



THOMAS WILLINGALE SCHOOL AND NURSERY

The Broadway, Loughton, Essex. IG10 3SR. Tel: 020 8508 7287 Fax: 020 8502 5364

Headteacher: Miss T. Phillips B.A. (Hons.), PGCE

Monday 19th January 2026

2025/26 Attendance Prize Trip to Legoland Windsor

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you are aware, each year we reward pupils who achieve 97% attendance or above, supporting both our ongoing work and the DfE/Ofsted drive to improve school attendance. This year, we are delighted to announce a fantastic, all-expenses-paid day trip to Legoland Windsor on Monday 7th September 2026 for all eligible pupils.

Good attendance and punctuality is one of the most important factors in helping children succeed at school. When children attend every day, they build strong learning habits, keep up with lessons, and develop confidence and friendships that make school enjoyable. Regular attendance gives them the best chance to reach their full potential and benefit from all the exciting opportunities we provide—including our rewards programme, which celebrates pupils who show great commitment to their learning.

In contrast, poor attendance can significantly impact a child's progress. Missing lessons means missing out on the essential skills in reading, writing, and maths that underpin all future learning. These gaps can make it harder to keep up, affecting both confidence and enjoyment of school. Over time, this may lead to fewer opportunities in further education and employment. By ensuring your child attends school every day, you are giving them the strongest possible start in life.

Website: www.thomaswillingaleprimary.co.uk

Email address: admin@thomaswillingale.essex.sch.uk



Eligibility criteria for the Legoland trip:

- Achieve 97% attendance for the academic year
- Attend school during the first week of term: 2nd–4th September 2026
- Return a completed parent/carer consent form
- Be in Reception to Year 5
- Demonstrate positive behaviour (we would not want to revoke a place for behaviour choices)

Initial invitation letters will be sent out shortly for parental permission. Your child must be in school during the first week back in September to receive their official invitation. If your child meets the 97% attendance requirement but does not attend during the first week of September, their place on the trip will be withdrawn.

Parent volunteers:

We will require parent volunteers for the visit. Please indicate your availability on the permission form. We will contact you if your support is needed on the day.

We hope to take as many children as possible—it will be a wonderful experience! Pupils who do not attend the trip will remain in school as normal on Monday 7th September.

Yours sincerely,

Teresa Phillips and The Thomas Willingale School Team

NB:

- *We are aware that there was an outbreak of chicken pox earlier this academic year. If your child was recorded as having chicken pox during the first term, or develops it again before the trip (evidence required), their attendance target will be reduced to 95%.*
- *Separately, if your child has (or had) a specific medical condition that falls outside normal childhood illness (evidence required), these will be considered case by case at the end of the year.*
- *Our current Year 6 pupils who achieve 97% attendance will receive an Amazon gift card.*
- *Lateness affects attendance- if your child comes to school after registration the sessions cannot be recorded as attending, therefore their attendance will go down.*

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