

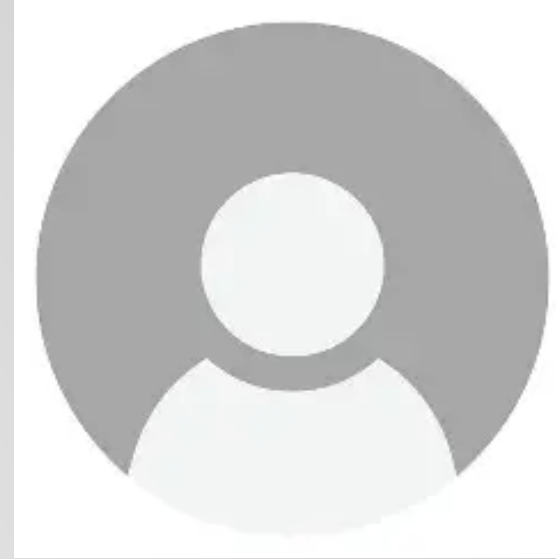
WELCOME TO WILLOW CLASS



Mrs Sweetnam
Class Teacher



Miss Wilson
HLTA



Mrs Nurse
Teaching Assistant

We are very much looking forward to welcoming your child to Willow Class.

Please do feel free to stay behind if you have any questions.



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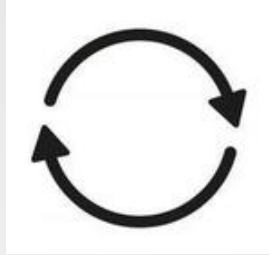
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We know children become brilliant learners and make best progress if they are:



Collaborative



Disciplined



Persistent



Imaginative



Inquisitive

We achieve this through an engaging curriculum which enables us to practice the above through a range of themes and topics. This continues up through the school so that by year 6, there is a clear journey of development on the skills we introduce in reception.



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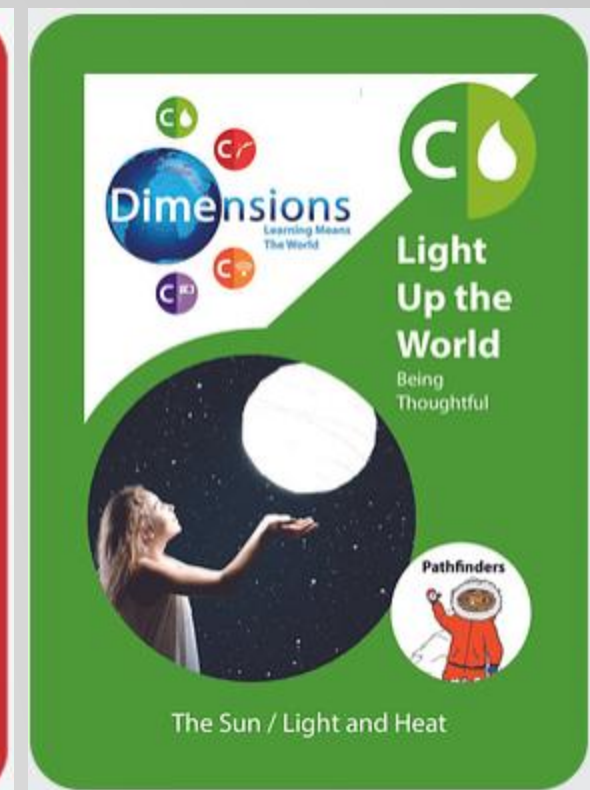
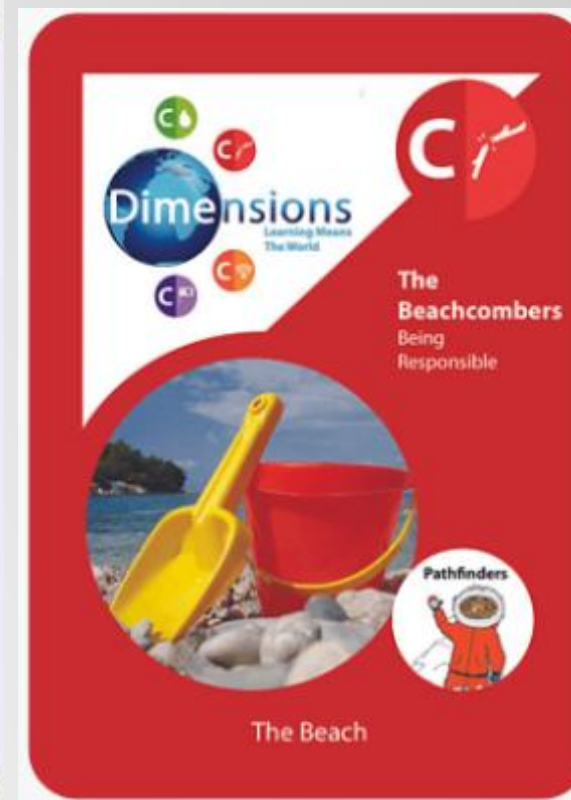
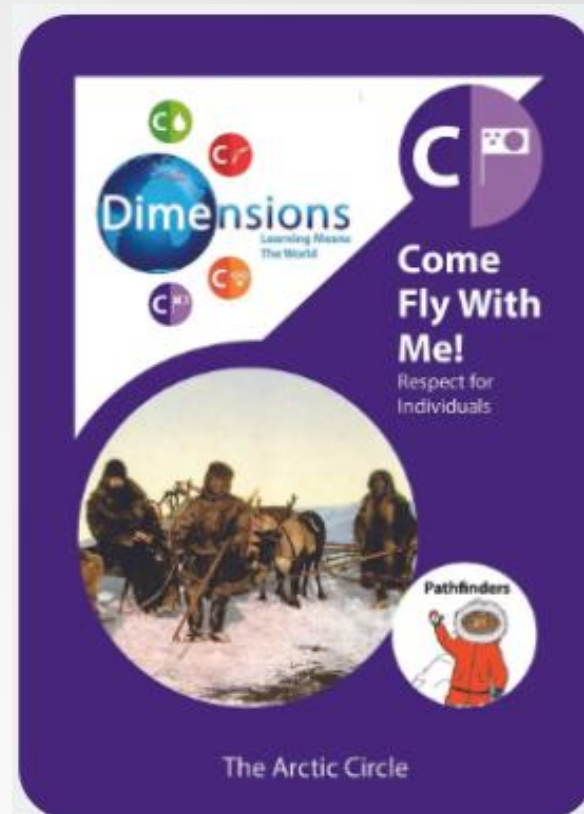
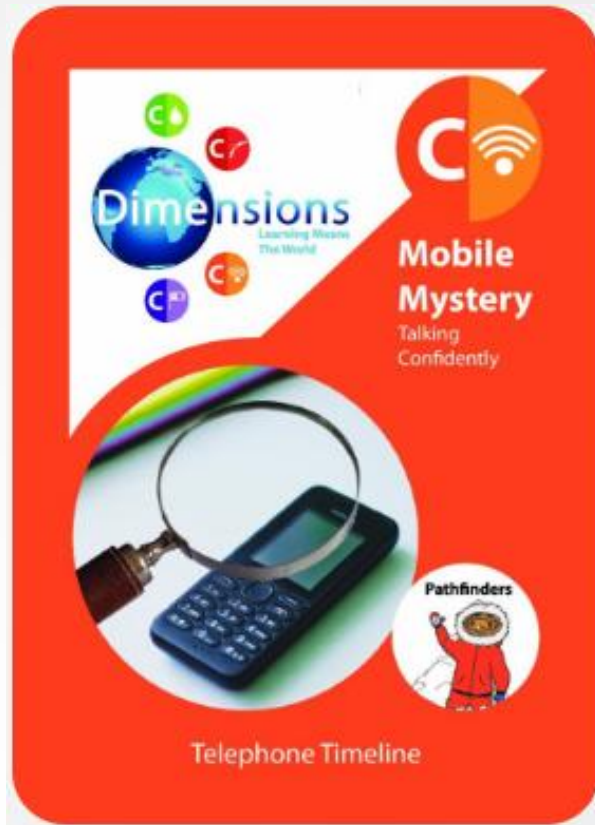


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OUR CURRICULUM



Dimensions curriculum is built around four key themes (communication, conflict, conservation and culture). These themes build on each other yearly. The curriculum incorporates world issues and helps us develop children to be 'fit for the future'.



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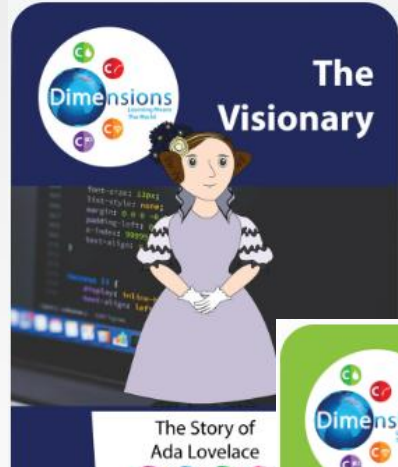
OUR CURRICULUM



Further to these key themes, the children will develop key curriculum knowledge and skills when exploring some shorter themed units.

Our curriculum is also enhanced through some exciting trips and experiences.

We are updating our trips in line with this year's curriculum.



'Farm to Fork'
Autumn Term



Art Workshop
Spring Term



Lepe Beach trip
Summer Term



OUR CURRICULUM

Forest Fridays



Outdoor Learning can increase:

- Motivation to learn
- Vocabulary and a desire to communicate feelings and experiences
- Confidence and inclination to try new things,

Children must wear appropriate clothing

Continuous Provision



The classroom is set up to give children regular access to a range of carefully planned activities and resources that they can explore independently to build on their learning.

Maths, English and Phonics are taught as a whole class or in small groups.



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OUR CURRICULUM

Please check the website for information regarding what your child is learning in school.



[Our School](#) [Key Information](#) [Curriculum](#) [Parents](#) [News](#) [Family of Schools](#) [Contact](#)



Curriculum Newsletter

 **Conflict**

 **Willow Class Summer 1**

Land Ahoy!

This term, the children will be setting sail on an exciting learning adventure through our "Land Ahoy!" topic. Through a pirate-themed journey, pupils will explore movement, sound, maps, and responsible behaviour while developing important skills across a range of subjects. Learning will be practical, creative and engaging, helping children make meaningful connections across the curriculum while having lots of fun along the way.

Science
In Science, children will investigate movement, speed and forces, learning to describe how objects move using terms such as faster and slower. They will explore pushes and pulls and compare different types of movement. Later in the unit, they will be introduced to sound, learning about different sound sources and how sounds change depending on distance. Hands-on investigations will help children develop observation and enquiry skills.

Geography
Geography lessons will focus on developing children's map and location skills. Pupils will learn to identify and name physical features such as oceans, beaches, islands and mountains. They will use simple compass directions and positional language (near, far, left, right) to describe routes and locations, linking these skills to pirate voyages and treasure maps.

Design & Technology (DT)
In DT, children will take part in a design-and-make project, thinking carefully about purpose and user. They will design and create a simple pirate-themed product, such as a control panel or object linked to a pirate adventure. Children will learn to plan, create and evaluate their work, developing problem-solving and creative thinking skills.

Computing
In Computing, pupils will begin developing early coding and algorithm skills. They will learn how to create and follow simple instructions to make something happen on screen, linking to pirate-themed challenges. Children will also practise using technology safely and confidently, building independence when using digital tools.

PSHE
A key theme running throughout the topic is behaving responsibly. Through stories, discussion and role-play, children will explore taking turns, sharing, following rules and understanding how their actions affect others. These lessons support children's emotional development and help build positive relationships in the classroom.

Music
Music lessons will be lively and creative, beginning with learning a pirate song. Children will explore how to create a soundscape, using their voices and instruments to represent sounds linked to the sea and pirates. They will experiment with volume and pitch and work together to perform and refine their musical ideas.

Art
In Art, children will explore colour, texture and shape through sea- and pirate-inspired artwork. They will learn about the primary colours and experiment with mixing colours to create different shades and tones. Using a range of materials and techniques, pupils will create their own ocean or island pictures, developing confidence in expressing their ideas creatively while improving their fine motor skills.

RELATED PAGES

[Curriculum By Class](#)

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[Phonics at Awbridge](#)

[Handwriting](#)

YEAR GROUP CURRICULUM OVERVIEWS

- Chestnut Class
- Willow Class
- Conifer Class
- Beech Class
- Oak Class



English



Mathematics



Geography



History



Science



Physical Education



Art and Design



Computing



Design Technology



Modern Foreign Languages



Music



PSHE

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Reading in school

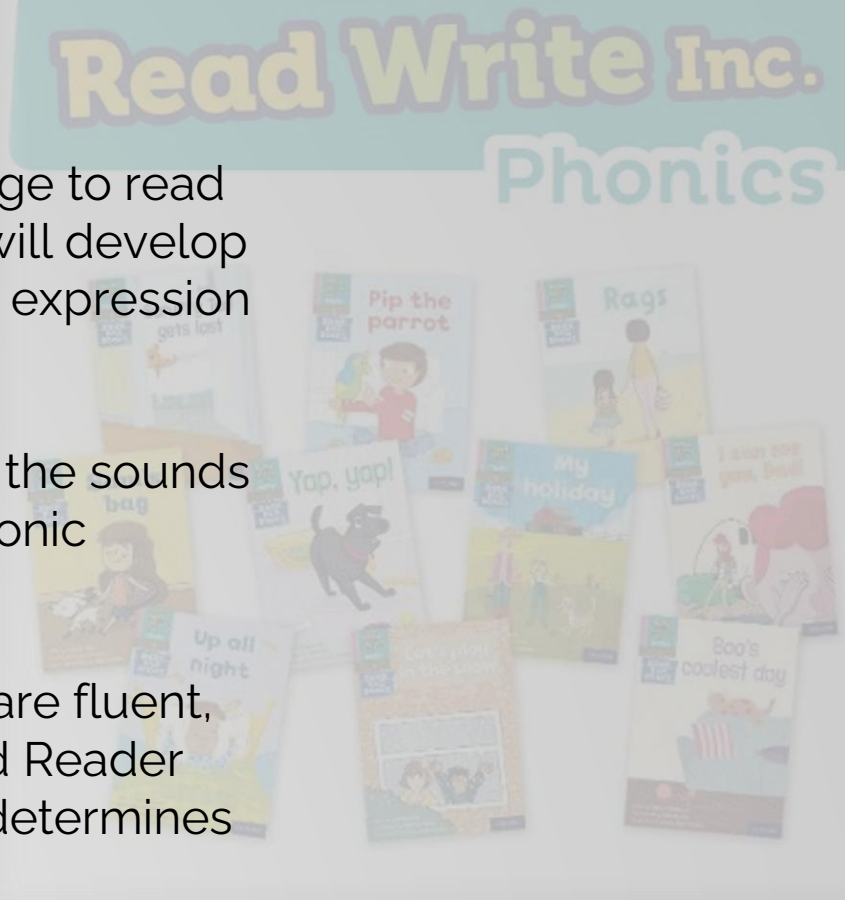
Throughout Year 1 and into Year 2, children build on their phonic knowledge to read longer words and develop the skills to decode unfamiliar speedily. They will develop fluency to be able to read and comprehend evermore complex texts with expression and enjoyment.

Children are taught reading skills in groups to ensure they are working on the sounds they need to master and are reading texts that match their developing phonic knowledge.

When children have completed the Read Write inc. phonics scheme and are fluent, confident readers (usually during Year 2), they will move onto Accelerated Reader Books. They take a STAR reading test at the end of each half term which determines an appropriate level of challenge to support their progress (their ZPD).

Accelerated Reader Meeting for Year 2 Parents – Monday 21st September 2026 at 3:30pm

In Year 2, 'Just Reading' and 'Reading Fluency' lessons support the development of children's reading speed, comprehension and prosody. Reading high-quality texts in these lessons enables children to engage with exciting vocabulary and take part in rich discussion around a class text.



Reading at home

Listening to your child read every day makes a huge difference to their progress so please try to make reading time a relaxed and positive part of your daily routine. Reading and re-reading books helps children recognise key words, build confidence and develop fluency. If your child gets stuck on an unfamiliar word, encourage them to use their phonics knowledge and praise their efforts. Reading may sound a little 'clunky' at first, as they concentrate on linking sounds and blending them into words. This is a normal part of learning and reading the text again with expression can help bring the story to life. Talking about the book, asking questions and making links to other stories will also help to develop your child's understanding and enjoyment of reading.

RWI Phonics Year 1 and Year 2

Children will have one reading book (a RWI Book Bag Book') which compliments the book they are reading in school as part of their phonics lessons.

Children may also have a 'reading for pleasure' library book to share.

Accelerated Reader - Year 2

Children will have one reading book (matched to their ZPD). Once they have read this story confidently and with good comprehension, they will take a dot quiz. Dot quizzes support their developing comprehension skills and ensures they are reading with enough speed and accuracy to understand and enjoy the books they read.

Once accessing Accelerated Reader books, children will need to read for a minimum of 10 minutes per day and achieve an average pass rate of 85% in dot quizzes, this will enable them to reach their individual target and be awarded a reading badge.

Children may also have a 'reading for pleasure' library book to share.



Department
for Education

Year 1 – Phonics Screening Check

Testing will take place during the week commencing **14th June 2027.**

The test assesses their phonics ability and is designed to see if pupils have learnt phonic decoding and blending skills to an appropriate standard.

The test consists of reading a variety of alien and real words.

Lots of practice and support will be given leading up to these so children are confident and prepared for what to expect.

Section 2	Section 2
brend 	label
throst 	vanish
stret 	blossom
spraw 	thankful

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**Year 1 Parent Information Meeting –
Wednesday 21st April 2027 at 3:30pm**



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Routines



The Willow entrance is through the wooden gate, past Chestnuts and keep going up the steps and turn right.

At the end of the day, your children will come out of this door on to the main playground.



School starts at 8.50am, with the register completed by 9.00am.
(If late, please sign in at the School Office)

We finish at 3.30pm and will only release children into the care of agreed family members/family friends

Routines

EVERYDAY

- A water bottle
- A coat/sunhat (as applicable)
- Reading book in a book bag (no rucksacks please)
- Spare clothes and trainers (in case of accidents)
- Lunch (if not having school dinner)
- Children in KS1 are provided with a daily fruit snack

PE

Children need to wear their PE kit to school on their PE day.

Details of kit can be found on the school website - please be aware that lots of PE takes place outside.

Willow Class PE day is Monday.
You will be notified via email of any changes to this day

Forest Friday

Children need to wear their outdoor clothes to school on this day.

- Plain, dark, unbranded t-shirt, leggings/joggers and sweatshirt
- Suitable shoes- trainers or wellies
- Warm, waterproof coat/sunhat (weather dependent)
- If the weather is particularly wet and muddy, we ask that you bring a spare set of clothes in a named bag.

Please label everything!

Home Learning Expectations

Year 1

Reading

- ❖ 5 to 10 minutes daily

Children's progress in reading is closely monitored and regularly assessed. We will communicate with you if reading at home is not supporting good progress. Please do reach out if you would like some advice or support to help your child at home.

Spelling

- ❖ Words published on Google Classroom
- ❖ Test on a Friday in class

Year 2

Reading

- ❖ 10 to 15 minutes daily

Children's progress in reading is closely monitored and regularly assessed. We will communicate with you if reading at home is not supporting good progress. Please do reach out if you would like some advice or support to help your child at home.

Spelling

- ❖ Words published on Google Classroom
- ❖ Test on a Friday in class

How can you help?

- Regular reading at home
- Becoming a parent volunteer
- Supporting and encouraging your child to complete their Home Learning
- Supporting our Facebook posts and engaging with Curriculum Newsletters.
- Celebrating hard work, struggles and making mistakes
- **E-safety :**  [Help your child stay safe online - Kids Online Safety](#) [Keeping Children Safe Online | NSPCC](#)
- Ensuring your child has a good night sleep and a nutritious breakfast and that they have everything they need each day for school
- Communicating with myself if any worries or concerns arise.

SUPPORTING SCHOOL
EXPECTATIONS:

BE READY

BE RESPECTFUL

BE SAFE

Communication

- Messages can be passed on via the school office: schooloffice@awbridge.uwinat.co.uk
We endeavour to respond to all communication within 2 working days during school hours.
- All information about Topics and learning across the curriculum can be found on the school web page – Look out for Step into School dates too for a hands-on experience of your child's learning.
- Work Sharing afternoons and Parent's Evenings will inform you of your child's progress.
- Spelling Tests will be sent home so you can celebrate the results.
- Unacceptable or persistent behaviour will be shared with you so that you can reinforce our school behaviour expectations with your child. This will be at the end of the school day, if possible, or by telephone or email if we are unable to have a face-to-face conversation.
- Certificates, celebrating our school values are given at weekly Celebration Assemblies.

Together we are a team in supporting your child's learning and development at school so please do get in touch if you have concerns or would like to share some important news.



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