

Larchwood Gardens Pilgrims Hatch Brentwood Essex CM15 9NG

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Dear Parent/Carer

## **Parent Social Media Conduct**

In the middle of October I wrote on News and Views about the Trust's Code of Conduct for parents which can be found <u>here</u>. Within this, **Section 4** talks specifically about inappropriate use of social media. This includes things like Whatsapp.

We know that parents set up Whatsapp groups to communicate about everyday school things and to get to know other parents and these work well.

These groups should not be used to discuss issues about individual staff and more specifically individual children. Any issues a parent may have about their own child needs to brought to the school's attention through the appropriate channels.

It would be extremely upsetting for any one of us as parents to see or know about unkind comments or a negative discussion about our own children especially if they are named. We are talking here about young children, all of who are different and may have different needs. **This kind of behaviour is never acceptable.** 

We teach the older children in school about using their phones and apps such as Whatsapp responsibly and as adults we know better and should model this.

The good thing is that this kind of behaviour by parents is generally rare. When it does happen we know other parents call out this behaviour and we very quickly become aware of it.

Thank you to the huge majority of you that challenge this behaviour and support the school.

Mr S Bowsher Headteacher

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