



18 September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

### Parent Code of Conduct

The start of a new academic year is a good time to remind you about the school's Parent Code of Conduct. I have therefore attached a copy of this which outlines our expectations from you.

I would also like to remind you about the appropriate use of social media and WhatsApp with regards to the school. Given the changes to class members in KS2, now is also a good time to check that class WhatsApp groups reflect the current parents of each class and I ask that you please do this. While social media can be an excellent way of communicating with the wider school community, there continues to be an increasing number of incidents where parents/carers, and other individuals, are making comments regarding the school, its staff and sometimes other parents which are seen to be offensive, misguided and unwarranted.

Although it may seem the quickest and easiest way, please **DO NOT** use social media/WhatsApp to:

- express frustrations or concerns about the school and those associated with it. Instead, please contact the appropriate member of staff who will discuss your concerns with you (a copy of the school's [complaint policy](#) can be found on the Trust's website should you feel your concern has not been properly addressed);
- post comments that may cause emotional or reputational harm which would not be justified, particularly if the school has not yet had a chance to investigate any complaint.

The school considers the following examples to be inappropriate uses of social media/WhatsApp (this list is intended to provide examples only):

- naming children or posting any comments about children who attend Old Bexley CE Primary;
- making allegations about staff or anyone else connected with the school;
- making any posts that could be deemed to be cyber-bullying;
- making complaints about the school or staff at the school;
- making defamatory statements about the school or staff at the school;
- posting negative or offensive comments about staff or any other individual connected to the school;
- posting racist comments or comments which threaten violence.

If the school considers that social media/WhatsApp has been used inappropriately, the following procedures will apply:

- as a first step, parents will be contacted by the school to try to resolve the matter;
- any relevant material will be asked to be removed from the site;
- if appropriate, the police may be contacted and legal advice taken.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Mrs J Ivil, Head Teacher