise and technological know-how of the world's leading aerospace companies with the world-class research of the University of Sheffield's Engineering.

With almost 7,000 members of staff and a turnover of more than £575 million, the university is one of the largest employers in the city of Sheffield, and plays a key part in the education of the region's young people through both traditional degrees and apprenticeships. The university also has a faculty based in Thessaloniki in Greece, where it collaborates with leading research centres in the east and central Europe.

Journey 7

*Key Stage 4 pupils support younger pupils well.
Estyn 2018*

Journey 7 is a topic based curriculum that focuses on the development of literacy while teaching the skills and knowledge of a range of school subjects.



Subjects included within the Journey 7 umbrella are History, R.E, PSE, Geography, Drama, Art and Photography. These subjects are taught thematically through units of work such as 'Careers' 'Welsh Culture and Heritage', 'Inspirational People' and 'Persecution and Discrimination'.

Much like the primary curriculum, your child will be taught by their Journey 7 teacher for a large percentage of their school day. The reason behind this is to give the pupils the chance to really settle into secondary school life, enabling them to have the security of a constant

teacher who knows them well just as their year 6 teachers do. Also, as a school, our biggest priority is to improve the literacy of all pupils. In Journey 7 our main target is to ensure progress for all pupils in their literacy.



Journey 7 provides pupils with the platform to maximise their potential for the rest of their time in Willows High School.



The Journey 7 curriculum helps pupils to settle well into their secondary school education.

Estyn 2018

The Canteen

We have a large canteen which can hold all of the pupils in the school comfortably.

Whilst eating, pupils can catch up on current affairs on one of three media screens. We have a 3 week menu rota which can be seen on the right.

Pupils can bring in their own packed lunch, although we urge parents to make it as healthy as possible.

Our canteen is cashless and biometric. Pupils choose what they would like to eat and scan their thumbs to pay for the food.

We are a cashless school, so we ask you to sign up for a ParentPay account enabling you to top up online. You will also be able to pay for trips and school events using this system.

Free School Meals

Currently the allowance is £2.95 per day, which adds up to £560.50 per pupil per year.

The allowance is electronically put onto the pupils account, so the payment for food is the same for Free School Meal Pupils as it is for Non Free School Meals pupils.

If you think your child might qualify for Free School Meals, it's a good idea to apply. Even if your child does not want to claim the free meals it is beneficial to be on the list.

If you need help or advice filling out the form, contact Nat our Family and Community Engagement Officer at the school.

WILLOWS HIGH SCHOOL BELONG, believe, ACHIEVE PERTHYN, CREDU, LLWYDDO		The Willows Menu Week 1				
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
Main Meal	Beef Chilli Con Carne & Potato Wedges	Chicken & Mushroom Puff Pastry Pie	Curry & Rice	Shepherd's Pie Sweetcorn & carrots	Fish & Chips	
Vegetarian Option	Vegetable Chilli & Potato Wedges	Vegetable & Quorn Bake	Vegetable Curry & Rice	Quorn Mince Pie Sweetcorn & Carrots	Fish Fingers Home made Vegetable fingers	
Grab and Go	Tomato & Basil Pasta & Mediterranean Vegetables	Sweet & Sour Noodle Pot & Vegetables	Curry, Chips & Rice	Vegetable Tagliatelle Carbonara Pasta	Chips Potato Wedges	
Vegetable of the day	Mixed Vegetables	Broccoli & Cauliflower Florets	Hidden Vegetables	Sweetcorn & Sliced Carrots	Peas Baked Beans	

WILLOWS HIGH SCHOOL BELONG, believe, ACHIEVE PERTHYN, CREDU, LLWYDDO		The Willows Menu Week 2				
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
Main Meal	Spaghetti Bolognaise	Sausage & Mash Gravy, Green Beans / Peas	Home Made Rogan Josh & Rice	Lasagne Peas & Garlic Bread	Fish & Chips	
Vegetarian Option	Vegetable Bolognaise	Cheese & Potato Pie	Vegetable Rogan Josh & Rice	Vegetable Lasagne Peas & Garlic Bread	Fish Fingers Home-made Vegetable Fingers	
Grab and Go	Vegetable Medley Pasta Pot	Vegetable Noodle Stir-Fry	Curry, Chips & Rice	Sweet Pepper & Tomato Noodle Pot	Chips Potato Wedges	
Vegetable of the day	Mixed Vegetables	Peas & Green Beans	Mixed Curried Vegetables	Peas	Baked Beans	

WILLOWS HIGH SCHOOL BELONG, believe, ACHIEVE PERTHYN, CREDU, LLWYDDO		The Willows Menu Week 3				
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
Main Meal	Sweet & Sour Chicken	Roast Dinner	Chinese Chicken Curry & Rice	Hunter's Chicken	Battered Fish & Chips / Salmon Fish Cakes	
Vegetarian Option	Vegetable Sweet & Sour	Quorn Dinner	Chinese Vegetable Curry & Rice	Quorn Pieces in BBQ Sauce	Home made Vegetable fingers	
Grab and Go	Pasta Pot	Hot Meat / Quorn Baguette	Curry & Rice Pot (or Chips)	Noodle & Veg Pot	Chips	
Vegetable of the day	Hidden Vegetables	Selection of Vegetables	Mixed Curried Vegetables	Peas	Baked Beans / Peas	

These are examples, menus will be distributed at the start of each term.

The PSHE programme enables pupils to understand the importance of a healthy lifestyle and how their choices will impact on their present and future wellbeing.

Reading for Pleasure

At Willows we value the skill of reading and encourage our pupils to read for pleasure whenever possible. There are opportunities throughout the school day for your child to practise and build on their reading skills and we would ask that you ensure they have their personal reading book on them at all times.

Linguist Don Hayes found that lower frequency words are many times more likely to occur in print than in speech. Good readers will often encounter new words in print and this in turn grows their vocabulary.

What happens in the case of the child who is not a good reader?

They read less, and they read less challenging material, so their vocabulary is not extended as quickly. As a result, the vocabulary gap between successful readers and non-readers grows. Hence the so-called ‘Matthew Effect’, where those that have more get more and those who have less to begin with fall further behind.

We ask that you read with your child for at least 20 minutes per day (this is part of their daily homework).

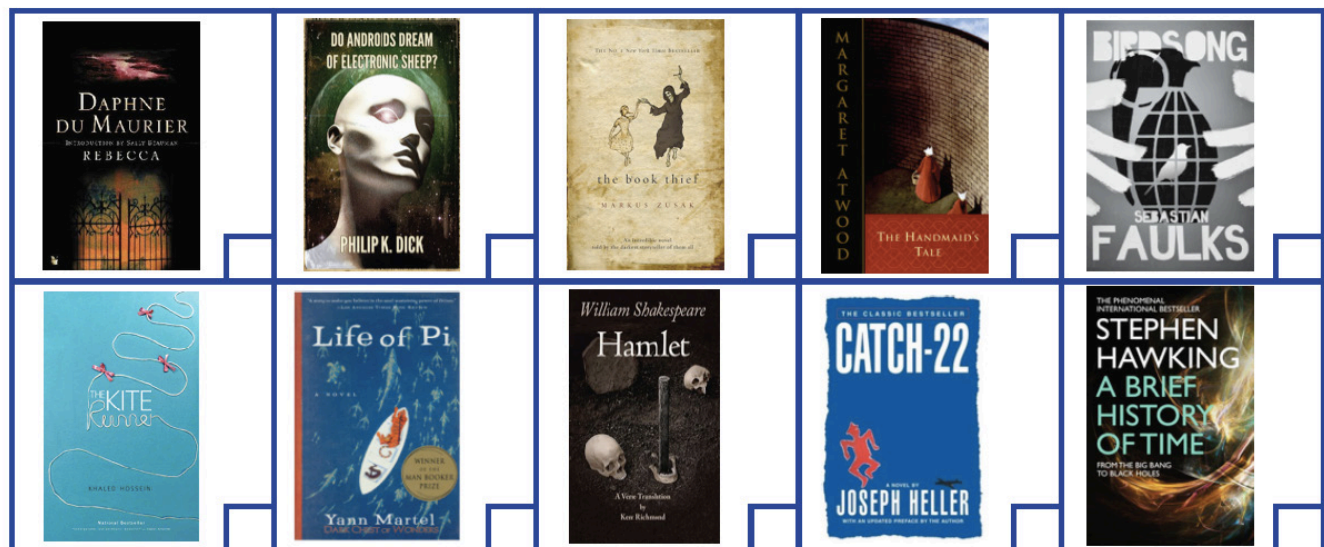
We have also put together our own ‘Willows Literary Canon’ (See the images below) which lists the 100 books that we believe should be read before your child reaches school leaving age. All of the titles can be found in our school library and libraries across Cardiff.





The PSHE programme enables pupils to understand the importance of a healthy lifestyle and how their choices will impact on their present and future wellbeing.





The school has a clear focus on reading, including promoting reading for pleasure.
 Estyn 2018

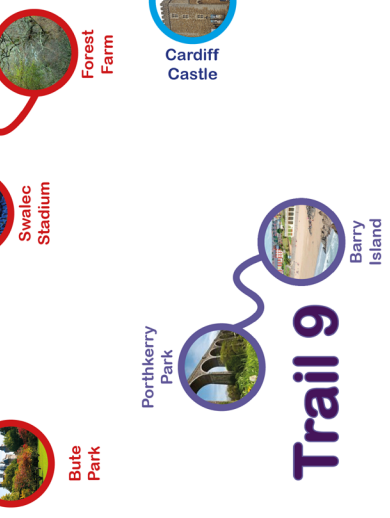
The Willows Way

Culture in the Capital

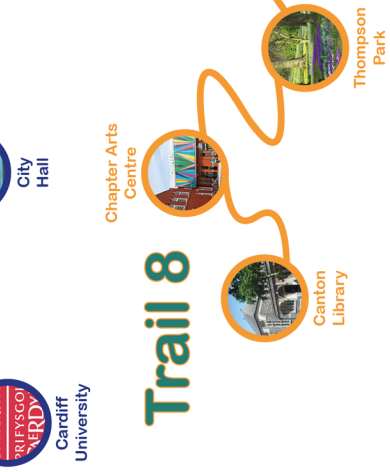
Trail 3



Trail 2



Trail 1



Trail 7



Trail 9



Trail 8



Trail 4



Trail 10



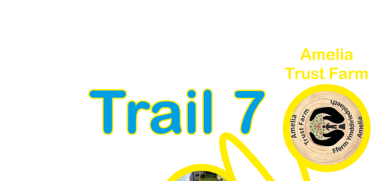
Trail 11



Trail 5



Trail 6



'Culture in the Capital' consists of 50 places that you should aim to visit before you leave school. These places are all well-known Cardiff landmarks. Acquiring familiarity with these, will stand you in good stead in the future. You will be able to refer to the knowledge you gain in these places in the wider world. You will be able to match and excel your peers' knowledge at University.

Many of the places are free to visit, some of them offer free events and some of them charge entry fees. You may have visited some of the places in primary school but it's always good to re-visit to brush up on your knowledge and to explore new exhibitions and areas. You may be invited to attend some of the places on Willows' school trips but it would be fantastic to complete the trails with your family so that you can all enjoy and learn together. You can take lots of photos to show your teachers and friends!

We are lucky to live in such a vibrant capital city - so why not absorb the culture, gain new knowledge and most importantly have fun exploring!

Name: _____



Notes

The Willows Way



Barack Obama
1961 -

"Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek."

The Willows Way



J. K. Rowling
1965-

"You've got to work. It's about structure. It's about discipline. It's all these deadly things that your schoolteacher told you you needed... You need it."

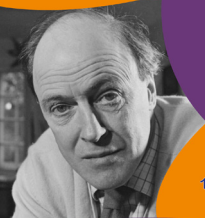
The Willows Way



Maya Angelou
1928 - 2014

"Try to be a rainbow in someone's cloud."

The Willows Way



Roald Dahl
1916 - 1990

"I think probably kindness is my number one attribute in a human being. I'll put it before any of the things like courage or bravery or generosity or anything else."

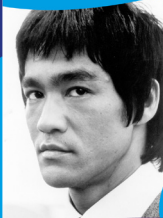
The Willows Way



Martin Luther King, Jr.
1929-1968

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."

The Willows Way



Bruce Lee
1940 - 1973

"Knowledge will give you power, but character respect."

The Willows Way



Lieutenant General David Morrison
1956-

"The standard you walk past, is the standard you accept."

The Willows Way



"A person who won't read has no advantage over a person who can't read"
Mark Twain