

# Parent Bulletin

office@willingdonschool.org.uk | 01323 485254



**Willingdon**  
COMMUNITY SCHOOL

20th September 2024

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO COMPLETE THE SPONSORED WALK GOOGLE FORM, LINK BELOW, GIVING PERMISSION FOR YOUR CHILD TO TAKE PART IN OUR SPONSORED WALK ON FRIDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER.**

## Sponsored Walk 2024



Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a fantastic and busy week at Willingdon. Staff have remarked how students have 'settled well' and are 'very focused' in lessons.

Our parent visits this week also remarked on the 'calmness' of transition times and the 'hard working' approach of our students during lessons. We have another set of parent tours next week if you would like to see the school in the working day and speak with Mrs May or a senior leader. The next tours are on Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> September - 8.15am - 9.45am and Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> September - 8.15am - 9.45am and you can book in by clicking on the below link;

### [Tours of the school during the school day - September 2024](#)

Many thanks to the parents who attended the Meet the Tutor evening last night. We hope you found it useful to put a name to a face and to know who sees your child each day as a check in.

Sponsored Walk is fast approaching, a week today, and we are hoping for sunshine and dry weather! Thank you to the brilliant response we have had this week. We are still chasing 200 responses, so please help with staff workload by responding asap. Please click on the link above.

We also have our academisation consultation at 5pm-6pm on Tuesday in the school hall. We hope to see many parents and carers there.

The Friends of Willingdon also have their AGM on Tuesday at 6.15pm and to date we have had no parents sign up. The Friends raise much needed funds for the school, which help provide all the little extras which the school budget cannot provide. It is with great sadness that Rosie the Chair, is standing down after 7 years, and we are looking for a new parents to bring new ideas to the table and carry on the success of the Friends of Willingdon School. Please let us know via [friends@willingdonschool.org.uk](mailto:friends@willingdonschool.org.uk) if you are coming for refreshment purposes. We look forward to seeing you there.



**Friends**  
OF WILLINGDON

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

Mrs May

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - TERM 1

### SEPTEMBER

**PARENT TOURS OF THE SCHOOL** – THURSDAY 26TH,  
MONDAY 30TH ALL AT 8.15AM-9.45AM.

**ACADEMISATION STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION** - TUESDAY, 24TH 5PM - IN PERSON.

**ONLINE ACADEMISATION MEETING**—MONDAY 30TH 6PM-7PM

**SPONSORED WALK** - FRIDAY 27TH

### OCTOBER

**YEAR 6 EVENING (EARLY SCHOOL CLOSURE)** - THURSDAY 3RD

**PARENT FORUM** - WEDNESDAY 9TH - 6PM

**YEAR 11 PARENT EVENING**—THURSDAY 17TH 3.15PM – 6.15PM IN PERSON

**Year 11 Mock Exams** (all week) - Monday 21st

## OPEN MORNINGS

TUESDAY 8TH OCTOBER 9AM

WEDNESDAY 9TH OCTOBER 9AM

THURSDAY 10TH OCTOBER 9AM

## INSET DAYS

MONDAY 4TH NOVEMBER (YEAR 11 MOCK EXAMS)

TUESDAY 5TH NOVEMBER (YEAR 11 MOCK EXAMS)

MONDAY 6TH JANUARY

(POSSIBLE YEAR 11 FRENCH/SPANISH SPEAKING MOCK EXAMS)

## EARLY SCHOOL CLOSURES

THURSDAY 3RD OCTOBER

FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER

FRIDAY 4TH APRIL

TUESDAY 22ND JULY

(staggered by year group from  
12.20pm-12.40pm)

**TOUR OF THE SCHOOL REMINDER - 3 morning sessions available for Term 1** - If you would like to come and see the school in action, visit your child's class, see the cross over between lessons or even how the canteen works, please feel free to come and meet Mrs May or one of the senior leaders at the tours below. We need interest registered in advance please on the below google form.

Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> September -8.15am - 9.45am

Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> September -8.15am - 9.45am

[Tours of the school during the school day - September 2024](#)

### **Reminder of Parent Forum dates for this year**

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 6pm - First half of the meeting Post 16 Options. Parents, please email [stomalin@willingdonschool.org.uk](mailto:stomalin@willingdonschool.org.uk) for your suggestions on Agenda items.

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 6pm

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 6pm

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 6pm

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April 6pm

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 6pm

## Trips and Activities

At Willingdon School, we take great pride in the diverse range of exciting and insightful school trips and activities that we offer. However, in response to parent feedback, we wanted to share with parents / carers the protocols we have in place when we open a school trip:

- Parents / carers will be given at least **48 hours notice** for trips with restricted numbers before a school trip will go live on Parent Pay. For more expensive trips, more advanced notice will be given. The specific date and time will be made clear on the trip letter.
- Google forms will be used as an **expression of interest only** for new or international / residential trips over £500.
- Trips will go live on Parent Pay between Monday – Thursday at approximately 3pm. Whilst we understand that this time may not work best for everyone, it means that we can have staff available to help deal with any queries or issues if they arise.

If there is ever a case where you feel you cannot make the deposit payment deadline, please discuss with the trip leader as we would want to support all students in accessing these opportunities.

Once again, we apologise for any confusion caused to Year 7 parents over the upcoming Geography trip to London. However, we are rarely able to offer trips to 240 students so some students might be disappointed in the future if trips sell out quickly. But we will always do our best to make the process as fair and clear as possible. Thank you for your understanding.



## Year 11 Digital School Photos

The Friends of Willingdon Community School are offering parents the opportunity to purchase digital photos of their Year 11 child (which were taken last term in house for Arbor purposes), at a low cost, with all donations going to the Friends.

Mindful of the economic climate we are all now experiencing, Willingdon made the decision to take the photos in-house. This means that the digital images are still of high quality, but allows us to offer the digital photo to parents/carers in return for a small donation of £3.00.

You will be able to view the photo that has been taken when you log in to Arbor. We think that they are fabulous and hope you do too.

ParentPay is now open to purchase your digital image, this window will close on Friday, 27th September, and any images purchased will be delivered to parents, via email, from Monday, 20th September onwards.



# Willingdon

## COMMUNITY SCHOOL

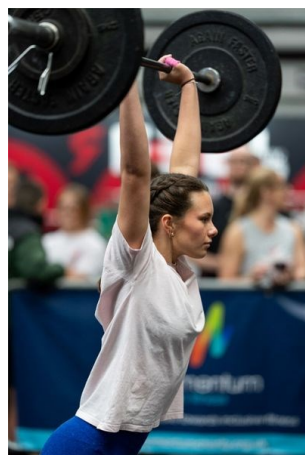
We would love to find out more about our students' interests, hobbies, and achievements outside of school!



Please complete this 1 minute survey



<https://forms.gle/yaAvUJeLpNMBhmhG8>



We are proud of Year 11 student Sydney who competed at the British Teen and Masters Crossfit Championships in Southampton. There were 6 workouts across the weekend that Sydney had to complete and she performed brilliantly to finish 8th in her age category!



## ENRICHMENT CLUBS

Dance Live – Wednesdays (Audition only)

Auditions will be held on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September only select number will be selected due to coach sizes.

Dance Live is a competition between other schools in March we choreograph a dance to a theme along with a LED screen.

There will be a fee for this later on in the year to cover our Coach, Costumes and entry fee.

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You do not need to sign up to our clubs, unless stated on the information, just turn up at the right time and the right place.



If you are interested:  
Please write a short summary of why you would be good for the role. With some plans of what you might do. And give to Miss Page

## Dance Leadership Opportunity

### RESPONSIBILITIES:

ON A ROTATION WILL NEED TO LEAD DANCE CLUB ON A THURSDAY  
PLAN CHOREOGRAPHY, CREATE WARM UPS

BUILD ON YOUR COMMUNICATION SKILLS, STRENGTHEN LEADERSHIP,  
DEVELOPMENT OF PERSONAL DANCE ABILITIES

10th OCTOBER  
THURSDAY

Student  
Performances

2024

WILLINGDON  
DANCE  
SHOW

6:00pm-7:30pm

123-456-7890

For more information

See Miss Page

DANCE  
LIVE  
2024



25<sup>th</sup> March 2025

SIGN UP YOUR  
INTEREST IN PE1

## DANCE LIVE IS BACK!!

Dance live is a dance competition between other schools.

This year we will be going to Hastings!

**Only 40 performer spaces**  
**5 stage crew**

Sign up outside PE1 you will need to choreograph a 1 minute dance as a solo or group to perform on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September

Speak to Miss Page for more information

## Literacy News

We are excited to let you know that we are using Sparx Reader with our KS3 students to support and enhance their reading skills. Sparx Reader is an interactive reading platform designed to:

- Improve comprehension skills
- Encourage independent reading
- Personalise students reading

The English department will be setting Sparx Reader as part of their homework schedule for students in Years 7-9. Sparx Reader is an excellent tool to support literacy development, and we encourage students to fully engage with it. Students are able to access Sparx Reader to do extra work on their reading if they wish to do so.


If you have any questions, please contact [rbrown@willingdonschool.org.uk](mailto:rbrown@willingdonschool.org.uk)

## Rewards

I wanted to share how our school rewards system is designed to encourage and celebrate personal excellence through our Willingdon core values: **Ambition, Respect, Courtesy, Compassion and Honesty.**

Alongside a range of other reward options, we hope to motivate students to embody these values in their daily school life. Below are just some of the ways that students can be rewarded for each of our core values.

If you have any questions, please contact [rbrown@willingdonschool.org.uk](mailto:rbrown@willingdonschool.org.uk)

**Personal Excellence values** 

**AMBITION**

- Producing exceptional pieces of work in the classroom and as part of homework
- Engaging in healthy competition
- Seeking to push their limits and expand their knowledge
- Persistence in goal setting/self-motivation

**RESPECT**

- Valuing others and their opinions
- Taking care of their environment (work/books/classroom/other school space)
- Accepting teacher feedback constructively

**COURTESY**

- Good conduct towards other members of the school community
- Words of encouragement or compliments to peers
- Demonstrating active listening without interrupting

**COMPASSION**

- Fundraising
- Volunteering: clubs, trips and activities
- Assisting others (academically/pastorally)

**HONESTY**

- Reflecting on progress and making changes
- Taking responsibility in a situation

## Reward Point Mile Stones

Reward	Point Value
Bronze	250
Silver	500
Gold	750
Platinum	1000
Diamond	1500



Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Instrumental and Vocal lessons at Willingdon Community School**

We are on a mission to bring the Magic of Music into as many of your homes as possible. Earlier this month, your child experienced the excitement of seeing and hearing a demonstration of the instruments that are available to learn at Willingdon Community School. Learning to play a musical instrument provides children with an experience that enriches their lives in so many ways.

Most of our visiting music teachers come to us from Create Music. The only exception is our singing teacher who is self-employed.

Through learning an instrument children learn musical skills that help develop a lifelong love of music. Research has also shown that there are many other benefits associated with learning to play a musical instrument including:

- raising confidence and self-esteem
- improving teamwork, concentration, and many other skills for learning
- connecting with new people and broadening horizons
- improving their well-being by becoming happier and healthier

Lessons take place either individually or in small groups during the school day and I am pleased to confirm we are planning to start new pupils in the coming weeks.

If you would like to register your child for instrumental lessons, please apply directly via the Create Music website [www.createmusic.org.uk](http://www.createmusic.org.uk)

To find out more about help with fees for lessons with one of our Create Music teachers:

[East Sussex Bursaries | Create Music](#)

To find out about the Eastbourne Music Centre and its activities for current instrumental learners:

[Music Groups | Create Music](#)

If your child is interested in having singing lessons, please see a separate letter from our singing teacher.

I very much hope that your child will be interested in learning to play an instrument and experience the Magic of Music.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact me by email.

Kind regards,

Mr Parry



# Angelica Vocal Academy

[www.angelicavocalacademy.com](http://www.angelicavocalacademy.com)

Dear Parents.

## Re: Singing lessons.

My name is Lavinia Salisbury and I have been a vocal coach for 25 years. I work in different schools across the area and also run a 60 strong choir called Angelica Vocal Academy. We rehearse at Willingdon School on a Wednesday Evening.

I will be offering private singing lessons during school time as of this term. Pupils can either have one on one or share with another pupil. I work on breath control, diction, performance skills and confidence building. The lessons are £16 per half an hour for one on one lesson, and £8 for a shared lesson.

Fees can be paid on a weekly or term basis, ( payable 1 week before end of term)

Please fill in the form below if you would like your child to have lessons during the school day.

Yours sincerely

Lavinia Salisbury

[Lavinia-angelica@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Lavinia-angelica@hotmail.co.uk)

07912380163

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Name of pupil: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like my child to have private/shared singing lessons  
I would like to pay termly/weekly.

Parents Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Email

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Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Lavinia Salisbury. 109 Eastbourne Road, Lower Willingdon, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN20 9NE. Tel: 079712380163 email: [lavinia-angelica@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lavinia-angelica@hotmail.co.uk)



We want to say a huge congratulations to Calista who competed at the Sunshine Tour National Championships at Hickstead at the weekend. Calista took part in 5 classes over the two days, winning multiple rosettes and placing 3<sup>rd</sup> nationally in her show pony class! Thousands of people enter from all over the country and with Calista being one of the youngest in her classes, this is a huge achievement! Well done Calista!

Please do get in touch if your child is involved in any activities outside of school and you'd be happy for us to share their achievements within our community, we'd love to hear about them!

Please can we also remind you to complete the google link found in the sponsored walk letter in the parent bulletin the week before last and on the front page today. We need responses as soon as possible.

Finally, from next week we will be running homework support clubs for Year 7 every Tuesday and Thursday lunchtime in the library. There will be computers there and Learning Mentors to support with any work if needed. This is in addition to the homework club on Mondays after school in the IT rooms.



## Year 7

### Great European Bake off Competition



To celebrate the [European Day of Languages](#), the MFL department invites you to enter the **Great European Bake off Competition**.

Design, bake and decorate a cake (or cupcakes) with a **European theme** (a European country, something that represent a country...). **It must be nut-free.**

Bring your creation to LA3 on **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September** before school. The cakes will be sold at break and lunch. All proceeds will go to charity.

Amazon vouchers for winner and runner up.





Dear Parents & Carers,

Year 10 continue with the strong start to the year. The change in the approach to learning of many of them has been a pleasure to see as we walk around their lessons on a daily basis.

It was great to see so many parents at the Meet the Tutor Evening this week. It provided an opportunity to put a face to a name for many of you and us. The tutors provide amazing support each day for the students during tutor time and through working closely with the year team, we are looking forward to the strong start continuing.

We have the Sponsored Walk coming up next week, Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> September, please remember to fill out the google form for your child [Sponsored Walk 2024 Google Form](#).

Year 10 are concentrating on where they are choosing to do their work experience with the letter attached in this bulletin. We have been hearing some exciting opportunities that the students are finding for their placement in May next year but should you have any questions or queries relating to this then please do not hesitate to contact the year team on [pastoral10@willingdonschool.org.uk](mailto:pastoral10@willingdonschool.org.uk).

Mrs Codling - Pastoral Support Leader for Year 10



**Willington**  
COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Dear Parents/Carers and Students,

### **Year 10 work experience / 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

Thank you for the details of confirmed work experience placements so far.

Please continue to send details to me on [srooney@willingdonschool.org.uk](mailto:srooney@willingdonschool.org.uk) by **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024**. The details that are required are:

- Name and address of the company
- Contact name and email address at the company
- Your child's name and tutor group

If you have a possible placement, that may need to get back to you after the deadline of Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> September, please could you email or call me, so that I can make a note of this.

Over the coming weeks, I will work with students, that are not yet placed, to try and find a suitable placement for them. Students will be able to log into a database and choose four opportunities that are of interest to them. Unfortunately, on occasion, employers that show available in the database no longer have opportunities, however, I will try to place your child in one of their four choices. If this is not possible, I will do my utmost to source an alternative placement for them. Please note, however, that it may not be in one of their preferred sectors, but I will have ongoing conversations with them about this.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kindest regards,

Sarah Rooney

**Careers Adviser**

Tel: 01323 485254 ext 281





Head of Year  
Mr Gordon

Email - [pastoral-11@willingdonschool.org.uk](mailto:pastoral-11@willingdonschool.org.uk)

# Year 11



Another busy week for Year 11 but they continue to rise to the challenge. Walking through lessons it is clear to see the focus and commitment to learning by so many. We welcomed Seaford Head to our assembly this week to promote their sixth form provision and with more visitors to come, post 16 decisions should be well informed for Willingdon students. Special mention also to Bode, who this week was called into the Brighton and Hove Albion U17 team to play against Southampton in the U17 Premier League Cup!

Mr Scowen - Acting Head for Year 11

Dear Parents/Carers,

Please see the attached information regarding the application process for applying for scholarships at Eastbourne College.

Please note that the deadline for applications is **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October** however Eastbourne College do encourage that applications are submitted before then.



[Eastbourne College](#)

In addition, please see the following [link](#) to their most recent highlights magazine which celebrates the achievements of their students inside and outside the classroom.





Head of Year  
Mr Gordon

Email - [pastoral-11@willingdonschool.org.uk](mailto:pastoral-11@willingdonschool.org.uk)

# Year 11

Dear Parents/Carers,

Please see below the overall timetable for the Year 11 Mocks. It gives the dates and start times of all exams. Students will receive their own individual exam timetable, along with rooming and seat numbers, in the next 2 weeks. Students should be aware of which exams they are sitting in their mocks and their teachers will have given them information about the exam and how to revise. If you or your child have a question about a mock in a given subject, please contact the class teacher in the first instance.

Students are expected in at normal times, in full school uniform, and will be given instructions of where to go in order for the exams to start at the time stated. Students who have afternoon exams will have an early lunch. If a student does not have an exam, they will be in normal lessons.

On Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> November and Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> November we have mocks for English and Maths in the morning. All of Year 11 are expected in for these exams. Following the end of these exams, if students are in Latin or French and Spanish exams, they are welcome to stay on site and we will provide a quiet study space for them to do revision. The canteen will not be open, so students will need to bring food with them. All other Year 11 students who do not have an exam in the afternoon on these days are asked to leave site and return home so they can revise.

If you have any questions about this process please contact the Year 11 pastoral team. ([Pastoral-11@willingdonschool.org.uk](mailto:Pastoral-11@willingdonschool.org.uk))

## 11 Autumn Mock Exams

	8.45am Start		12.30pm Start	
14-Oct	Art (2Hr) (Art 1) - 10.35 START			
21-Oct	English Language P1 (1Hr 45Min)		IT (1Hr 30Min) Psychology (1Hr 30Min)	
22-Oct	History (2Hr)		Computer Science 1 (1Hr 30Min)	
23-Oct	Business (1Hr 45Min)		Maths P1 Non Calc (1Hr 30Min)	
24-Oct	Biology Trilogy (1Hr 15Min) Triple (1Hr 45Min)		Geography (1Hr 30Min)	
25-Oct	Food (1Hr 45Min)		DT (1Hr 30Min) Dance (1Hr)	
04-Nov	English Literature P2 (2Hr 15Min)	Core Exam ALL Year 11 are expected to attend morning exam	Latin Language (1Hr 30Min)	Only those taking Latin need to attend the afternoon exam
05-Nov	Maths 2 Calc (1Hr 30Min)	Core Exam ALL Year 11 are expected to attend morning exam	French (W) & Spanish (w) (1Hr 20Min) Higher & (1Hr) Foundation	Only those taking French or Spanish need to attend the afternoon exam
06-Nov	Chemistry Trilogy (1Hr 15Min) Triple (1Hr 45Min)		PE GCSE (1Hr 15Min) PE Vcert (1Hr 30Min)	
07-Nov	Drama (1Hr 45Min) Sociology (1Hr 45Min) French L&R(Foundation 1Hr 30Min), (Higher 1Hr 50Min)		Music GCSE (1Hr 15Min) Childcare (1Hr 30Min)	
08-Nov	Physics Trilogy (1Hr 15Min) Triple (1Hr 45Min)		Latin Civilisation (1Hr)	
11-Nov	Geography 2 (1Hr)		Spanish L&R (Foundation 1Hr 30Min), (Higher 1Hr 50Min)	
12-Nov	Catch up exams (if needed)			



*'Your future starts here!'*

**SEAFORD HEAD**

**SCHOOL SIXTH FORM**

**TO FIND OUT  
MORE  
JOIN US FOR  
AN**

**OPEN DAY**

Thursday 10th October, 2024 –  
evening event – 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

There will be Talks at 6:00 pm and  
6:45 pm – starting at Seaford Head  
Lower School on Steyne Road,  
followed by tours at the sixth form  
centre – just across the road from  
the Lower School – and there will be  
an opportunity to meet subject  
teachers and students.



Saturday 12th October, 2024 – morning event – 10 am – 12 pm

This is a more low key event with an opportunity to speak to Senior Leaders at  
the Sixth Form Centre – information stands will also be available.

You are able to sign up for an Open Event at "Careers East Sussex"

<https://www.careerseastsussex.co.uk/>

Or Telephone: 01323 891623