

St. Michael's Church of England Infant School

Friendship
Perseverance



Happiness
Respect

Welcome Booklet

Our School Vision



St Michael's is a family motivated by one another through our Christian ethos. The story of Noah inspires us to be resilient, faithful and trusting within the safety of our school.

Our inspirational children flourish and are nurtured in their curiosity and creativity. Through our high expectations and aspirations, we provide equal, inclusive opportunities for children to be the best they can be.

Following God's guidance, children become independent and unique individuals, fully prepared for the challenges of life ahead.

The Infant School Team

Executive Head Teacher

Head of school

SENCo

Early Years Leader/YR Teacher

YR/Y1 Teachers

KS1 Leader/Y1/2 Teacher

Y2 Teachers

Mrs L Saunders

Mrs J Wain

Mrs V Ainsworth

Mrs G Cope

Mrs S Schofield

Miss N Monk

Mrs M Haxhiu/Miss K Miller

Intervention & Music Teacher

Mrs J Flaherty

We are extremely lucky that each class also has at least one teaching assistant.

Speech and Language support

Wellbeing Practitioner

Mrs K Valentine

Miss B Ring



Our school day:

We offer breakfast club from 7.30am (£4 per day)

School starts at 8.45am (gates open from 8.35am)

We have collective worship daily

School finishes at 2.55pm (gates open from 2.55- 3.05pm)

We offer after school club on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday (£4 per day)

We also offer rainbow club childcare everyday until 6.00pm

(please see our school website for further information)

[St Michael's Infant School - Rainbow Club](#)



Lunchtime Arrangements

School Dinners

Your child can have a free school lunch for the entire time that they are at the infant school.

Caterlink provide our school dinners, here is the link to the website to see the menu - [Kent County Council - Caterlink \(caterlinkltd.co.uk\)](http://caterlinkltd.co.uk)

Packed Lunches

If your child decides that on some days they would like to have a packed lunch we ask that the lunch contains no fizzy drinks, sweets or chocolate bars. Children are welcome to change their mind on a daily basis. Please be aware we are a NUT FREE school.

Please let us know on Arbor if your child suffers from any food allergies.



Uniform



The following items need to be ordered from Mapac our uniform provider and should include the school logo. www.mapac.com

(Search St. Michael's Church of England Schools, ME16 8ER)

- St. Michael's book bag / backpack
- St. Michael's polo shirt white or burgundy. (White plain polo shirts are acceptable if they are underneath a pinafore dress)
- St. Michael's cardigan, sweatshirt or hoodie
- St. Michael's PE t-shirt (depending on your child's house)
- St. Michael's joggers – black or burgundy

Non branded uniform items without the school logo include:

- Yellow checked summer dress
- Grey pinafore dress
- Grey shorts
- Grey trousers
- Plain black/burgundy joggers, leggings or shorts.

Shoes for school should be black, comfortable and easy to take on and off.

Preferably velcro and not laces. Shoes with high heels or jelly sandals are not suitable for school.



Pre-loved Uniform

The PTFA sell a wide range of pre-loved uniform, this will be available to purchase on the stay and play sessions (for year R pupils). Please contact the school office for further information.

PE Kit

Your child will be allocated a school 'house' and you will be able to purchase a PE t-shirt to match:

Trust

Charity

Faith

Hope

Your child's class teacher will inform you of the class PE day when your child will be able to come to school wearing their PE kit.

For PE your child will need their house t-shirt, black shorts, black / burgundy jogging bottoms, black or white trainers, St. Michael's Hoodie or jumper. Children can wear this uniform on any day of the week but MUST wear it on PE days.

Please remember no earrings on the day your child has PE.

Please do not send your child to school wearing jewellery of any kind.

Curriculum

At St Michael's the children are at the heart of everything that we do. Our aim is to provide a safe, stimulating and happy environment to enable all members of the St Michael's family to thrive. We pride ourselves on the sense of achievement running through the core of the school. Visitors comment regularly on the welcoming Christian ethos provided by following our school values of Happiness, Friendship, Respect and Perseverance.

Our curriculum has been designed to allow for the children to motivate themselves in order for them to meet their maximum potential. The development of **curiosity**, **creativity**, **challenge** and **independence** runs through the core of our learning intention.

Please visit our website to read more about our curriculum - [St Michael's Infant School - Curriculum Overview \(st-michaels-infant.kent.sch.uk\)](http://st-michaels-infant.kent.sch.uk)

Curriculum - Continuous Provision

- St Michael's Church of England Infant School puts the well-being of the child at the forefront of everything we do. We understand that providing a stimulating environment in which children have the space and time to explore their own interests is essential to producing happy and engaged learners.
- Children in all year groups throughout the school, have a natural desire to learn. They want to be active, autonomous and unique learners. They love to explore, take risks and problem solve as much as possible. The best way for children to do this is through their own independent exploration of learning opportunities and resources available to them. As they explore freely as active learners, synapses form in the brain and consequently, a child makes progress as well as consolidating prior knowledge.
- **Continuous Provision is the term we use to describe the opportunities within the classroom for independent learning.** These could be construction areas, role-play areas, the outdoor area, areas for creativity, including junk modelling, or simply a space for quiet time. The areas also provide 'challenges' to allow the children to deepen their thinking. It is important that these areas remain the same so that if a child is thinking about creating a space ship for their Lego character to travel in they know where they can find the things they need. The areas will be enhanced based on current topics or interests of the class at that time. These enhancements ensure that the provision does not stagnate which can ultimately lead to disengagement.

Curriculum - Continuous Provision

- A well managed and implemented Continuous Provision provides children the opportunity to lead their own learning based upon their own interests. The adult's job is to observe these 'teachable moments' and enhance this learning by moving it forward in partnership with the child. At times, the children will be left to explore the Continuous Provision environment without an adult so it is always set up in a way which provides the child with the autonomy they crave. This is called Discovery Time and there will be times every day designated to Discovery Time.
- Teachers and Teaching Assistants in KS1 have attended workshops delivered by experts in the arena to develop their own understanding of the benefits and effective management of Continuous Provision.

Independent learners

Every day we encourage your children to become independent learners. Please support us by helping them to develop the following skills, in order for them to flourish in all areas of the curriculum:

- Go to the toilet by themselves
- Dress themselves, including shoes
- Put on and do up their own coat
- Eat with a knife and fork
- Use a tissue to wipe their nose
- Tidy up after themselves
- Be in a good routine, including bedtime.
- Talk, talk and more talk (Children learn language through listening and talking, conversation is central to communication and is the basis of reading and writing, listen to stories or read together, plan and talk about events together, encourage your child to take turns)
- Support with learning about numbers (this can be done in a number of ways including - sorting items large and small, counting steps/stairs, point out numbers you see when out on walks, provide lots of opportunities for similarities such as matching socks or noticing same shapes, making number cards and ordering them, singing number rhymes, play number games such as snakes and ladders, dominoes)
- Support with fine motor skills (this can be done by holding small items, buttoning, threading, colouring, puzzles, playdough, Lego, popping bubble wrap, tracing, writing their name)
- Show interest in the world around us (through the eyes and ears of a child the world is an interesting place, try and be as curious as your child; blow bubbles, notice a butterfly, encourage your child to help out at home, help your child notice colour patterns, textures and shapes in the world around them).

Progress updates

Parents receive many updates through the year on their child's progress

Term 1 – Meet the teacher

Term 2 - Parents Consultations

Term 3 - Parents will receive a written interim report on their child's progress

Term 4 - Open afternoon to look at work and chat to your child's teacher

Term 5 - Parents Consultations

Term 6 - A full end of year written report and an open afternoon

We have an open door policy at St. Michael's. Teachers are always on the playground at the beginning of the day to speak to parents and you can book an appointment to see your child's class teacher at anytime.

Homework

Teachers may ask you to help children bring in items for topic work.

Children will be bringing home school reading books daily which you are asked to read or share with your child. Make the most of stories by suggesting other endings, talking about the characters and pictures in the book, and ask lots of questions.

You will also find a home/school contact book in your child's book bag. This is for you to make comments in if you wish, e.g. simply letting us know if you both enjoyed the story or if your child made an attempt at new words. If you have no specific comment, a tick and initial will help the teacher to know that you have shared the book together. The reading book will be changed every Thursday.

Seesaw

In September your child will be allocated a username and password for Seesaw. On which you receive weekly information, you can also use this to chat to your child's teacher and raise any questions.



School Information

All information regarding the school can be found on the website. This includes the termly planning, newsletters and important notifications.

Please make sure you have access.

We also email parents regularly with any important information.

Arbor

Once your child has been offered a school place we will contact you with login details for Arbor.

Please make sure you log onto Arbor and complete your child's details. These are vital in order for us to keep in touch with you and should be kept up to date at all times.

We also use Arbor for club bookings and payments

Facebook

Search for **St. Michael's Church of England Schools' Federation Group**
Request to join our page and 'allow' alerts

We also have a parent group which you can ask to join

St. Michael's Church of England Schools' Federation Parent Group

Parent, Teachers and Friends Association



St. Michael's Schools' Federation has a wonderful PTFA. Who run disco's, summer fair, Christmas fair and many other exciting events throughout the school year.

You can find their page on Facebook **St. Michael's Maidstone PTFA**

Attendance

Is 90% attendance enough? We may think that this sounds like a good enough attendance rate... BUT

90% attendance means your child will be absent for the equivalent of one half-day every week.

This would mean that your child has missed the equivalent of four whole weeks of lessons in the school year.

If your child continued to attend for only 90% of the time that they are at Primary School. Then they would miss a total of 23 weeks, which is over half a school year.

The school year is made up of 90 days...

How much education could your child miss?

Attendance	Days Missed
95%	10 days
90%	20 days
85%	30 days
80%	40 days
75%	50 days
70%	60 days

Every day of your child's education is incredibly valuable. Please think carefully before taking your child out of school.

Contact us

01622 751398

office@st-michaels-infant.kent.sch.uk

Website

www.st-michaels-infant.kent.sch.uk

Spirituality Statement

Spirituality in our family is – the freedom to experience a life of discovery, in a safe and secure environment, in which we are all connected and belong.