Parent Bulletin





23rd May 2025



Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach Term 6, we want to take a moment to thank you for your continued support throughout the year. It has been a busy and rewarding journey so far, and we're incredibly excited about all that lies ahead in this final term.

There is so much to look forward to — from Year 6 taster days and Sports Day to the Phoenix Festival and our Activity Day, to name just a few of the highlights. These events promise to create lasting memories and give our students the chance to celebrate and enjoy their school experience together.

This Friday, we held the final assembly for our Year 11 students — a special moment that reflected upon their journey with us since Year 7. We are so proud of all they have achieved and the young people they have become.

We'd also like to thank the students and staff who took part in an interview this week to speak about the strength of the Coastal Schools Partnership. We are fortunate to benefit from so many enriching opportunities and activities for our students, thanks to our collaboration with Eastbourne College — and we're very grateful for this ongoing support.

Finally, this week we've enjoyed our rewards assemblies, where we've celebrated the hard work, progress, and positive attitudes of our students across the school.

Thank you once again for your support — we look forward to sharing an exciting and memorable Term 6 with you and your children.

Best wishes,

Mrs May

Headteacher

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - TERM 6

SAVE THE DATE

YEAR 10 PARENT EVENING - WEDNESDAY, 9TH JULY
YEAR 11 School Prom - Friday, 4th July
PHOENIX FESTIVAL - MONDAY, 7TH JULY
SPORTS DAY - THURSDAY, 10TH JULY
Activities Day - Monday, 21st July

INSET DAYS 2024-2025

Friday, 27th June 2025

INSET DAYS 2025-26

Wednesday, 3rd September 2025 Friday 3rd October 2025 Monday, 3rd November 2025 Monday, 5th January 2026 Thursday, 25th June 2026

EARLY SCHOOL CLOSURES

Tuesday 22nd July 2025

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

Activity Day Booking Reminder!

Don't miss out – bookings for our exciting range of activities and trips on Activity Day in July are filling up fast!

Following valuable feedback from parents and students, we're extending the booking deadline to **4pm** on **Monday, 2nd June**. This gives everyone – especially Year 10 students who were out on work experience last week – more time to decide their chosen activity with their friends and coaches. All remaining trips are available to book on ParentPay, and any students wishing to do a free in-school trip instead must still sign up to these on ParentPay.

We also recognise that many families are managing financial pressures, so we've aligned the new deadline with the next pay day to make planning a little easier. If trip costs are a barrier, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us confidentially at: fsmith@willingdonschool.org.uk

Let's make Activity Day one to remember!



Student Reminder: Body Markings

We have observed an increase in the number of students arriving at school with drawings or markings on their arms and legs. While we appreciate creativity, we kindly remind students that body graffiti is not appropriate in the school setting.

Students found with such markings will be asked to remove them. In more extreme or persistent cases, students may be sent home to clean themselves before returning to class.

We appreciate your cooperation in maintaining a respectful and distraction-free learning environment.



Y 2025

Rock Bands Musical Theatre Instrumenta

We have many exciting stalls offering sweets, mocktails, party games and many other items. Most stalls will be cash only. Some stalls may have contactless payment.

If you are feeling hungry or need cooling down, there will be the external vans offering hot food and ice creams. Cash only.





Bring along a picnic blanket and deck chairs



Some of our students and staff have severe allergies which can be triggered simply by breathing in the allergen, and through being eaten.

Please DO NOT bringing any products into school that contain nuts of any variety. Examples of this would be peanut butter sandwiches, granola bars, cakes containing nuts etc.

Thank you for your understanding and support with this.



Celebrate National Thank a Teacher Day

On June 18, celebrate National Thank a Teacher Day by sending a free personalised thank you card.

https://thankateacher.co.uk/nationalthankateacherday/

Dear Parents and Carers,

We want to say a huge well done to Year 7 for another fantastic term! We are handing the year group over to Mr Roche after half term so want to take this chance to say what an incredible year we have had with this group and say a huge thank you to you all for all the support!

Thank a teacher day is also coming up in June and so if any students would like to send a message to a teacher please see the link below;

https://thankateacher.co.uk/nationalthankateacherday/

Have a wonderful half term.

The Year 7 Team



Head of Year Mr Keast

Email - pastoral-8@willingdonschool.org.uk

Year 8

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of another busy and exciting term, I wanted to take a moment to share some of the fantastic achievements we've been celebrating in Year 8 this week.

On Wednesday, we held our rewards assembly and it was a real pleasure to recognise the hard work, dedication, and positive attitudes of so many of our students. A huge well done to the 120 students who achieved their Bronze or Silver Awards—your consistent effort and commitment have truly paid off. Special congratulations must go to the following students who achieved their Gold Rewards: Aaryan, Amy, Harry, Zara, William, George, Scarlett and Margot. These students have gone above and beyond in demonstrating excellence across the board, and we are incredibly proud of them.

We also want to celebrate the 122 students who completed the Year 8 Term 5 Rewards Challenge, by maintaining 100% attendance and keeping behaviour points below 10. Their dedication has not gone unnoticed, and they've been rewarded with a lovely afternoon out on the field today—a well-earned treat that was enjoyed by all!

A big congratulations to 8CFR as well, for winning the 'Beat The Bell Punctuality Challenge'. Their efforts to improve punctuality have been fantastic, and they thoroughly enjoyed a delicious pizza party as a reward. It's wonderful to see students working together and supporting each other to achieve their best.

Thank a teacher day is also coming up in June and so if any students would like to send a message to a teacher please see the link below;

https://thankateacher.co.uk/nationalthankateacherday/

As we now head into the bank holiday weekend and half term break, I'd like to thank you all for your continued support throughout this term. I hope you and your families have a restful and enjoyable break, and we look

forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for the final half term of the year.

Warmest regards,

The Year 8 Team





Dear Parents and Carers,

As we wrap up the term, I just wanted to share what a brilliant final week we've had on the whole!

Things kicked off on Monday with our Rewards Assembly, where we had the pleasure of celebrating the hard work and achievements of so many students. It was fantastic to see so many being recognised for their efforts both in and out of lessons across the year.

So far this year, we've given out an impressive 171 Bronze Awards, 72 Silver Awards, and 9 Gold Awards to students across the year group — an amazing accomplishment and one they should all be proud of!

To round off the week, we are looking forward to our Reward Afternoon on Friday for students who met the Term 5 Challenge criteria. We had 130 students with 100% attendance this term and 150 students with fewer than 10 behaviour points — 101 students managed both! They will be rewarded with a fun afternoon before we head into the half-term break.

Lastly, as shared in last week's Parent Bulletin, I will be moving to a different year group after the half term holidays. Ms Wilding will remain with the year group as will all of the tutors, but I just want to say a heartfelt thank you to all the students for their hard work and to you, the parents and carers, for your ongoing support. It has been a pleasure working with this year group since the start of Year 8, and I wish them all the best as they head into the summer term and then begin their options in Year 10. Although I'll no longer be leading the year group, I'll still be around the school and at events, so I'm sure I'll see many of you again soon.

Thank a teacher day is also coming up in June and so if any students would like to send a message to a teacher please see the link below;

https://thankateacher.co.uk/nationalthankateacherday/

Thank you once again for all your support — it really does make a difference, and I wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable half-term!

The Year 9 Team



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the final week of Term 5, I would like to take a moment to congratulate our Year 10 students on a successful and eventful term. It has been a particularly busy period, and as we approach a well earned half term break, I want to extend my sincere thanks for your continued support in guiding our students through it.

This term saw the return of our outstanding work experience programme, which took place last week. I have received an overwhelming amount of positive feedback from employers, who consistently praised the professionalism, maturity, and strong work ethic of our Year 10 students. They truly represented the school in a positive light, and I couldn't be prouder of their achievements.

Attendance during work experience week was excellent. However, we have seen a slight drop this week and I must stress the importance of maintaining attendance above 95%. There is a direct correlation between attendance and GCSE outcomes, so your support in ensuring your child attends every day is crucial.

Please refer to the bulletin sent last week regarding upcoming college taster days. It is essential that students register for the day and the college they are interested in attending. These opportunities provide invaluable insights as we prepare to begin work on college personal statements in Term 6, ahead of applications in Year 11.

A reminder that Activities Week is taking place on Monday, 21st July. We still have over 60 students who have not yet signed up. This day has been reinstated following strong demand from students, but it remains a compulsory school day. Full participation is important to ensure we can continue to offer events like this in future. If there are any concerns around affordability, please contact me directly to discuss support options.

This week we held our Year 10 rewards assembly, celebrating a range of student achievements:

- Bronze and Silver awards were presented to many students.
- Special congratulations to our top achievers: Tiffany S, Dylan B, and Eva O.
- Oliver G received the award for highest ambition points.
- Ben W was recognised for the highest oracy points.
- Matthew B, Dylan B, and Harriet C were raffle prize winners of Amazon vouchers.
- Students who earned a 50% discount on their Activities Day choice include Jim D, Katie P, and Delilah F.

This week the treats with team award for outstanding achievement went to:

Layla B

Darcy A

Jacob C

Isabella F

Erin P

Finally, as part of the school's leadership rotation, there will be a change in Year 10 leadership from next term. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as Head of Year 10 and I am incredibly proud of all the students. However, I will be moving on to take over Year 7. From Term 6 onwards, Mr Cain will be leading Year 10 into their final GCSE year. I know they will be in very capable hands.

Thank a teacher day is also coming up in June and so if any students would like to send a message to a teacher please see the link below;

https://thankateacher.co.uk/nationalthankateacherday/

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable half term break. I look forward to seeing everyone refreshed and ready for the final term of Year 10.

	<u>Year 10 Mock Exams</u>						
-	8.45am Start	-	12.30pm Start				
Thurs 12th June	Art 2hrs (Ar1) start @8.30am	_					
Thurs 19th June	Business Studies 1h 45m	Thurs 19th June	Psychology 1hr 30m Dance 1hr				
Fri 20th June	Sociology 1hr 45m Latin 1hr	Fri 20th June	Geography 1hr 30m				
Mon 23rd June	DT 2hr	Mon 23rd June	Child Care 1hr 30m French Writing H 1hr20m/ F 1hr15m				
	Year 7/8/9 Assessments 8.45 Start		Year 7/8/9 Assessments 13.20 Start				
Tues 24th June	Year 7 English	Tues 24th June	Year 9 English				
Wed 25th June	Year 8 English	Wed 25th June	Year 7 Maths				
Thurs 26th June	Year 9 Maths	Thurs 26th June	Year 8 Maths				
	Year 10 Mock Exams						
	8.45am Start	_	12.30pm Start				
Mon 30th June	Food 1hr 45m	Mon 30th June	PE GCSE 1hr 30m				
Tues 1st July	Drama 1hr 45m	Tues 1st July	Spanish Writing H 1hr20m/ F 1hr15n				
Wed 2nd July	Music 1hr 15m	Wed 2nd July					
Thurs 3rd July	Mock interview day	Thurs 3rd July	Mock interview day				



Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Year 10 Taster Days - REMINDER

I am writing to inform you of the Year 10 college taster days that will be taking place in June and July. These taster days will give your child the opportunity to attend a college for the day and have taster sessions on subjects that they may be interested in choosing post-16. Students can select to attend <u>one</u> of the taster days which can be booked via the links below.

East Sussex College Group	
Eastbourne:	Tuesday 24 th June
Lewes:	Wednesday 25 th June
Hastings:	Thursday 26 th June
	Please click on the following link to book: Y10 Taster Days - ESCG
	Prior to booking, an account will need to be created, which should include student
	& parent/guardian contact details & a clear ID photo of your child which will be
	used for safeguarding purposes throughout the taster day.
	DEADLINE FOR BOOKING: 2 ND JUNE 2025
Seaford Head Sixth Form:	Friday 20th June or Tuesday 24th June
	To register interest in attending, please email ClareCallard@seafordhead.org
Plumpton College:	Tuesday 8 th or Wednesday 9 th July
	Please click on the following link to book: Year 10 Taster Day – Plumpton College
DV8 Sussex	Wednesday 9 th July 4pm - 7pm
Brighton & Bexhill:	For more information and to book please click on the following link:
	Year 10 Taster Event - DV8 Sussex
Bexhill College:	Friday 11 th July
	Please click on the following link to book: Y10 Taster Day - Bexhill College
	DEADLINE FOR BOOKING: 6 TH JUNE 2025
BACA (Brighton Aldridge	Friday 11 th July
Community Academy)	Please click on the following link to book: Y10 Taster Day - BACA

We kindly request that once a taster day has been selected that you register, via Edulink, that your child will be attending a taster day, and absent from school, on the selected date.

There will be further opportunities throughout the year to attend open evenings with your child, to explore the colleges and meet with the staff. Details will be in the parent bulletin, and on social media, once we have further information.

Please note that Willingdon Community School do not provide the transportation to the taster days and students should make their own way to and from the college.

If you have any questions, or would like to ask about a college that is not listed above, please do not hesitate to contact me on 01323 485254 ext 281 or email srooney@willingdonschool.org.uk.

Best wishes,

Sarah Rooney

Careers Adviser





Dear Parents/Carers,

As we progress through the GCSE exam season, I wanted to take a moment to acknowledge and commend the effort the year group has been putting into their studies and exam preparation.

Over the past few weeks, we have observed a mature and focused approach from students. They have been attending revision sessions,

engaging well in lessons, and demonstrating a positive attitude toward their exams. This level of commitment is commendable and reflects their determination to succeed.

It is clear that they have taken this important period seriously, and their preparation and behaviour during exams so far have been exemplary. We are proud of the way they are handling the pressures of this time, and we are confident that their hard work will pay off.

Thank you for your continued support at home, which plays a crucial role in helping your child stay motivated and focused.

Please can you remind your child that they must wear their school uniform for all their remaining exams and they will not be allowed into the exam if they are not wearing appropriate clothing. Students must also be in school for the remaining lessons of exams yet to be set.

Thank a teacher day is also coming up in June and so if any students would like to send a message to a teacher please see the link below;

https://thankateacher.co.uk/nationalthankateacherday/

We wish them all a restful half term and good luck for their remaining GCSE exams.

The Year 11 Team





Our team of Learning Mentors, will continue to run sessions daily after school **Monday-Thursday 3-5pm** which are designed to provide valuable support for your child to help prepare them for their GCSE exams across all subjects. Please encourage them to attend these sessions if they would like this support.

GCSE Revision: How PARENTS Can Help!

Revision Support

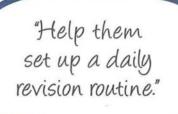
Please encourage your child to attend the revision support sessions that are being delivered to support them preparing for their exams during the half term.

Year 11 Half Term Intervention Timetable

Day/ Date of Intervention	Subject	Staff Member Leading	Classroom/ Time of Session
Monday 26 th May			
Tuesday 27 th May	Geography	Mr Bradford	G1 – 11am-2pm
Wednesday 28 th May	CORE Subject Only Day Maths English	Maths Team English Team	MA1 12-2pm EN6 (10am-12pm)
Thursday 29 th May	Science History	Mrs Ellis Mrs Hardwick	10am-12pm SC4 10am-1pm Hi1 (Normans)
Friday 30 th May	History Music	Miss Hughes Mr Parry	Hi2 – 10am-1pm (Topic Power to the people) MU4 10am-12pm

Revision planning: During school holidays

During school holidays there is potentially far more time available for revision than on normal school days. The Easter and

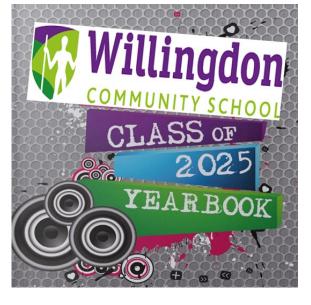


May half-term breaks offer your child a great opportunity to put in a good number of hours of revision (holidays also give them the perfect chance to lounge around in bed too!). A different approach is suggested for holidays which involves making a revision timetable where the subjects to revise are planned in advance, usually for the week ahead.

Revision planning can be done using printed revision timetable templates, an example of which can be found in the centre pages of this booklet, and a variety of formats are readily available online. Apps are also available for creating personalised revision timetables.

Year 11 Exam Timetable for after the half term break

WJEC- Edugas	Latin Paper 3 - Roman Civilisation	C990UBO-1	1h	Tuesday 3rd June	08:45
Pearson	Maths Calc Paper 2	1MA1 2F/2H	1h 30m	Wednesday 04 June	08:45
AQA	History Paper 2 - Section AB: Britain: Power and the people:c1170 to present day Paper 2 Section BA: Norman England, c1066-c1100	8145/2A/B & 8145/2B/A	2h	Thursday 05 June	08:45
Pe arson	French Writing	1FR0 4H	1h 20m	Thursday 05 June	13:00
Pearson	French Writing	1FR0 4F	1h 15m	Thursday 05 June	13:00
AQA	English Language Paper 2 - Writers' viewpoints and perspectives	8700/2	1H45M	Friday 06 June	08:45
AQA	Geography Paper 2 - Challenges in the human environment	8035/2	1h30m	Friday 06 June	13:00
AQA	Biology Paper 2	8461 2F/2H	1H45M	Monday 09 June	08:45
AQA	Combined Science Biology paper 2	8464/B/2F/2H	1H15M	Monday 09 June	08:45
Pearson	PE GCSE Paper 2 - Health and Performance	1 PEO 02	1h 15m	Monday 09 June	13:00
NCFE	Early years Child development and care	603/7012/9	1h30m	Tuesday 10th June	08:45
Pearson	Spanish Listening Foundation	1SPO 1F	35m	Tuesday 10th June	09:45
Pearson	Spanish Listening Higher	1SPO 1H	45m	Tuesday 10th June	10:00
Pearson	Spanish Reading Foundation	1SPO 3F	45m	Tue sday 10th June	08:45
Pearson	Spanish Reading Higher	1SPO 3H	1 h	Tue sday 10th June	08:45
Pe arson	Maths Calc Paper 3	1MA1 3F/3H	1h 30m	Wednesday 11 June	08:45
	CONTINGENCY SESSION			Wednesday 11th June	13.00
AQA	Geography Paper 3 - Paper 3 Geographical applications	8035/3	1h30m	Thursday 12 June	08:45
AQA	Further Maths Paper 1	8365/1	1h45m	Thursday 12 June	13:00
AQA	Chemistry Paper 2	8462/2F/2H	1H45M	Friday 13 June	08:45
AQA	Combined Science Chemistry Paper 2	8464/C/2F/2H	1H15M	Friday 13 June	08:45
AQA	Physics Paper 2	8463/2F/2H	1H45M	Monday 16 June	08:45
AQA	Combined Science Physics Paper 2	8464/P/2F/2H	1H15M	Monday 16 June	08:45
WJEC	Music Comp 3 Appraising	C660U30-1	1h 15m	Monday 16 June	13:00
Pe arson	Spanish Writing Foundation	1SPO 4F	1h 15m	Tuesday 17th June	08:45
Pearson	Spanish Writing Higher	1SPO 4H	1h 20m	Tuesday 17th June	08:45
AQA	Food Prep & Nutrition	8585/W	1h45m	Tuesday 17 June	13:00
AQA	Design and Technology	8552/W	2h	Wednesday 18 June	08:45
AQA	Further Maths Paper 2	8365/2	1h45m	Wednesday 18 June	13:00
	CONTINGENCY DAY			Wednesday 25th June	All day
	Course work Deadlines				
AQA	ART-External set assignment 10h	8201/X		by 31st May	24/25th April
AQA	ART-Portfolio	8201/C		by 31st May	
AQA	DT - NEA	8552/C		by 7th May	
AQA	Drama - NEA - Devising Drama	8261/C		by 7th May	1st April
AQA	Drama - NEA - Texts in practice	8261/X		by 31st May	
AQA	English Language - NEA Spoken Language	8700/C		by 7th May	
AQA	Food Prep - NEA	8585/C		by 7th May	
Pearson	French speaking	1FRO 2		Window 9th April -14th May	28/29/30th Apr
Pearson	Spanish speaking	1SPO 2		Window 9th April -14th May	
WJEC - Edugas	Music component 1 performing & composing 2	AO1 & AO2		by 5th May	
Pearson	PE GCSE personal exercise	1PE0 03 & 04		by 5th May	
Pearson BTEC	Performing Arts - Dance - responding to a brief (11 hours)	BPD03		15th May	



Your child has been sent a google form for them to attach up to 5 photos for the school memories section.

You can now make payment for the **Year 11 Yearbook** via ParentPay. The cost of the Yearbook will be £16. Collection of the Yearbook will hopefully be on GCSE Results Day. We will have very limited spare copies of the book to purchase on the collection day, so please ensure you purchase a copy as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

Please ensure your child has completed the google form <u>Year 11 Yearbook Memories 2025</u> with their memories they wish to be included in the book.



REMINDER: Year 11 Prom – Friday 4th July at The Cavendish Hotel

We have started making table seating plans and working with students to ensure they are sat with their friends for the evening. Tickets are still available to book on ParentPay, if your child hasn't booked their place yet can this be booked as soon as possible so we can start issuing their menu requests for the celebration.

Ticket price is £57 which include the following:

Mocktails on arrival

1 x professional photograph which is printed and issued on the evening Meal, drinks and treats on the tables

Disco

Magician entertainment for the evening

Ticket to evening prize draw with prizes to win during the evening





Good afternoon,

Just to let you know we have opened recruitment for our next cohort of Young Clinical Volunteers (YCVs).

If you know someone aged between 16 and 23 who may be interested in volunteering on our inpatient unit, working closely with our clinical team and gaining valuable experience while helping support our patients and their families, please ask them to get in touch. The programme runs for six months from October and volunteers are required to attend one four hour shift each week, as well as an induction day on Saturday 11th October.

More information and our application form can be accessed using the link below, or call 01323 434205 to speak to myself, Vicky or Jolanta to learn more.

Young Clinical Volunteers

The closing date for applications is 14th July but we may close early if we get sufficient interest before this date.

Many thanks,

Gillian Laloux (she/her) Why is this here? Volunteer Operations Coordinator

Tel: 01323 434205

St Wilfrid's Hospice, 1 Broadwater Way, Eastbourne BN22 9PZ



Careers Page

Career of the Week

