

The Willow

Primary School



***“An EXCEPTIONAL level
of CONSISTENTLY HIGH
QUALITY teaching”***

OFSTED 2017



***“The Willow is AMAZING”
Parent/Carer***

***“ I LOVE school”
Pupil***



Welcome



to The Willow Primary School

We are a two form entry (two classes per year group) primary school catering for children aged 4 - 11 years of age. We also have an outstanding children's centre located next to the school which nurtures children from 1 to 4 years within the school nursery and childcare facilities.

The school is located in a breath-taking, state of the art building officially opened in July 2014. We share the building with our closest partners The Brook Primary Special School. We are part of the Broadwaters Inclusive Learning Community with The Brook Special Primary School and Broadwaters' Children's Centre.

Together we cater for children from 1 to 11 years old with a wide range of abilities.. We operate 48 weeks of the year from 7.45 am to 6pm.

We look forward to welcoming you soon.

Dawn Ferdinand
Headteacher





Our children are passionate learners, who excel academically and are resilient, reflective, creative and confident. They leave us with the competencies needed to thrive in the current and future world.

*We, at The Willow Primary School, are in the privileged position to know that **what we do each and every day makes a difference**, and sometimes THE difference between a bright future and limited life chances.*

We strive to give children a first class, stimulating, fun and well - rounded educational experience. We believe in the right to an excellent education and are proud of the service we offer.

We continually strive to improve what we offer so that when each and every child leaves, they will look back on their life with us and have pride about their achievements, and joyful memories.

Our Vision

Our Values

We ensure our children love coming to school because it is **safe, fun, challenging and exciting**. We have **high expectations and are committed to supporting each individual to achieve their dreams**. Everyone is **valued as a unique member of our diverse community**. We uphold the **highest standards in all that we do and look continually to improve ourselves**, so that what we do today, we do even better tomorrow.

The Willow Learners are INCREDIBLE!

Inquisitive
Nurturing
Collaborative
Resilient
Enthusiastic
Determined
Independent
Brave
Limitless
Expressive





Our learning Environment

“ The curriculum is broad, balanced and exciting ”

“Teaching remains consistently strong with increasing examples of exemplary practice”

“Teachers plan and organise lessons extremely well so that all pupils achieve exceptionally well”

Ofsted 2017

At The Willow Primary School our aim is to enable pupils to be resilient, resourceful, responsible learners who have the confidence, skills and attitudes to be successful life long achievers. We work hard to ensure that children are provided with high quality learning experiences that lead to a consistently high level of pupil achievement and attitude.

Our Belief

- ◇ *Quality learning is a result of high expectations and inspirational teaching.*
- ◇ *Regular assessment with oral and written feedback is an integral part of teaching and learning.*
- ◇ *Quality learning is enhanced by a variety of teaching styles and strategies.*
- ◇ *Children must be involved in their own learning and understand what they need to do to improve.*
- ◇ *Our children will develop enquiring minds and become increasingly independent learners.*
- ◇ *Parents and carers have a crucial and constructive role to play in developing their children's learning.*



The Curriculum

“Pupils demonstrate a love of reading and talk about the stories and characters with enthusiasm and interest”

“Mathematics is a strength of the school”

“Pupils’ writing is of a very high quality throughout the school”

“Pupils who speak English as an additional language make rapid progress and often exceed their classmates in reading, writing and mathematics” Ofsted 2017



We offer children a wide and varied curriculum. Mornings are mainly spent on the core skills of English and Maths with afternoon sessions focusing on Science, PE, Music and Topic.

Topic incorporates History, Science, Computing, Geography and Art. We try to **bring learning alive by having topics that appeal to the children’s interests.** Our topics include Superheroes (Year 1), Dinosaurs (Year 2), Ready, Steady, Cook (Year 3), War of the Worlds (Year 4), Chocolate (Year 5) and I’m a Celebrity (Year 6).

We have a specialist Physical Education (PE) teacher in school who teaches PE as part of our afternoon provision. Children are taught to swim (free of charge) at the local swimming pool in Year 3.

Music in the school is an enjoyable activity, and we believe all children should have the experience of creating and sharing music. Singing throughout the school is done on a weekly basis, and we have a school choir who perform at places like Wigmore Hall. External **music specialists teach music** across the school as part of our afternoon provision. **Violin and guitar tuition is available for all year 4 children** with the option to continue in Year 5/6.

Individual lessons are available as well. A specialist Higher level Teaching Assistant teaches **French** on a rolling programme to different year groups, and an **art teacher** delivers specialised aspects of the curriculum.

Specialist weeks happen regularly throughout the year where the children have an opportunity to study a subject in depth for a week. Focus weeks have been held for Anti Bullying, Book week, Design and Technology and Healthy Schools.

The Willow Primary was inspected by OFSTED in May 2017 which states the following:

This is AN OUTSTANDING school because;

- *Behaviour management is EXCELLENT*
- *The school's work to promote pupils' personal development and welfare is OUTSTANDING*
- *The strategies put in place by leaders to maintain this quality [consistently high quality teaching] is EXEMPLARY*
- *Senior leaders have exceptionally HIGH EXPECTATIONS of what pupils are capable of*
- *Headteacher's philosophy of "We never give up on any child"*
- *Provision for pupils who have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) is EXTREMELY WELL LED and managed*
- *Pupils' behaviour is IMPECCABLE. A CONSISTENTLY CALM, PLEASANT ATMOSPHERE in which pupils work and play together and enjoy VERY POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH STAFF is ANOTHER STRIKING FEATURE OF THE SCHOOL*
- *Pupils are strongly encouraged to show CARE and COMPASSION to others less fortunate than themselves*
- *The School is a CENTRAL and IMPORTANT part of the COMMUNITY*
- *Pupils say that they feel SAFE because the 'staff look after us'*
- *The ARTS have an IMPRESSIVE IMPACT on pupils' learning*
- *Pupils spoke enthusiastically about the peer mentors, who are pupils trained to provide support and to help other pupils work on conflict resolution. As a result there are very few Incidents of poor behaviour*





Inclusion

The Broadwaters Inclusive Learning Community (BILC) building was designed to enable pupils of The Willow, The Brook (special primary school) and Broadwaters' Children's Centre to benefit through forming an inclusive community. For the schools, this means children visit each other's school, join in some lessons and participate in shared activities and outings on a regular basis. Each class from the Willow primary school is linked with a class from the Brook special primary school.



Half Termly Productions

Every half term, a year group rehearses and performs a musical play /show that is shared with parents/carers and children. Performances (where possible), are linked to topics and give children a chance to develop their musical skills as well as speaking out loud to an audience.





Beyond the Curriculum

We pride ourselves on having an extensive enrichment programme. Educational visits, community events and visitors to our school make school an exciting place for learning. Recent trips include visits to museums and art galleries, school discos, cinema night, pizza making workshops in a restaurant, sleepover, theme park, zoo and theatre visits. Year 6 children spend a week at a residential centre each year. We also have an outdoor classroom, pond in the playground, sensory gardens, and fox forest as well as being a Forest school.





Breakfast Clubs

Breakfast club starts at 7.45am every morning. Children are offered breakfast which includes a choice of cereals, toast, bagels, fresh fruit, milk and fruit juice. A range of relaxing activities are on offer to engage children before the start of the school day. At the end of breakfast club younger children are escorted to their class collection points. Breakfast club costs only £2 a day.



WakeUP! Magic Breakfast (Bagel) Club

A WakeUP! Club also runs from 8.20-8.35am free of charge. We encourage families with young children to join us alongside independent older children. Reading books are available to share. This initiative is supported by the charity Magic Breakfast. Children in KS1 classes eat bagels with their fruit and milk snack in the morning inside their classroom.

After School Activities

"Extra curricular activities are plentiful and very popular"
OFSTED 2017

We are really proud of BESS – Broadwaters Extended School Service. There are a wide range of activities and clubs on offer every day, open to all children from the school. Some of the activities currently on offer include: football, cookery, swimming, tag-rugby, gymnastics, street-dance, ballet, drama, archery, judo, art, soft play, knitting and hockey clubs.

There is a small charge for each club. Most clubs cost £3. but others (e.g. swimming) can cost up to £8.00.

Contact the school office for the latest schedule, or visit the school website. In addition to the after-school provision, we offer an extended day service ending at 6pm each day. Children booked in for extended day care will join one of the after-school activities outlined above. Once their chosen activity has finished they will be provided with a snack and further activities until they are collected. The total charge for this provision is £10.00 a day or £50.00 per week.



School Facilities

“This school is INCREDIBLE” - Parent/Carer

Broadwaters Inclusive Learning Community has amazing facilities which are shared by both schools and the Broadwaters' Children's Centre. The range of facilities allow children of different abilities and ages to access learning at their own level.





Dance Studio
Music studio
Library
IT suite
Assembly Hall with specialist light and sound facilities
Gymnasium
Dining Hall
Multisensory soft play room
Cookery Room
Art, Design & Technology room
All classrooms have computers/interactive whiteboards
Fox Forest—our own nature woodland
Horticulture garden and outdoor classroom
Hydrotherapy pool
Adapted minibuses
Accessible/adapted toilet/changing areas



Specialist Resources



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Broadwaters Inclusive Learning Community

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