

## 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

## Welcome Letter – September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is with great delight that I welcome you all back to the start of a brand-new school year at Thomas Willingale. We hope you had a restful summer and are as excited as we are for the months ahead. We have a fantastic year already planned, full of learning, enrichment, and opportunities for our children to flourish.

At Thomas Willingale, our focus remains on ensuring that every child feels safe, happy, and ready to learn. To support this, we continue to embed our three school rules: **Ready, Respect, Safe**. These are simple but powerful principles that guide how we learn, play, and interact together every day.

Alongside this, we are proud to uphold our school values of **Kindness, Integrity, Respect, and Effort**. These values underpin everything we do, and we ask for your support in reinforcing them at home as well as in school.

We would also like to remind families of the importance of **good attendance and punctuality**. Every day in school matters, and even a small amount of missed learning can have a big impact. Please be aware that fines will be issued for term-time holidays, in line with statutory guidance.

This year, we are taking active steps to promote a **SMART phone free childhood**. Research shows how damaging excessive smartphone use can be for children, and we believe our role is to help protect childhood for as long as possible. For those who wish

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to ensure their child's safety, we encourage alternatives such as a non-smart phone or a simple tracker device. We are also requesting that parents and carers **do not use smart phones when dropping off or collecting children** – together, let's set a positive example for our young people.

We are a very inclusive and friendly community, and we encourage you to come and speak to us if you have any questions or concerns. A member of the Senior Leadership Team will be on the gate each morning and afternoon, happy to help in any way.

We cannot wait to see all of the children – and you, our families – on the first morning back. It is going to be a year full of learning, growth, and success, and we look forward to sharing it with you.

With best wishes,

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