



Williamwood
High School

Mighty oaks from little acorns grow

Family Learning Policy

An Ongoing Story of Engagement and Collaboration

Respect * Ambition * Kindness



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Williamwood High School's Aims

The school promotes high expectations and standards which create an inclusive environment, where all are encouraged to strive to achieve their full potential. The positive ethos across the school and a high degree of commitment shown by our staff, our young people and our parents, as well as the wider community, allow the young people of Williamwood to achieve their full potential, both academically and socially.

Our school values of Respect, Ambition and Kindness underpin the life and work of the school. We recognise learners' successes in living the school values through their actions and choices. Our school vision of 'Mighty Oaks from Little Acorns Grow' aims to develop the skills which will enable our young people to become:

- Successful Learners
- Confident Individuals
- Responsible Citizens
- Effective Contributors

Rationale

Williamwood High School is the hub for our local community. Our families play an important part in the life of the school and we work together to ensure our young people are supported throughout their school journey. We ensure parents/carers remain accurately informed, and provide opportunities for them to be actively involved in the learning process of their child.

“Family learning encourages family members to learn together” (Scottish Family Learning Network, 2016).

Background and Legislation

This policy makes use of current documentation that has supported our strategic planning. In particular, we have utilised the following documents:

- Education Scotland. (2023). *Review of Family Learning* <https://education.gov.scot/resources/review-of-family-learning/>
- Education Scotland. (2019). *Engaging Parents and Families: A Toolkit for Practitioners* <https://education.gov.scot/media/eyula5af/section-7-family-learning.pdf>
- Education Scotland. (2018). *How Good Is Our School?: Part 2* <https://education.gov.scot/media/l4ypcopt/hgiours-part2.pdf>
- Education Scotland. (2018). *Family Learning Framework* <https://education.gov.scot/media/y3pjj4s5/familylearningframeworkapril18.pdf>
- Education Scotland. (2015). *How Good Is Our School 4th Edition* https://education.gov.scot/media/2swjmnbs/frwk2_hgios4.pdf
- General Teaching Council. (2021). *Standards for Full Registration* <https://www.gtcs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/standard-for-full-registration.pdf>
- Scottish Government. (2023). *National Improvement Framework* <https://www.gov.scot/publications/2023-national-improvement-framework-nif-improvement-plan-summary-document/>

Aims of Policy

This policy aims to support a culture and ethos of effective family learning. From starting life in S1, right through to ensuring all young people reach a positive sustainable destination, there is support for families every step of the way. This policy will highlight the support that is available to ensure our families remain informed and aware of how they can work together throughout a young person's journey at Williamwood.

“Family learning is a powerful method of engagement and learning which can foster positive attitudes towards life-long learning, promote socio-economic resilience and challenge educational disadvantage” (Scottish Family Learning Network, 2016; cited by Education Scotland, 2023).

Family Learning Events

“Family learning activities can also be specifically designed to enable parents to learn how to support their children’s learning” (Scottish Family Learning Network, 2016; cited in Education Scotland, 2019).

Each year we welcome our families to actively participate in events at Williamwood as part of our Family Learning Programme. These six sessions provide families with an insight into learning and teaching at Williamwood, and support them to engage and work together. Furthermore, the sessions are supported by some of our many partners who are able to offer their expertise in a number of key areas within life, learning and work.

Session	Impact/target
1. UCAS	For parents/carers of young people embarking on further education. Information on the application process and the relevant steps required will ensure all families are clear on how to progress within UCAS.
2. Health & Wellbeing	Targeted at all S1 families, this practical session is designed to welcome our new S1 families into the school and gain a deeper understanding of Health & Wellbeing: Responsibility for All.
3. Help I've got a Teenager	<p>This session will allow parents/carers an opportunity to sign up to two sessions of their choice, delivered by teaching staff and a number of external partners. The sessions cover a number of requested topics from parents/carers including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategies to help with dyslexia • Online safety (Police Scotland) • Supporting pupils with anxiety • Supporting pupils who self-harm • Supporting pupils with ASC • Career planning and pathways • Study skills • Exam stress



4. Practical Showcase	This session will be open to all year groups and provide families with an opportunity to learn together within a practical subject of their choice.
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Home Learning

To support young people and families working from home, all departments at Williamwood use Google Classroom. The platform is regularly updated to provide young people with important information and support for working from home. This may include:

- Specific updates and reminders on the stream
- Video lessons
- Homework assignments
- Sample answers
- Resources booklets

To support families using the platform, we have created a useful help sheet that provides both parents/carers and young people with information on the basics of understanding Google Classroom.

Click [here](#) to access the help sheet or see below for specific details of what is included:

1. Useful apps for learning

2. Glow

- Your Glow username, email and password
- Logging into Glow

3. Google Classroom

- An introduction to Google Classroom
- Google Classroom phone app
- Joining a Google Classroom
- Posting comments
- Accessing files
- Classwork tab



- Tasks & assignments
- Submitting assignments
- 'To do list' – This is where you will find your assigned homework and tasks due for completion.

4. Help Videos

- There are a number of help videos which will provide a step-by-step guide to some of the frequently asked questions we receive from parents/carers and pupils in relation to Google Classroom.



Communication with Parents/Carers

Communication with parents/carers is important in ensuring they remain at the heart of the school. With this in mind, we provide a detailed monthly newsletter which recognises achievements, showcases excellent learning and teaching, and provides specific information on upcoming events within the school community.



The information in our newsletters ensures our parents/carers remain up to date and a part of the life of the school.

Please click [here](#) to access all of our parental monthly newsletters.

In addition to the above, our school X (formerly Twitter) account is regularly updated with specific information to keep parents/carers up to date with the day-to-day life of the school.

Please follow us on X: [**@WilliamwoodHS**](#)



Family Learning: Useful Links

Please see below for a number of links that may be useful in supporting a young person at Williamwood:

[School calendar](#)

Information on key dates within the school year.

[Supported Study Calendar](#)

All dates and further information for supported study sessions on offer this year.

[Choosing for success](#)

Further information for making subject choices in S2, S5 and S6.

[Reporting Calendar](#)

Key dates and further information on reporting to parents.

[Extra-Curricular booklet](#)

Details of over 60 extra-curricular clubs available to our young people at both lunchtime and after school.

[Useful Web Links](#)

A number of web links that may be useful for supporting the learning and development of a young person.