



**School Brochure
2026/ 2027**

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All Saints' Catholic Primary School



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website: allsaintslanchester.bwcet.com

Head Teacher: Mrs. F. Stephenson Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs. A. Conlin

Chair of Governors: Mr. P. Monaghan



Summer 2026

Dear Families,

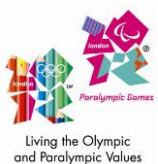
Welcome to you all, old friends and new. We are extremely proud of our school and hope that you and your child will enjoy a long and happy association with All Saints'. This brochure will introduce you to your child's new school; inside you will find important information about some of the things you will experience here with us.

Gospel Values are embedded in all that we do; our aim is to help all children realise they have been made in God's image and have unique gifts and talents. The education and well-being of your child is our top priority; we believe developing an effective partnership through co-operation between home and school is vital if we are to try to maximise the potential of every child in our care.

I would like to invite you to our Welcome to the New Year event at 2.15p.m. on 9th September. Our whole team is here to support your child. At the beginning of the school year, we understand that it can take time for pupils to adjust to the new school environment and our routines therefore, if you have a query or a worry, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher, myself, Mrs. Walls or Mrs. Ward in the school office for help or advice.

We look forward to welcoming your child and your family into our successful school community.

Mrs. F. Stephenson
Head Teacher



The Mission of All Saints' School and our logo was developed by pupils in November 2017 and decided upon by voting which took place in school, at home and in the parish. We are very proud of our Mission Statement – it is at the heart of everything we do here. Our Mission Statement is:

**As unique children of God we:
aspire not to have more but to be more.**



**To:
Love Christ
Listen to Christ
Learn from Christ**



The school aims to:

- *bring young people to their full and unique potential as children of God in a supportive and caring environment
- *develop the whole child – spiritually, intellectually, morally, physically, socially and emotionally
- *provide an excellent quality of education which is inspired by the values of the Gospel in which our children will feel valued and cherished
- *ensure that the children's experience of interactions and friendships within the school have a formative and significant influence on their understanding of relationships
- *foster in our children the qualities of self-esteem, justice, honesty and respect for other people and cultures
- *provide an atmosphere of warmth, care and justice in which children, parents, staff, governors and visitors are welcomed, accepted and affirmed

Our School



All Saints' opened on 1st May 1905 and over the years it has been altered and extended. We have seven classrooms, a hall, a library, an outdoor classroom, a prayer garden, an eco garden, a playground, a multi-use games area, a running track and a sports field. A pavilion has been built to further extend outdoor learning. In September 2022, we added a nursery unit to our Early Years Foundation Stage which is already thriving!

Our Parish

The Parish of All Saints' incorporates Lanchester and Burnhope. Fr. Edih is our Parish Priest and Rev. Peter Smith is our Deacon. Here at All Saints', we realise that we are very fortunate to be so close to our Parish Church and we believe that the school is an important part of the life of the Parish and that the Parish is equally important in the life of the school.

Our School Staff

Head Teacher & Safeguarding Lead	Mrs. F. Stephenson
Deputy Head Teacher & Safeguarding Lead	Mrs. A. Conlin
Special Educational Needs Coordinator	Mrs. L. Bryant
Class Teachers	Miss Dawson (E.Y.F.S.) Mrs. J. Daniels (Year One) Miss Young (Year Two) Mrs. C. Dunn (Safeguarding Lead) and Mrs L. Bryant (Year Three) Mrs. J. Forrest (Year Four) Mrs. A. Conlin (Year Five) Mrs. E. Pearson (Year Six & Safeguarding Lead)
Teaching Assistants	Mrs. B. Baum (H.L.T.A.) Mrs. A. Days (H.L.T.A.) Miss. A. Mather Mrs. Hall Mrs. Walker Mrs. A. Troy (H.L.T.A.)
Office Manager	Mrs. S. Ward
Office Assistant	Mrs. J. Walls
Lunchtime Supervisors	Mrs. G. Young Mrs. S. Whelan Miss L. Little
Premises Staff	Mr. J. Newstead (Site Manager) Ms. J. Bell (Cleaner) Miss T. Charlton Mrs. K. Beet Mrs. E. Smithson

Our School Day

Early Years & Key Stage One

Morning Session (including first break)	8.45am – 11.45am
Lunch	11.45am – 12.45pm
Afternoon Session (including snack/break)	12.45pm – 3.15pm

Key Stage Two

Morning Session (including first break)	8.45am – 12noon
Lunch	12noon – 1pm
Afternoon Session	1pm – 3.15pm



To allow more flexibility for families and to ease congestion, the school front door is opened at 8.40am. Children can be dropped off between 8.40am – 8.45am. This ensures a calm start to the day with all children in class, ready for registration.

At the end of the day, children can be collected from the school yard. To reduce congestion and the dangers to children, parents are asked to use the Church car park or the Lanchester Social Club car park if coming by car. A permit, which is available from school, is required for the Social Club car park and access into school is via the gate onto the Lanchester/Derwent Valley Walkway.

At lunchtime the children may have a school dinner or bring a packed lunch. The cost of school lunches is currently £2.95 a day (to be paid via our online payment system – Arbor). However, since September 2014, (as part of the government scheme) all Key Stage One children (Reception, Year One and Year Two) receive a school meal for free. School lunches are cooked on the premises and the children from Nursery & Reception pre-select their Winter & Summer menu at home and their choice is served daily via our coloured-band system. Children have a choice of nutritionally balanced two course meals. As part of our Healthy School status, we encourage all the children, those on packed lunches as well as those on school lunches, to eat healthily and we ask parents to support us by not putting sweets or chocolate biscuits in a packed lunch and only water is permitted. **We're a nut-free school - products containing nuts are prohibited due to allergies.**

Breakfast Club

We offer a Breakfast Club from 7.45am each morning (breakfast is served from 8-8.30am). The children are provided with a choice of breakfasts, ranging from: toast, cereal, yogurt, pancakes, scrambled eggs and a drink.

Each session costs £3.30 (£5 nursery). Please contact the school office, by phone or email, to book your child's place in advance. Payment must also be made in advance.

Tea Time Club

We offer a Tea-Time Club after school. The Tea-Time club is open until 5pm each evening. The children have the opportunity to take part in a range of activities and a sports' coach works with the infant children two days a week and the junior children two days a week. There is a choice of food available each night.

Each session costs £4 (£6 nursery) and again, is arranged through the office. Booking and payment has to be made in advance.

Our Uniform

Our uniform is an extension of our school – it reflects our ethos and helps others identify the children as being a part of our school family. Here at All Saints', our uniform is:

Jade green sweatshirt or cardigan embroidered with the school logo

White polo shirt

Grey or black skirt or trousers

Green and white gingham dress

Black low-heeled shoes suitable for running and playing (trainers are not allowed)

In the winter, children need to travel to school in shoes suitable for the weather so they can wear them on the playground and change into their school shoes when they are within the building.

P.E.

For P.E. the children must wear:

Navy or black sports shorts (not three-quarter length shorts)

Jade T-shirt embroidered with the school logo

Plimsolls or trainers

(An optional tracksuit embroidered with the school logo is available for Key Stage Two children.)



Your child's class will be allocated a P.E. slot. On that day, we ask that your child comes to school dressed in their kit. Spare P.E. kits are in school and will be given to children who do not have their kit.

Sweatshirts, polo shirts, cardigans, P.E. t-shirts, tracksuits (all embroidered with the school logo) and navy shorts may be purchased from the School Office, along with a choice of waterproof coats, fleece jackets, a P.E. bag, a book bag, a backpack and iron-on name labels.

Please make sure that your child's name is marked on each item of uniform. All items of lost property are stored in school – please speak to a staff member if you would like to check the lost property. Items are generally stored for one term, after that, they are donated to charity.

Jewellery, Hair and Makeup

Our school policy is that children are not allowed to wear jewellery of any kind at school with the exception of a wrist watch; **smart watches which connect to the internet are strictly forbidden.** Haircuts should be of a smart appearance with no extremes of fashion and no unnatural colours. No makeup is to be worn and no nail varnish is allowed. We thank you in advance for supporting us by ensuring your child is wearing the correct uniform for school.

Our Partnership with Families

We actively encourage parents to be involved in their children's life and work both within and outside the classroom. Working together and developing a home-school partnership is paramount to the success of our children. There are many opportunities to get involved with school life for example, helping out with an extra-curricular club, attending class assemblies and Masses, coming in for specific events such as Welcome Wednesday, Health Week and fundraisers.

Friends of All Saints'

All Saints' has a very supportive Friends of All Saints' group which organises social functions, fund raising and other meetings. They are currently fundraising to improve our outdoor playground; for our plan, please see the Friends' page on our school website. All parents automatically become members of the Friends of All Saints' when their child starts school and they can attend any meeting.



Newsletters

Newsletters are sent throughout the year giving information about school events; usually they are sent out at the end of each week. These are sent via Arbor. As well as this, class newsletters and spellings are emailed every half term to inform you of your child's upcoming learning. All documents are also added to our website and available to view throughout the year.

Our Website - allsaintslanchester.bwcet.com

Our school website provides lots of information for children, parents and visitors including: a diary of events, forms, policies, up-to-date news and important reminders. The news section is frequently updated also – take a look!



Social Media

 Keep up to date with what is happening in in school by following us on Facebook at [All Saints' Catholic Primary School, Lanchester](https://www.facebook.com/AllSaintsCatholicPrimarySchoolLanchester). Please note, questions and queries should be directed to school via the office rather than via social media. Often, photographs of the school events are included on our website and social media. As part of our safeguarding procedures, we only publish photographs of children with parental permission. We communicate frequently with parents via Arbor. Your information will be added to the system in September.

Open Door Policy

We have Parent Consultation Evenings which take place in autumn and spring term and official reports are sent home in summer term. As well as this, you can contact the school or your child's class teacher at any time if you would like to request an appointment to discuss anything related to your child, their progress or wellbeing.

Religious Education

As a catholic school, Religious Education is at the core of our curriculum as well as everyday life at All Saints'. We follow The Way programme in all Key Stages. Great importance is placed on providing opportunities for everyone within the school community to continue their personal faith journey. During the school year there are many opportunities for the children to take part in worship and prayer through liturgies, assemblies, Mass, liturgical dance, collective worship and other celebrations.



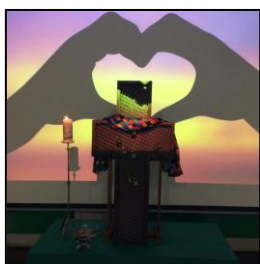
The Sacraments

The children receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist during Year Four. We believe in the importance of a Home and Parish partnership in the preparation of the children for these important Sacraments. The children usually receive the Sacraments with their own family, together with the Parish community.

Relationships Education

We are involved in relationships and sex education precisely because of our Christian beliefs about God and about the human person. The belief in the unique dignity of the human person made in the image and likeness of God underpins the approach to all education in a Catholic school. Our approach to R.S.E. therefore is rooted in the Catholic Church's teaching of the human person and presented in a positive framework of Christian ideals. At the heart of the Christian life is the Trinity, Father, Son and Spirit in communion, united in loving relationship and embracing all people and all creation. As a consequence of the Christian belief that we are made in the image and likeness of God, gender and sexuality are seen as God's gift, reflect God's beauty, and share in the divine creativity. R.S.E., therefore, will be placed firmly within the context of relationship as it is there that sexuality grows and develops. Our aim is to make the children aware of the changes which take place both emotionally and physically as they mature. Whilst elements of the R.S.E. curriculum are taught throughout our curriculum and as part of our wider school life, it is also covered within our Mental Health and Well-being We follow the scheme TenTen in school and our Policy can be found on the website; as part of this teaching, there is a Parent Portal for you to access.

Celebration of the Word



Prayer is important to us here at All Saints' – both creative and traditional.

We encourage children to play an active part in their own prayer life; by the end of their primary school life here, children are confident and enthusiastic about leading worship for themselves and their peers. We work closely with Open the Book, a voluntary group who re-enact the Bible stories through drama.

The School Curriculum - The National Curriculum

The main aim of our curriculum is to allow children to investigate, solve problems, become independent learners and reach their full potential by developing their skills and knowledge in a nurturing environment; children are also encouraged through a variety of thinking skills strategies to monitor and evaluate their own learning. The subjects we teach are English, Mathematics, Science, Computing, Design Technology, Geography, History, Music, Art, Physical Education and Spanish (Key Stage Two).

OUR CURRICULUM INTENT

- ❖ We have designed an ambitious curriculum for all pupils that develops their knowledge, creativity, curiosity and skills-base. Utilising our location within North-West Durham, we deliver a curriculum that draws upon our rich history, cultural heritage and local resources.
- ❖ Our school life holds Gospel Values at its centre – this is evident within our curriculum delivery; we prioritise themes of fairness, integrity, compassion and responsibility and have high standards of all pupils in all subjects.
- ❖ Our curriculum is taught sequentially and systematically across each year group and assessments are used to inform current knowledge and future planning. Depending upon the individual needs of different cohorts or groups of pupils, the curriculum is adapted to ensure all children can access it and progress within it. Regardless of year group or subject, individual learning as well as collaborative learning is supported as part of a positive, hardworking ethos.
- ❖ Prior learning is built upon with links made between old and new concepts. Meaningful learning is embedded throughout educational visits and creative activity and opportunity.
- ❖ When the children leave our school, we expect them to be confident learners who have a sound understanding of their place within our local community, our wider location and our global family. As a school, we are proud that our curriculum follows national policy but is also flexible and responsive to current issues.
- ❖ Our intention is for our pupils to be inspired to pursue knowledge and celebrate diversity in all areas.

For the individual subject policies that we teach, and information regarding progression and coverage, please visit our school website or contact us directly.

Reading at Home & Homework

We encourage children to read at home with an adult every night. Infant children should read for ten minutes per evening and junior children for fifteen minutes. There is also an expectation that children learn and practise spellings and times tables frequently at home; weekly spelling lists are available on our school website. Class teachers will inform parents of the expectations of their year group as the time spent on homework will reflect the age of the children.

Phonics – Sounds Write

At All Saints', we use the Sounds-Write phonics programme to teach our children to read, spell and write from Reception, Year One, Year Two, into Year Three and throughout Key Stage Two for pupils who have gaps in their phonic knowledge.

Sounds-Write is effective in teaching pupils to read, spell and write because it starts from what all children know from a very early age – the sounds of their own language. From there, it takes them in carefully sequenced, incremental steps and teaches them how each of the forty four or so sounds in the English language can be spelt.

Daily phonics is taught within a well-structured, incremental and coherent framework based on the knowledge – both conceptual and factual (see below) – on which the alphabet principle and thus the writing system is based and the three key skills needed to enable learners to use the principle effectively.

Our approach teaches the conceptual understanding needed to become an effective reader:

- that letters are spellings of sounds: visual language is a representation of spoken language;
- that a spelling can contain one, two, three, or four letters – examples are: s a t, f i sh, n igh t and w eigh t;
- that there is more than one way of spelling most sounds: the sound 'ae', spelt as in 'name', can be represented as in 'table', in 'rain', in 'eight', in 'play', and so on;
- that many spellings can represent more than one sound: can be the sound 'e' in 'head', 'a-e' in 'break', or 'ee' in 'seat'.

Reading and spelling also requires expertise in the skills necessary to make use of the alphabet code and pupils need to be able to:

- segment, or separate sounds in words;
- blend, or push, sounds together to form words;
- manipulate sounds: take sounds out and put sounds into words.

Sounds-Write provides opportunities for practising these skills on an everyday basis until pupils achieve the automaticity required for fluent reading and spelling.

Families are invited to a number of workshops throughout the children's time in the infants to help which look at how to support Sounds Write at home. There is also a free training link you can access on our website (Curriculum Page, Reading & Phonics), which gives a great introduction to Sounds Write.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

All children are entitled to a broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated curriculum. When children experience temporary or long-term difficulties for a variety of reasons and need help over and above what most others require, they have Special Educational Needs. Provision for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) covers all learning difficulties, whether physical, intellectual or emotional. A child's problems may range from severe and complex to relatively minor or temporary.

Children with SEND receive individual or group programmes of learning to supplement their classroom shared experiences. Extra support is available in the school through Support Assistants. The Special Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) Mrs. Bryant along with the governor responsible for Special Needs & Disabilities (Mrs. Dunn) helps to co-ordinate and monitor the intervention and Special Needs provision within the school. We believe that the help of parents is particularly important in supporting the progress made by each child and we will consult with them when decisions need to be made.



Our High Standards of Behaviour & Respect

At All Saints' School we believe that excellent behaviour is essential if effective teaching and learning is to take place. We have a positive approach to behaviour management and use rewards to encourage and promote good behaviour as well as Zones of Regulation to discuss emotions. We aim to provide guidance, support and care which will enable children to cope with a range of situations in school, at home and in the wider community. The ethos of the school is developed through co-operation, understanding that we are all equal, and a sense of working together as one school family. The school rules are simple and are designed to help the children realise that they are responsible for their own actions and for the effect these actions have on other people. We ask children to be **'Ready, Respectful and Safe'**. Poor behaviour only occurs occasionally however, where necessary, withdrawal of privileges or playtimes is practical and we expect your support in this. In all matters of behaviour management, the school aims to work in partnership with parents as experience has shown how effective this is in minimising and resolving problems.

Children are encouraged to show good manners and respect at all times by opening doors, waiting for adults, not interrupting conversations and using important words such as please, thank you and excuse me.

Our House System

All children in the school are assigned to one of four houses (**Aidan**, **Hilde**, **Cuthbert** and **Bede**) identified by the colours green, red, blue and yellow. Following our whole school visit to Durham Cathedral to learn more about the Northern Saints for All Saints' Feast Day, we assigned a value to each house based upon the virtues of each saint:

St. Aidan – All Saints' House of Perseverance

St. Hilde – All Saints' House of Peace

St. Cuthbert – All Saints' House of Wisdom

St. Bede – All Saints' House of Learning

Points are awarded for work, attitude and behaviour and the team totals are updated each week, with the winning team being presented with a cup during our celebration assembly. At the end of a term, the winning house receives a small prize. Various events happen during the school year where the school is separated into house groups for the day.



Additional Activities

As well as school trips throughout the year, Years Four Five & Six have the opportunity to spend some nights away from home on a residential experience. Currently, Year Four visit the Youth Village, Year Five visit Northumberland and Year Six go camping. Music is an important part of our school life; Years Three & Four take part in African or Samba drumming lessons and Year Five receive a term of whole class music tuition. As well as this, in the juniors, opportunities exist for a number of children to learn to play a variety of instruments. These are taught by teachers from the Peripatetic Music Service. From Year Two, classes have swimming lessons which are currently taught at the swimming pool at Stanley. Children from all year groups are encouraged to take part in extra activities during their lunch break or after school. Throughout the year, these activities and clubs include voluntary prayers, school choir, football, coding, netball, Judo, basketball, Rosary, gardening, comics, eco, rugby, Lego and cycling proficiency. La Jolie Ronde French lessons are offered during lunchtimes for a nominal fee to pupils from Reception to Year Six. During the year we also try to arrange coaching in other sports such as tennis, dance, cricket and multisports. Whenever possible, the children have the opportunity to take a lead in areas of school life such as the School Council, House Captains, eCadets, Playground Mediators, Reading Ambassadors and our Youth Mission Team.

Tuck Shop

We have a Tuck – Shop every Monday and Friday; all items cost 50p!

Charges for Additional Activities

In order to meet the requirements of the 1988 Education Reform Act, schools must ensure that parental contributions to any activity which takes place during the school day, are 'voluntary'. Our practice is to try to subsidise educational visits when we can. Parents will appreciate however that without their voluntary contributions the proposed activities may not take place.



Arbor

In school, we have an online parent system. It allows you to pay for dinners, book places on clubs, send messages etc. There are very few occasions when cash is needed within school. All consents are given on Arbor.

Thursday Fund

Each Thursday the children are invited to donate any one, two, five or ten pence pieces to their class' Thursday Fund. Over the course of this year, the money will be used in a variety of ways to help those in our community who are in need.

School Fund

The school has a voluntary school fund to which parents may contribute any amount they wish on a regular or irregular basis. The majority of our parents give a donation each week but there is no obligation to do so. These funds go to buy a variety of items for the school and help towards the cost of school trips and extra activities.

Accidents and Illness at School

We deal with minor injuries such as small cuts and abrasions, and illnesses such as headaches and feelings of nausea. If symptoms persist, or if there is reasonable cause for concern, we will contact you by telephone. Parents are informed of any first aid treatment administered, such as applying an ice pack, by a slip sent home and, if possible, verbally from a member of staff. If a child has a minor bump on the head, we will contact parents by phone so that the child can be monitored when they come home.

If your child suffers an injury which we feel warrants emergency treatment, we will try to contact you. If this is not possible, we will take your child to the Accident & Emergency Department at the University Hospital of North West Durham in Durham city. **It is essential that we have emergency telephone numbers for all children, and that we are informed if these should change.**

We are not allowed to administer medicines in school unless they have been prescribed by a doctor, such as antibiotics or inhalers. In these instances, a consent form **must be completed** and the medicine handed to Mrs. Walls or Mrs. Ward in the container in which it was prescribed with clear instructions. It will then be stored securely in the School Office. Children should not bring medicine to school to administer themselves.

Sun Protection & Water

In the warm months, please apply sun protection to your child before they come to school because school staff are not permitted to apply sun cream. During the summer, please also ensure your child has a sun hat in school. As well as this, please ensure your child brings a plastic water bottle to school with them every day as water is proven to help children stay active and alert.

Transfer to Secondary Education

At the age of eleven years, pupils transfer to Secondary Education. Further information, giving details of the system for transfer, is provided by the Local Authority. The majority of pupils from this school transfer to St. Bede's Comprehensive School in Lanchester. Parents do have the opportunity of stating a preference for other schools. Admission to All Saints' Catholic Primary School does not guarantee admission for the pupil to any other Catholic School, primary or secondary. Places are allocated by the schools in accordance with their agreed Admission Policies.

Attendance

There is a legal requirement to provide details of children's absences: authorised when the school is notified with a valid reason why a child has not attended school, or unauthorised when a child is absent without good reason. It is important therefore that parents always notify the school when their child is absent. For safety reasons, if a child is absent and we have not been contacted **by 9.30am**, we will contact parents. If there are concerns about attendance, parents will be contacted directly.

If a child has sickness or diarrhoea they must remain off school for 48 hours after the last symptoms. Should a child contract an infectious disease, we should be informed as soon as possible.

Holidays during Term Time

With effect from September 2013, the Department for Education have stated that Head Teachers can no longer authorise absence requests during term time, especially holidays, unless they are for exceptional circumstances. If you do decide to take your child on holiday therefore, their absence will be classed as unauthorised and a Fixed Penalty Notice (and a fine) may be imposed.

All holidays are available on our school website: allsaintslanchester.bwcet.com

Holiday	Closing Date	Date Re-open
Summer 2026	-	Wednesday 2 nd September 2026
Autumn Half-Term	Friday 23 rd October 2026	Monday 2 nd November 2026
Christmas 2026	Friday 18 th December 2026	Monday 4 th January 2027
Spring Half-Term 2027	Friday 12 th February 2026	Monday 22 nd February 2027
Easter 2027	Thursday 25 th March 2027	Monday 12 th April 2027
Bank Holiday	Monday 3 rd May 2027	Tuesday 4 th May 2027
Summer Half-Term 2027	Friday 28 th May 2027	Monday 7 th June 2027
Inset Day	Friday 18 th June 2027	Monday 21 st June 2027
Summer 2027	Friday 16 th July 2027	Tuesday 7 th September 2027

We are here to help. If you have any queries, never feel that any problem is too small for you to consult us about. It is our dearest wish for All Saints' to be a 'happy family' and I am sure by working together we will succeed in making it so.

