



September 2026

RE: Fundraising Walk, Thursday 17 September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are pleased to confirm that our annual fundraising walk will be held on **Thursday, 17 September 2026**.

A key element of our school vision is ensuring that every student fulfils their personal and academic potential and feels a strong sense of belonging within our school community. Opportunities such as our annual fundraising walk provide students with the chance to develop resilience, teamwork and a commitment to supporting others, while contributing positively to the life of the school.

This year, we are delighted that the funds raised will support our Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) Department. We are extremely proud that all students at The Willink study a modern foreign language throughout Key Stage 3 and that we offer Spanish, French and German through to GCSE and A Level. We believe that learning a language helps students develop valuable communication skills, a greater understanding of different cultures and a curiosity about the wider world. It also gives them the confidence to travel, embrace new experiences and thrive in an increasingly connected society.

Speaking and listening are at the heart of successful language learning. To ensure that our students continue to benefit from the highest quality learning experiences, this year's fundraising walk will help us invest in specialist audio equipment and technology for MFL. These resources will enhance teaching and learning across the department, supporting students to develop their speaking, listening and pronunciation skills and enabling them to achieve their very best.

The walk also reflects our commitment to community and belonging. By taking part, students will come together in support of a shared goal, helping to provide resources that will benefit both current and future generations of Willink students. We hope the event will be a positive and memorable experience that celebrates the collective spirit of our school community.

The walk is approximately 10 kilometres through rolling countryside and woodland, including the beautiful Englefield Estate. Students will start and finish at school, and there will be a water station available along the route.

Students should:

- Wear comfortable clothing, with arms and legs covered, and walking boots or trainers.
- Bring a waterproof coat in case of rain.
- Apply sun cream and bring a hat if the weather is warm.



- Arrive at school at the usual time, they will complete the walk with their Form Tutor. Additional members of staff will be positioned around the route to support students throughout the morning.
- Carry a bottle of water, which can be refilled at the water station along the route.
- Wear colours representing their House (S B N T P M L), if they wish.

Students should not bring bags into school on the day unless these are needed for medical items. Their Yondr pouches will remain securely in school during the walk and will be returned to students at the end of the event.

Following the walk students will return to school to register with their tutors; once registration is complete, and Yondr pouches have been returned, students will be allowed to leave site.

School transport will depart at the **earlier time of 12:00**; students who will catch a school bus will be in a supervised space until it is time for the buses to leave.

Students who are unable to take part in the walk will work independently in a supervised room until 12:00 when they will be allowed to leave site, independently or on a school bus.

You will shortly **receive a medical and consent form via the Evolve platform to confirm your child's participation**. We would be grateful if this could be **completed by Monday, 14 September**. Students will not be permitted to walk if this has not been completed and this would be a great opportunity missed.

There will be **no canteen service available on the day of the walk**. Packed lunches will be provided for students who normally receive Free School Meals. A separate form will be sent to eligible families to confirm whether a packed lunch is required.

The Willink School Charitable Trust has set up a donation page through the Charities Aid Foundation, which enables the school to claim Gift Aid on donations made by UK taxpayers. This increases the value of every eligible donation by 25%, providing even greater support for this project. **Please [click here to make a donation](#)**. Further details can also be found on our school website [\[here\]](#).

We would be very grateful for your support to help us achieve our goal of £5,000. Every contribution, no matter how large or small, will help us provide resources that will benefit students for years to come. Thank you for supporting our students, our languages programme and the wider Willink community.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Schofield
Assistant Headteacher