

# Willow Green Academy

Dear Parents / Carers

Well we have made it through the term and Christmas is now here. At this point of the year I do have to take the opportunity to say thank you to all of those people who have contributed to making this a really successful term in the face of some very challenging circumstances. The entire team, from Mrs Haigh and Mrs Hipkiss in the office, to Mr Talbot, all of the classroom support staff, kitchen staff, teachers and leaders and lunchtime supervisors have all worked tirelessly to ensure the children at Willow Green have had the safest and most productive term possible. The dedication and effort of the team is incredible - thank you. Also, I think we need to recognise the effort, attitude and resilience of our wonderful children here at Willow Green - they have taken on all of the challenges with real positivity - they are an absolute credit. Last, but by no means least, the parents, carers and local community who have pulled together to support the school and ensure that children are safe and in school where they truly deserve to be. Thank you for your continued support. The efforts of all are further underlined by our academy attendance for the Autumn term which stands at **97%**.

It is fair to say that everyone deserves a well-earned rest as we look forward to a more positive outlook for 2021.

I would like to signpost you back to our website and the track and trace processes we ask you to follow over the holidays and as always, if you have any questions please do ask.

I hope you all have a restful, safe and enjoyable Christmas break and I look forward to seeing you all back here in January.

Merry Christmas, Mr Parkinson

## Arrangements for Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December and Christmas holidays.

As you know, in line with schools across the country, Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020 will be an INSET day. This means that school will finish for the Christmas holidays on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December, in line with Department for Education guidance issued this week. We will start the new term on **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021**.

In the event that your child receives a **positive Covid test result** in the period 18 -23 December 2020, we need to ask you to contact us. To make this process as easy as possible while schools are closed, we have added a form to the school website. This will allow you to submit details of a positive test received between 18 and 23 December and allow us to take the necessary actions, laid down by the Department for Education. The form can be found here:



**There will also be a link on our website. Please note, this form will not go live until December 18<sup>th</sup>**

If your child receives a positive test result after the 23 December, you can inform us on the first day of the new term, using normal attendance procedures.

## **Attendance and Lates – Our Attendance Target for the year is 97%**

This week: 96% and 9 late.

Year to date: 97%.

<b>Reception</b> 91.5%, 1 late	<b>Year 1</b> 90.0%, 1 late	<b>Year 2</b> 96.3%, 0 late	<b>Year 3</b> 100%, 1 late	<b>Year 4</b> 97.8%, 3 late	<b>Year 5</b> 94.1%, 3 late	<b>Year 6</b> 98.1%, 0 late
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# The children sang beautifully during our Christmas Carol Concert. Here are some photos if you missed it.



## Safeguarding

Willow Green Academy considers the welfare of all our pupils to be of great importance and we hope that parents are confident about their children's health and safety whilst in our academy. We will always try to share any concerns we have with parents. However, there are times when we are legally obliged to share our concerns with other agencies, without first speaking to parents, or without the consent of parents. The safety and protection of our pupils is our most important concern and we wish to reassure you that any sharing of information is done with the children's best interest at heart. If you have any concerns about the welfare or safety of any child in our school, the Designated Child Protection Officer is Miss L Walker. In his absence, you should contact Mr C Parkinson. They can be contacted through the main office. The academy has a duty to inform parents that there is a prohibition on reporting or publishing details (including on social media) that could identify anyone who is subject to an allegation.

The Government have launched a new website aimed at parents, teachers and school leaders to give practical advice on protecting young people from extremism and radicalisation. This was launched by the Education Secretary and contains information which address many questions / issues faced by parents and children. The website can be found at [www.educateagainsthat.com](http://www.educateagainsthat.com)