# ULLESTHORPE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

**WILLOW CLASS FOCUS**

**FRIDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 2025**

**WWW.ULLESTHORPE.LEICS.SCH.UK**

## UPCOMING DATES

**EYFS Open Evening:**
Thurs 16th October 4-6pm

**Flu Immunisations:**
Weds 24th September

**Teacher Training Day:**
Friday 17th October

**Half Term Break:**
Mon 20th Oct-Fri 24th Oct

**Individual Photos:**
Tues 28th October

## HEAD OF SCHOOL

**MRS J. ALLEN**

Here at Ullesthorpe CE Primary School, we have continued with our brilliant beginning to the new school year by re-focusing on our school vision statement: 'Learn together, Grow together, Shine forever'.

We have reflected on the value of shining our light on others through the kind, positive choices that we make and in our first celebration worship assemblies of the year, we have enjoyed seeing the different ways in which our children are shining.

It has been particularly lovely to be joined by the newest members of our school community in Willow Class - read more about these superstars over the following pages.

Congratulations also go to the following children who were awarded certificates in today's Celebration Assembly: Georgia, Sophie, Caleb, Skye, Arthur, Charlie, Abigail, Oliver A.
Well done to them all!

Please do feel free to come and speak with me at the school gates, or make an appointment through the school office.

Inspiring Primaries Academy Trust
Inspiring all to flourish and succeed

Diocese of Leicester
Board of Education

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## UPCOMING DATES

**Secondary School Application Deadline for Year 6:**
Friday 31st October

**Cinderella Pantomime:**
Monday 17th November

## WILLOW CLASS MRS HARTLEY

What a fantastic start to school the new children in Willow Class have had! They certainly have had lots of fun learning to play and learn together. What has amazed us is how well they are already demonstrating some of our school values, particularly friendship and perseverance.

We have had some excellent construction projects, where the children have worked together to build brilliant volcano! In the water area there has been some brilliant problem solving with the drain pipes, jugs and boats. The children have had lots of opportunities to be creative; painting and drawing some wonderful pictures. They have sung lots of nursery rhymes and enjoyed some wonderful stories.

We would like to thank the older children in school for being so welcoming and helpful towards our new pupils. We really do have a caring school community.

Well done Willow Class, for a super start to your learning journey at Ullesthorpe Primary!

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## WILLOW CLASS PHOTOS

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## WILLOW CLASS PHOTOS

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## ENCOURAGING ATTENDANCE

### SCHOOL ATTENDANCE CHECK-IN

**SUPERBLY WELL DONE TO THOSE CLASSES WITH 100% ATTENDANCE!**

| Class: | Last Week % | This Week % |
|---|---|---|
| Willow | 97 | 99 |
| Maple | 99 | 98 |
| Birch | 100 | 97 |
| Oak | 93 | 95 |

| Year Group: | | |
|---|---|---|
| EYFS | 96 | 100 |
| Year 1 | 98 | 98 |
| Year 2 | 100 | 97 |
| Year 3 | 99 | 97 |
| Year 4 | 100 | 97 |
| Year 5 | 94 | 92 |
| Year 6 | 93 | 97 |

| School Overall % (this Year): | National Average: |
|---|---|
| 97.5% | 95.4% |

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SNAPCHAT

SNAP STREAK 97

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.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### SEXTORTION

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.

### 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.

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Source: See full reference list on guide page at: https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat



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