WhatsApp Code of Use for Parents

(also applies to other social media class groups)

Purpose

- The group is for **sharing information related to class pupils**.
- It can also help bring parents together socially and support volunteering for school events.
- Always check **school newsletters and the website** before contacting the Class Rep.

What Not to Use It For

- Personal conversations – use direct messages instead.
- Political or religious viewpoints.
- Promoting businesses.
- Criticising or commenting on teachers or staff. Any concerns must go directly to the teacher.

Group Etiquette

- Respect the purpose of the group and keep messages relevant.
- Avoid posting unverified "news" or information.
- Keep videos, images, and files short and appropriate.
- No photos or names of children should be shared in the group.
- If your conversation only involves one person, move it to direct message.
- No one is obliged to reply to group posts—don't take silence personally.
- Keep a respectful and supportive tone in all communication.
- Be mindful of timing—avoid messaging very early or late at night.

Moderation

- The Class Rep (group admin) acts as moderator.
- If messages consistently fall outside the purpose, the admin may step in.
- If you feel uncomfortable, notify the group admin. Concerns can also be raised with the Parent in Partnership Coordinator: **Mrs Jo Ruffle** – j.ruffle@wimbledonchase.merton.sch.uk

Think Before You Post

- Would most parents find this useful or appropriate?
- Would you be happy if your message were published elsewhere?