WIMBLEDON CHASE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Merton Hall Road
Wimbledon
London, SW19 3QB

T: +44 (0)20 8542 1413
E: wcps@wimbledonchase.merton.sch.uk
W: www.wimbledonchaseschool.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs C Gibbins, BA (Hons), PGCE, MA, NPQH

1st September 2026

Dear families,

Re: Safeguarding updates following the release of *Keeping Children Safe in Education* (1 September 2026)

I am writing to express my gratitude for the care and vigilance you demonstrate every day in helping us cultivate a safe, nurturing culture at Wimbledon Chase Primary School. As the new headteacher, through the transition period I have been struck by how deeply this commitment runs.

I would like to share important updates following the publication of *Keeping Children Safe in Education* (KCSIE), which takes effect from 1 September 2026.

Mobile phones in school

Wimbledon Chase operates a no-mobile-phone policy for pupils. Children who bring into school a phone need to have this named and hand it to their class teacher at the start of the day; it will be stored securely and returned at dismissal. Staff use mobile phones only in the staffroom and office when pupils are not present. To maintain a safe environment for all, please could I ask for your support in refraining from using mobile phones on site, including during drop-off and collection times, and by not filming or photographing at school events, productions or trips. We appreciate how much families value keepsakes of special moments; to accommodate this, the school will endeavour to take and share individual photos of pupils at events, wherever practically possible, so you can have a memento without compromising safeguarding practice.

Volunteering in school

KCSIE now requires all volunteers in schools to hold a full enhanced DBS check, including a barred list check. We are immensely grateful for the time and expertise volunteers give to our community. Whether you are considering accompanying trips, supporting swimming or becoming a parent reader, please contact the school office as soon as possible to begin the DBS process. Checks can take up to six weeks, so early registration will help ensure you can support our pupils when opportunities arise. If you already have a DBS in place with the school, there is no requirement to renew it at this time.

Sharing key updates

We know that keeping up with the best ways to keep children safe can be challenging, particularly as technology and other developments evolve rapidly. To help families stay informed about the new guidance and practical safeguarding measures, we will share relevant information, networks and support groups in the weekly newsletter and on the school website. These resources will include guidance on online safety, local support services and links to national advice.

Thank you for the key role you play in supporting how we work together to create a safe environment for all.

Kindest regards

Mrs. C. Gibbins
Headteacher