

Michael Chappell – Writer - 2026

Michael has written for both children and adults across a range of platforms. He is the founder and creator of **DWS AUDIO**, a podcasting service for young people and he is currently developing ideas for children's television.

DWS Audio's latest drama **A SIDE VIEW** by student Ella Clark was shortlisted for the UK International Radio Drama Festival 2026 for a showcase there, and Michael's podcast drama includes **ENQUIRY AGENTS** (2024) and **ROUGH DIAMONDS**, both weekly school-based drama serials which are regularly broadcast on local BBC radio and which previously won the Silver Award podcast of the year on Community Radio Awards in 2021.

Michael's work has included educational content, such as **LUNA'S QUEST** (2022) a 10-minute animated film for use in UK schools and **LIFE TO THE FULL** Series 4 – 7 x 7-minute films for use in secondary schools (2020), both for Ten:Ten Resources.

Michael was a regular contributor to BBC Daytime's long running popular series **DOCTORS** (2002-2011), first in a writing partnership with Richard Stevens and latterly on a solo basis. He wrote for BBC Scotland's soap **RIVER CITY** from 2007-08.

Work in children's television includes: **SOMETHING SPECIAL** for CBeebies (2012); **GIGGLEBIZ** – children's tv über-personality Justin Fletcher's sketch show Series 1 and 2 (2010-2011) and Christmas Special 2010, on which Michael was lead writer; and Ludorum's computer-animated **CHUGGINGTON** (CBeebies, Series 2, 2011 and development work, Series 3, 2013).

Stage work includes **STAND FAST** directed by Matt Steinberg as part of Rapid Write Response at Theatre 503 (2016); **BLIND** (shortlisted for Little Pieces of Gold, 2016); and **IN LOCO PARENTIS** (originally showcased as part of Little Pieces of Gold at the Southwark Playhouse, directed by Saul Reid, 2014).

Credits: Film/Television

2022:	LUNA'S QUEST (Ten:Ten Resources) 10-minute animated film for educational use in UK schools.
2020:	LIFE TO THE FULL - Series 4 (Ten:Ten Resources) 7 x 7-minute films for educational use in Catholic secondary schools
2013:	COOL MILK (Nutmeg Productions), short film drama for use in schools to promote the drinking of milk
2012:	SOMETHING SPECIAL (CBeebies), sketches, series eight
2012:	CHUGGINGTON: BADGE QUEST (Ludorum for CBeebies), 2 episodes
2009 – 2011:	GIGGLEBIZ (CBeebies), Series One and Two and Christmas Special 2010

2002 – 2011: **DOCTORS** (BBC1), 32 episodes, co-written with Richard Stevens until 2009

2007 – 2008: **RIVER CITY** (BBC Scotland), 3 episodes

2004: **PLANET COOK** (Platinum Films for CBBC) 7 episodes of cookery/ comedy show, co-written with Richard Stevens.

Radio

2026: **A SIDE VIEW** showcased at the UK International Radio Drama Festival, Canterbury

2024: **ENQUIRY AGENTS** (DWS Audio for BBC Radio Kent)

2022: **ROUGH DIAMONDS** (DWS Audio for BBC Radio Kent)

2019 - 2021: **EARTH DAY; NO MILK TODAY; BIRDS ON A WIRE, IN TRANSIT; PUBLIC HOUSE; ONE OF OUR EXERCISE BOOKS IS MISSING; FREE FALL** (DWS Audio) All plays showcased at the UK International Radio Drama Festival, Canterbury

1991 – 1992: **CHECKMATE; THE CLOCK OF THE YEARS; BIG BEN; LEAVING; PENALTY!** (IRDPA for LBC/Festival FM) 5 radio plays broadcast as part of the Brighton Festival/Woolwich Young Radio Playwrights' Competition

Theatre

- 2016: **STAND FAST** part of Rapid Write Response at Theatre 503 (June)
- 2014: **IN LOCO PARENTIS** (short play), two performances at the Bread and Roses Theatre as part of *The Platform* (April) and showcase at Southwark Playhouse as part of *Little Pieces of Gold* (September)

Awards

- 2021: Silver Award (Podcast of the Year) at the *Community Radio Awards*
- 2019: Winner of the best audio play (short form category) at the *UK International Radio Drama Festival*
Jack Petchey Leadership Award for services to *DWS Audio*
- 2016: Long-listed for the *Windsor Fringe Drama Award*
- 2006: Short-listed for the *BBC Writers Academy*
- 2002: Joint winner of the *Roccliffe Picture This: Script Showcase*
- 2001: Joint winner of the *London Screenwriters Workshop/New Producers Alliance Match Development Scheme*
Short-listed for the *BBC Talent Drama Writer Award*
- 1992: Winner of the *Woolwich Young Radio Playwrights Competition*

Original Projects

PLAYING MUM, a chaotic house husband learns to 'play mum' with a little help from his children – and a lot of help from their special powers. Original children's drama series (optioned by Lime Pictures)

CAT AMONG THE HIGGINS, a childish alien comes to observe life on planet Earth – and learns what it means to be human. Pilot script for children's live-action sitcom.

PERSONAL BEST, a group of young athletes battle each other, and themselves, to be the 'best that they can be' both on and off the running track. Pilot script for children's drama series.

APOSTLE, a modern-day apostle is pursued by an ambitious journalist and an ex-policeman. One wants his story. The other wants his life. Pilot script for TV drama series.

NEETS, a posse of jobless teenagers turn an exploitative back-to-work scheme into a covert business enterprise of their own. Pilot script for TV drama series.

Relevant Experience & Training

Michael works in a secondary comprehensive and has over twenty years' experience in education, currently specialising in Media Studies. Working in a variety of inner and outer London comprehensive schools, Michael has experienced first-hand the joys and challenges of teaching many different subjects to twenty-first century pupils. In addition, he works as an examiner for the AQA examination board and regularly contributes articles to the *Curriculum Press* on a variety of Media Studies topics. With the International Arts UK Partnership, he led a series of workshops in Cairo, teaching local educators how to deliver audio drama workshops in Egyptian schools.

Michael is also a graduate of the UCLA Advanced Screenwriting Program (summer 1991) where, under the instruction of Professor Richard Walter, he earned a grade A for his feature script. He was selected to attend the 2007 TAPS Comedy Writing workshop, led by Laurence Marks and Maurice Gran, and completed the TAPS Series Masterclass at Talkback Thames in 2009.