

2026-2027
Willis ISD
Student Handbook
PREVIEW



Attendance

According to state law, **ATTENDANCE IS COMPULSORY**. This means that a student who is at least six years of age and has not yet reached their 19th birthday **MUST** attend school.

All student absences are unexcused in the eyes of the State unless they meet one of the following criteria:



- Religious holy days;
- Required court appearances;
- Activities related to obtaining U.S. citizenship;
- Documented health care appointments;
- For students in the conservatorship of the State:
 - An activity required under a court-ordered service plan; or
 - Any other court-ordered activity that requires student participation and cannot be scheduled outside of school hours.

For **children of military families**, up to five days of absence will be excused to allow a student to visit a parent, stepparent, or legal guardian who is departing for, on leave from, or returning from certain deployments.



Please note that this is a **PREVIEW**. The complete 26-27 Student Handbook is located on the Willis ISD website at willisisd.org.

2026-2027 Start & End Times

Pre-K

Regular Hours: 8:10 AM-3:40 PM
Early Release: 8:10 AM-12:55 PM

Elementary

Regular Hours: 8:00 AM-3:30 PM
Early Release: 8:00 AM-12:45 PM

Middle School

Regular Hours: 8:30 AM-4:05 PM
Early Release: 8:30 AM-1:15 PM

High School

Regular Hours: 7:15 AM-2:50 PM
Early Release: 7:15 AM-12:00 PM

Bell Schedules



Middle School

1st period: 8:30-9:16 AM
2nd period: 9:21-10:07 AM
3rd period: 10:12-10:58 AM
4th period: 11:03-11:49 AM
5th period: 11:54 AM-1:32 PM

- **A Lunch:** 11:57 AM-12:27 PM
- **B Lunch:** 12:30 PM-1:00 PM
- **C Lunch:** 1:02 PM-1:32 PM

6th period: 1:37-2:23 PM
7th period: 2:28-3:14 PM
8th period: 3:19-4:05 PM

High School

1st period: 7:15-8:01 AM
2nd period: 8:07-8:53 AM
3rd period: 8:59-9:45 AM
4th period: 9:51-10:39 AM
5th period: 10:45-11:31 AM
6th period: 11:35 AM-1:06 PM

- **A Lunch:** 11:31 AM-12:01 PM
- **B Lunch:** 12:03-12:33 PM
- **C Lunch:** 12:36-1:06 PM

7th period: 1:12-1:58 PM
8th period: 2:04-2:50 PM

Early release and pep rally bell schedules will be posted on our website at www.willisisd.org.

EOC Assessments

STAAR end-of-course (EOC) assessments are administered for the following courses:

- Algebra I
- English I & II
- Biology
- U.S. History

Satisfactory performance on the applicable assessments is **REQUIRED** for graduation, unless waived or substituted as allowed by state law and rules. If a student does not meet the satisfactory performance standard, the student will have opportunities to retake the assessment.



Safety (All Grade Levels)

Student safety on campus, at school-related events, and in district vehicles is a high priority of the district. The cooperation of students is essential to ensuring school safety.

A student is expected to:

- Avoid conduct that is likely to put the student or others at risk.
- Follow all behavioral standards outlined in this handbook and the Student Code of Conduct, as well as those established by District employees.
- Help secure the campus by keeping all exterior doors closed, latched, and locked unless the door is actively monitored by a district employee.
- Follow instructions from teachers and other district employees regarding classroom doors.
- Remain alert to any safety hazards, such as intruders on campus or threats made by any person toward a student or staff member, and promptly report any incidents to a district employee. A student may make anonymous reports about safety concerns by submitting an online report at <https://report.anonymousalerts.com/willisisd>
- Know emergency evacuation routes and signals.
- Immediately follow the instructions of teachers, bus drivers, and other district employees who are overseeing the welfare of students.

Grading Guidelines



Grading guidelines establish:

- the number of assignments and exams in a class,
- how mastery is determined, and
- how makeup work is handled.

Reteach/Retest Information:

All students who earn a grade below 80 on a major grade will participate in a reteach/retest opportunity to demonstrate mastery. Elementary and secondary students may earn a maximum grade of 80 on reassessments.

Grade Reporting Periods

1st Nine Weeks Aug. 12–Oct. 9

2nd Nine Weeks Oct. 19–Dec. 18

3rd Nine Weeks Jan. 6–March 12

4th Nine Weeks March 22–May 21



Cell Phone Policy

(TX HB 1481)

Personal communication devices are prohibited during the school day, including instructional time, breakfast, lunch, and passing periods. Personal communication devices shall be stored in backpacks and turned off.

OFF & AWAY
for the day

If a student uses a personal communication device without authorization during the school day, the device will be confiscated, and the matter will be addressed as outlined in the Student Handbook.

Dress Code

Clothing:

- All clothing must be neat, clean, modest, and appropriately sized (neither too tight nor oversized) for the student.
- Pants, trousers, or shorts will be worn at or above the waist and fastened appropriately for all students.
- Students will not dress alike or wear color combinations that denote group affiliation, except for school-approved organizations and/or activities.
- Dusters and trench coats are prohibited.
- Clothing or accessories may not state, imply, or depict hate speech or imagery targeting groups based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation, or any other protected classification.
- No article of clothing will refer to or advertise tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, narcotics, or any other prohibited substance.
- No undergarments of any kind for any student should be visible at any time.
- A student's midriff should not be visible during normal movement.
- Students' shorts, pants, skirts, or dresses must be worn at the waist and extend to at least mid-thigh. Sagging or baggy pants that fall below the waist are prohibited. (Administrators have the authority to decide what is acceptable in length.)
- Students may not wear a military uniform to school unless it is in conjunction with a school-approved activity.
- It is never appropriate for students to wear house slippers, pajamas, or sleepwear to school.
- Revealing clothing may not be worn to school by any student. This includes, but is not limited to, clothing that is strapless, transparent, low-cut, backless, off-the-shoulder, halter-style, or designed with spaghetti straps, holes, cutouts, or openings that expose a student's back, stomach, chest, or undergarments.

Accessories:

- No head coverings, such as hats, caps, doo-rags, bandanas, or hoods from hoodies are to be worn over the head in any school building at any time.
- Sunglasses will not be worn inside any school building except under a doctor's orders.
- Wallet chains, long key chains, or any other kinds of heavy chains are prohibited.
- Badges, decals, patches, jewelry, or other similar items are not to be worn if they advocate prohibited substances or actions, vulgar or inappropriate language, violence, or obscenities of any kind.
- Tattoos that are deemed distracting or gang-related by an administrator must be covered at all times. (Extracurricular sponsors or coaches may require all tattoos to be covered during school-related events.)
- Students should not bring blankets or pillows.

Jewelry:

- To help prevent loss or theft, students should not wear expensive jewelry. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items.
- Jewelry worn in piercings should be limited to small studs, posts, or rings that are not excessively distracting.

Hair:

- Gang-related designs (letters, numerals, etc.) are not to be shaved into the head, hair, and/or eyebrow.
- Extreme hairstyles or distracting hair colors will be addressed by the administration.
- Sharp-pointed combs, rakes, or picks must not be worn in the hair.

Footwear:

- Proper footwear must be worn at all times for health and safety reasons.
- Shoes with rollers or skates within them are prohibited.
- Cleated shoes are not permitted.
- House shoes, slippers, shower shoes, slides, and similar footwear not designed for regular outdoor use are prohibited.

NOTE: Any part of the dress code that is inappropriate or distracting, as deemed by the campus administrator, will be prohibited.

