

# St Bede's Newsletter

Welcome to St Bede's...



## Attendance Week 19

Y1	Y1/2	Y2	Y3	Y3/4	Y4	Y5	Y5/6	Y6
97.2	88.33	88.67	88.28	95.67	98	94.19	97.83	95.2

## Coming soon...

**Mon 8<sup>th</sup> June**

Y1 Phonics Screening  
Check Week

**Tue 9<sup>th</sup> June**

Primary Athletics Y5-6

**Wed 9<sup>th</sup> Jun**

Y6 Transition Workshops

**Thu 11<sup>th</sup> Jun**

World Cup Day

## This week...

**Tue 2<sup>nd</sup> June**

Reception 2026 New  
Starters Parent  
Meeting 4pm

**Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> June**

- Y6 Residential  
Final Meeting  
3.15pm
- Y6 Transition  
Workshops
- Snappy Opera  
Rehearsal (in  
school)

**Thur 4<sup>th</sup> June**

Festival of Choirs  
4.30pm at Carmel

# Our Safeguarding Focus This Week...



The Switch is a hybrid console released by popular video game company Nintendo in 2017. It's classed as a hybrid because it's designed to be played both at home on a television, like traditional consoles (think a PlayStation or an Xbox) or out and about like a portable console, such as a GameBoy. It uses two detachable and wireless 'Joy-Con' controllers on either side of the console's screen, which can be used by one or two players. The Switch can be played on the internet with the purchase of Nintendo Switch Online, in the living room together or on the go during long journeys, but bear in mind it needs to be charged just like anything else!



## What parents need to know about NINTENDO SWITCH



### NINTENDO SWITCH ONLINE

Nintendo Switch Online is a paid service that allows the console to be played (you guessed it) online, by linking to other Switch consoles around the world. It can be purchased through the Nintendo eShop for a single account on the device, or with a family membership plan which covers 2 accounts. The purchase options come in three tiers; 1 month, 3 months and 12 months but be aware these auto-renew unless you specify otherwise.

### ONLINE DANGERS

While online, your children will be able to play with and chat to people on compatible games, which will mostly be good-natured fun, but could potentially expose them to vulgar language, indecent images or worse. There are options to limit this though, which are detailed below. It's worth remembering that many games can be played offline, so while it's not essential to get Nintendo Switch Online, it is certainly something to consider.

### NINTENDO eSHOP

The Nintendo eShop is where games can be purchased over the internet and downloaded directly onto the device. If you choose to enter your bank details (or PayPal account) onto the Switch, you can save them for easy access later on. Do note however that these can be viewed by anybody with access to the console, unless you specify otherwise. A child might accidentally purchase a game or item from the shop if these details are left improperly protected, which could leave you with a nasty surprise.

### NINTENDO'S VIDEO GAME SELECTION

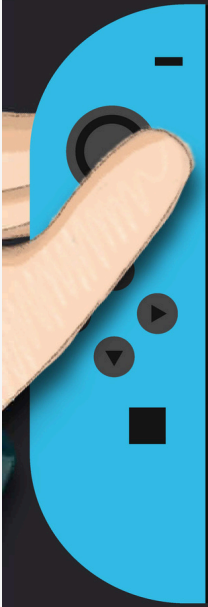
Nintendo as a company offers some of the most entertaining and safe video games on the market. Games featuring characters like Super Mario, Donkey Kong and Yoshi are always a safe bet for a child-friendly experience. It's always prudent to check each game before you buy it (especially if the game hasn't been made by Nintendo) but as a rule of thumb, anything official containing well-known names like these will be great for your children, giving you peace of mind while they enjoy them.

### PORTABLE GAMING

Being able to take the Switch anywhere is a huge bonus when travelling. What's more is that almost every game can be enjoyed without the need to 'dock' the console with a television. Battery life on the Switch varies depending on what it's being used for but typically it will last around 3 or 4 hours before needing to be recharged. When the time comes, any USB-C charger will be able to do the job, but it's best and quickest to return it to the dock, which requires a normal plug socket.



## Top Tips For Parents



### PARENTAL CONTROLS

Nintendo released a free downloadable app that can be used in tandem with the Switch called Nintendo Switch Parental Controls. Once you've got the app on your mobile device, it's a simple process to pair your two devices, giving you a suite of options to help make sure your child is having fun in a safe and structured environment curated by you.

### ONLINE RESTRICTIONS

Another major inclusion in the app is the ability to block your child from seeing anything to do with age restricted games. There's also an extremely helpful feature that restricts access to games that have free communication features between strangers on the internet. This includes things like private messages and unsolicited images. Should you be concerned that strangers might be using the games to talk to your child, a simple press of a button will disallow any access they might have.

### PLAY WITH YOUR CHILD

One of the wonderful things about the Switch is that there are an abundance of great games you and your child can enjoy together, and even with the whole family. Nintendo has a long history of making and supporting fun, family friendly games like Mario Kart and Mario Party, both of which can be played with two or more players using the Joy-Con controllers.

### NINTENDO ESHOP SETTINGS

In the Nintendo eShop you can set up a password to help stop your child or somebody else from accessing any sensitive information, such as bank account details. The options here include entering a password to access the eShop to begin with, when any saved credit card information access is attempted, or when PayPal is accessed. Choosing which areas are password protected helps ensure you're deciding what level of access is given on the device. For example, if you're happy to have your child browse the shop for games they might want, you can allow access to the eShop but introduce the password before a purchase is made ensuring no mishaps occur.

### LIMITING PLAY TIME

By linking the app with the Nintendo Switch, you can set time limits and reminders when you think enough time has been spent playing. It also lets you see if a game is still being played and gives you the option to automatically put the console into sleep mode if the message is ignored. This should only be used as a last resort though as it could cause some friction between you.

### SET PLAY TIMES

Another handy feature is the ability to set different playtimes for days of the week, allowing you to tailor play time around you and your child's schedules. This is great for setting boundaries and encouraging gaming as part of a healthy routine. It will also help your child organise with their friends when they can all be online.

### SEE PLAY HISTORY

The Nintendo Switch Parental Controls app can also send a report telling you how much time your child spends playing each game. This is a great way to spot their favourite or most played games and might be a nice way for you to find out more about a title before talking to your child about it. It could also help identify any possible issues around playtime before they arise.



### Meet our expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for 5 years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the current gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGbible. Starting gaming from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.



Keep up to date with upcoming events via our school calendar

<https://stbedesdarlington.bhcet.org.uk/calendar>

# Childhood Injury Prevention



County Durham  
and Darlington  
NHS Foundation Trust

## Small Steps for Safety

Each year thousands of children are admitted to hospital following accidents, and lots of these accidents are preventable.



### Remember:



Most accidents can be stopped before they happen



Watch your child closely



If you can see a danger, you can stop an accident



For tips on how to protect your child from some of the most common accidents



**SCAN THE  
QR CODE**



Falls



Burns



Road Safety



Home Safety



Poisoning



Drowning



[www.cddft.nhs.uk](http://www.cddft.nhs.uk)



Love God  
Love Others



## THE BEACON

A NEW KIND OF YOUTH CLUB

For young people aged 11-17. Come along for a space to enjoy free food and drinks, free WIFI, games, and friendly chats.



**First meeting: Thursday June 11 @ 5-7 PM**



Thursdays from 5-7pm during school terms.



Salvation Army 170 Thompson Street East Darlington DL1 3EW



### Contact Us:

Phone: 01325 380944

Email: [Darlington@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:Darlington@salvationarmy.org.uk)



A group of Year 5 girls showed fantastic initiative and compassion by raising money for CAFOD entirely in their own time. They designed and made colourful bracelets at home, then brought them into school to sell to their peers.

Their creativity, teamwork and commitment to helping others made a real difference and demonstrated the power of pupil-led action in supporting global causes. They raised over **£57!** Well done girls!



# ALWAYS FOLLOW THE WATER SAFETY CODE

Whenever you are around water:

## STOP AND THINK

Take time to assess your surroundings.  
Look for the dangers and always research local signs and advice.



## STAY TOGETHER

When around water always go with friends or family.  
Swim at a lifeguarded venue.



In an emergency:

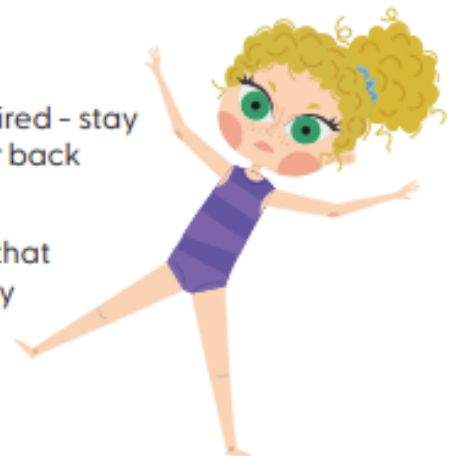
## CALL 999

If you are at the coast, call 999 and ask for the Coastguard.  
Don't enter the water to rescue.



## FLOAT

Fall in or become tired - stay calm, float on your back and call for help.  
Throw something that floats to somebody that has fallen in.



Enjoy Water **Safely** | **Free From Drowning**



Learn more about water safety.  
Scan the QR code