



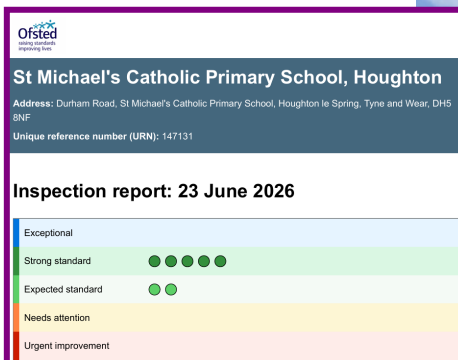
Statement to live by
 I try to be accepting of others.

Ofsted Inspection 2026 Outcome... We are delighted to share that our recent Ofsted inspection recognised St Michael's Catholic Primary School as providing a

Strong Standard across almost all key areas. Inspectors described our school as a "happy and purposeful school" where pupils flourish, achieve highly and are extremely well prepared for the next stage of their education.

The report praised our high-quality curriculum, strong teaching, 'striking' behaviour and attendance, and the ambition shown by staff and pupils alike. We are incredibly proud of this outcome and would like to thank our dedicated staff, supportive families, governors, trust colleagues and, most importantly, our wonderful children for making it possible.

Thank you for your support!



Click the above screenshot to view the full report...



Year 1 Curriculum Celebration... Thank you to our Year 1 children for presenting their Curriculum Celebration Assembly.

They did an amazing job of showcasing their learning and all the memories they have made during the year. It was wonderful to see so many Year 1 families and friends there to share in this celebration. **Suer proud Year 1!**



St. Michael's Catholic Primary School
 Part of Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust

PLACES AVAILABLE!

- In Reception September 2026 (EYFS: Strong Standard- Ofsted 2026)
- Limited spaces across our whole school

*Pupils flourish at this happy and purposeful school. They know staff set high expectations and they are determined to meet them" Ofsted June 2026

Please contact us on: 0191 5840542 ✉ smi@smi.bwcet.com

Pope Leo's quote of the week...

" Peace is built in the heart and from the heart, by eliminating pride and vindictiveness and carefully choosing our words "



Year 6 Colour Run... Year 6 had a wonderful time last week at Hetton Lyons Park where they took part in a Colour Run. Great teamwork everyone!

Sporting enrichment at St. Michael's officially recognised...

This enhanced recognition is awarded to schools that have successfully achieved the **Gold Standard for three or more consecutive years**, demonstrating a sustained commitment to promoting physical activity, health and wellbeing across the school community.

This achievement reflects our school's continued dedication to embedding healthy lifestyles and active opportunities for pupils and is a source of great pride for everyone involved.

Well done St. Michael's!

GOLD
Active
Sunderland



Red Sky Foundation... Our children recently took part in a CPR training session and had a wonderful time learning this important lifesaving skill. They developed their understanding of how to respond in an emergency and gained valuable knowledge about how CPR can help save lives. The session gave pupils confidence while promoting the importance of helping others and staying safe. **Life saving skills!**

Attendance at school for the past two weeks...

Reception: 98% **Year 1:** 99% **Year 2:** 93% **Year 3:** 99% **Year 4:** 98% **Year 5:** 97% **Year 6:** 96%

WELL DONE TO YEARS 1 & 3!

Home-School Links

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Healthy Week and Sports Day 2026!... Wow, wow, WOW! What a truly incredible week it was last week. Classes throughout school threw themselves into Healthy Week 2026 and rounded it off with Sports Day. There was such an array of activities and sports for the children to take part in. We had a climbing wall, wheelchair basketball, a chef making healthy meals, archery, dancing, tennis coaches, the Red Sky Foundation, the nurse teaching us about keeping our bodies healthy... the list goes on! There was such an energy and excitement around school with lots of really important learning happening!



Thank you, Miss Potts, for organising an amazing week!

London Visit 2026... Our School Councillors, Head Boy and Head Girl recently enjoyed a memorable educational visit to London. During the trip, they visited the Houses of Parliament and saw some of the nation's most iconic landmarks, including the gates of 10 Downing Street, the Cenotaph, Horse Guards Parade and Buckingham Palace. The day concluded with a well-earned pizza before travelling back to Durham by train. This wonderful experience brought learning to life, helping pupils develop a deeper understanding of democracy, government and British Values, while reinforcing the important leadership role they play within our school community.



**Well done everyone—
what a wonderful day!**

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SNAPCHAT

SNAP STREAK
97

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

With over 900 million active monthly users and billions of 'Snaps' sent each month, Snapchat is a popular messaging app among children and young people. It allows users to share fun, spontaneous pictures and videos with friends and family while using playful filters. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures, videos and messages are only viewable for a short period of time.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Snapchat's use of artificial intelligence (AI) includes features like the 'My AI' chatbot and AI-powered filters, offering interactive experiences that can be fun but also pose risks. These tools may share unfiltered or inaccurate responses, promote unrealistic beauty standards, and collect personal data. Advanced filters and deepfake-style lenses can distort reality, potentially leading to manipulation, impersonation, or inappropriate content.

SCREEN ADDICTION

Snapchat boosts user engagement and daily use with features like streaks (daily Snapchat exchanges between you and a friend). When a streak's been going for a few days, users will see a 🔥 emoji. The number alongside it shows the number of days, but if users miss a day and break the streak, the only way to restore it is to pay. This encourages daily use habits, and frequent notifications can keep users returning to the app even more often.

SEXUATION

Because Snapchat's disappearing messages feature may foster a sense of safety, users may become targets of sextortion. For example, a predator may pressure someone into sending nude images, then somehow capture those images to threaten and intimidate the victim. This might involve claiming they will share the images with friends or family unless money is paid.

SNAPCHAT+

Snapchat+ is the platform's premium subscription service, offering early access to new and exclusive features. In June 2025, Snapchat introduced a new tier called **lens+**, giving subscribers access to hundreds of lenses and AR experiences for playing, creating, and sharing Snaps. These paid features may encourage young users to spend money to access exclusive content, increasing the risk of overspending or feeling pressured to make in-app purchases.

ACCESSIBILITY

Snapchat is now accessible from a web browser, meaning children can use it on a laptop or tablet without downloading the app. This can make activity harder to monitor, reduce the effectiveness of parental controls, and increase the risk of unsupervised communication or exposure to inappropriate content.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's disappearing messages feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ACCESS THE SNAPCHAT FAMILY SAFETY HUB

Created with guidance from Common Sense Media, Snapchat has developed a Family Safety Hub that explains how the app works and how to use its in-app protections for teens. It's recommended that you review this guidance before allowing a child to download Snapchat. Remember, the app is only intended for children aged 13 and over.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger connects with a child on Snapchat and makes them feel uncomfortable by pressuring them to send or receive unwanted or inappropriate images, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile to report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user, with a tailored reporting section under the 'Nudity and Sexual Content' category. In this category, there's the option to report somebody for threatening to leak sexually explicit images, or 'nudes'.

USE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Sit down with the children in your care and explore Snapchat's privacy settings as a shared activity. You can help them adjust who can contact them, view their stories, or see their location on Snap Map. It's a good opportunity to explain why some settings are safer than others, reinforcing their understanding of online boundaries. Encourage them to regularly review these settings, especially after app updates or changes in their friendship groups.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

School safety... A gentle reminder that, where possible, we always encourage families to walk, cycle or use push scooters to travel to school. This is a healthy and environmentally friendly way to travel, particularly for those who live locally. However, we kindly ask that children dismount from their bikes or push scooters at the school gate on Durham Road and push them to the designated storage racks. For safety reasons, **children and adults should never ride on the school site**, as this can be hazardous for both riders and others. Please also note that it is illegal to use electric scooters on public land (including footpaths, public roads, council parks etc.) Therefore, **electric scooters should not be brought onto the school site** and must be left outside the gate on Durham Road if families choose to use them. **Thank you for your cooperation!**



- Important Dates -

	Date	Class	Event
Autumn 1	Tuesday 1 st September 2026.	Whole School.	Inset Day. School closed to pupils on this day.
	Wednesday 2 nd September 2026.	Whole School.	First Day Back to School – 8:45am.
	Friday 11 th September 2026.	Years 2 & 6.	Y6 & Y2 Class Mass 10am in St Michael's Church. All are welcome to join us.
	Monday 21 st September 2026.	Rec, Year 1 & Year 2.	Curriculum Evening 4:30-5:30pm. In your child's classroom.
	Wednesday 23 rd September 2026.	Year 5 & Year 6.	Curriculum Evening 4:30-5:30pm. In your child's classroom.
	Thursday 24 th September 2026.	Year 3 & Year 4.	Curriculum Evening 4:30-5:30pm. In your child's classroom.
	Friday 25 th September 2026.	Whole School.	Coffee Morning in the School Hall from 9-9:45am. Donations to MacMillan.
	Wednesday 30 th September 2026.	Whole School.	Flu Vaccinations.
	Thursday 1 st October 2026.	Whole School.	National Poetry Day.
	Friday 2 nd October 2026.	Years 1 – 6.	School Mass at 10am in St Michael's Church to celebrate St Michael's feast day. All are welcome to join us.
	Tuesday 6 th October 2026.	Year 5.	Reading Café from 9am in the School Hall. All are welcome to join us.
	Friday 16 th October 2026.	Year 5 & Year 1.	Y5 & Y1 Class Mass 10am in St Michael's Church. All are welcome to join us.
	Tuesday 20 th October 2026.	Year 6.	Reading Café from 9am in the School Hall. All are welcome to join us.
	Tuesday 20 th October 2026.	Reception.	Settling in Meetings. Parents can book an appointment on Arbor from Monday 28 th September 2026.
	Wednesday 21 st October 2026.	Reception.	Settling in Meetings. Parents can book an appointment on Arbor from Monday 28 th September 2026.
HALF TERM			
Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October 2026.			
Autumn 2	Monday 30 th October 2026.	Whole School.	Back to School.
	Tuesday 3 rd November 2026.	Year 2.	Road Safety Course.
	Tuesday 3 rd November 2026.	Year 4.	Reading Café from 9am in the School Hall. All are welcome to join us.
	Thursday 5 th November 2026.	Year 6.	Celebration of the Word at 3pm in the School Hall. All are welcome to join.
	Friday 6 th November 2026.	Year 4.	Y4 Class Mass 10am in St Michael's Church. All are welcome to join us.
	Friday 6 th November – Tuesday 10 th November 2026.	Whole School.	Scholastics Book Fair in the meeting room. Please call in and support our School.
	Thursday 12 th November 2026.	Year 3.	Celebration of the Word at 3pm in the School Hall. All are welcome to join us.
	Monday 16 th – Friday 20 th November 2026.	Whole School.	Anti-Bullying week.
	Monday 16 th November 2026.	Whole School.	Odd Socks Day. Children are invited to come to school wearing odd socks along with their school uniform.
	Tuesday 17 th November 2026.	St Hilda House (Green).	Feast of St Hilda. Children in St Hilda House (Green House) are invited to come to school wearing something Green alongside their school uniform.
	Friday 20 th November 2026.	Whole School.	Children In Need. Children are invited to come to school wearing Pudsey merchandise and/or spotty clothing.
	Friday 20 th November 2026.	Year 3.	Y3 Class Mass 10am in St Michael's Church. All are welcome to join us.
	Thursday 26 th November 2026.	Year 5.	Celebration of the Word at 3pm in the School Hall. All are welcome to join.
	Monday 7 th & Tuesday 8 th December 2026.	Whole School.	Parents Consultations. Appointment booking information to follow.
	Friday 11 th December 2026.	Whole School.	Christmas Lunch / Jumper Day. Children are invited to come to school wearing their Christmas jumper instead of their school jumper.
	Friday 11 th December 2026.	Whole School.	Christmas Mass at 10am in St Michael's Church. All are welcome to join us.
	Monday 14 th December 2026.	Reception.	Christmas Crafts at 9am in the School Hall.
	Tuesday 15 th December 2026.	Year 5 & 6.	Carol Service at 4.30pm in St Michael's Church. All are welcome to join us.
	Tuesday 15 th December 2026.	Reception.	Christmas Nativity at 9:30am in the School Hall.
	Wednesday 16 th December 2026.	Year 1 & 2.	Nativity at 9:30am & 2:30pm in the School Hall.
	Thursday 17 th December 2026.	Year 3 & 4.	Nativity at 9:30am & 2:30pm in the School Hall.
	Friday 18 th December 2026.	Rec, Year 1 & 2.	Christmas Party 1:30-3pm.
	Friday 18 th December 2026.	KS2.	Christmas Party 9:30-11am.
	Friday 18th December 2026.	Whole School.	School breaks up for Christmas Holidays at 3.15pm.
	Monday 4th January 2024.	Whole School.	First day back to School after Christmas Holidays – 8:45am.

Assemblies and Collective Worship – Parents Invited				
Class	Curriculum Celebration Assemblies		Celebration of the Word	
Reception	Tues 22 nd June 27	9.00am	Thurs 21 st Jan 27	3.00pm
Year 1	Tues 8 th June 27	9.00am	Thurs 20 th May 27	3.00pm
Year 2	Tues 23 rd March 27	9.00am	Thurs 17 th June 27	3.00pm
Year 3	Tues 9 th March 27	9.00am	Thurs 12 th Nov 26	3.00pm
Year 4	Tues 20 th April 27	9.00am	Thurs 1 st July 27	3.00pm
Year 5	Tues 26 th Jan 27	9.00am	Thurs 26 th Nov 26	3.00pm
Year 6	Tues 19 th Jan 27	9.00am	Thurs 5 th Nov 26	3.00pm
Year 6 Leavers Assembly		Thursday 15 th July 2027	2.00pm	

Important Information: From time to time, due to unforeseen circumstances, the dates/events mentioned in the Fortnightly may have to be changed /cancelled. If a change/cancellation does occur, you will be notified as early as possible.

Thank you in advance for your understanding.

Proud to be part of...



Bishop Wilkinson
Catholic Education Trust
Through Christ, in Partnership