

*'Eager to learn
Live to learn'*

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to reaffirm the importance of kindness, respect, and consent within our school community, and to outline how these values sit at the heart of our safeguarding responsibilities.

KCSiE 2025 is clear that schools must actively promote respectful relationships, ensure children understand consent, and respond robustly to any behaviour that undermines another child's safety or wellbeing. This includes language and actions that may cause distress, fear, or emotional harm, even when they occur between peers.

Recently, we have been reflecting as a school on the importance of being kind - not as a soft message, but as a safeguarding one. Kindness is about understanding impact, not just intent. It is about recognising that words, jokes, or comments can have a lasting effect on another child's sense of safety, self-worth, and trust.

As part of our White Ribbon accreditation, we are committed to a whole-school approach that promotes respect, challenges harmful attitudes, and supports children to develop healthy, respectful relationships. This work is preventative in nature and aligns directly with KCSiE 2025 expectations around safeguarding culture, early intervention, and teaching pupils about boundaries, consent, and respectful behaviour.

Consent is a key part of this learning. Children are taught that:

- Everyone has the right to feel safe in their body and personal space
- Language about others must always be respectful and appropriate
- If something makes someone uncomfortable, it is not acceptable - regardless of intent

KCSiE 2025 makes it clear that sexualised or harmful language between pupils is a safeguarding matter, not a behaviour issue alone. Our role is to protect children, educate them, and intervene early to prevent harm, while supporting all pupils to learn and grow.

We continue to work with pupils through assemblies, PDL, and targeted support both in school and with other professionals to reinforce:

- Respectful communication
- Understanding boundaries and consent
- Empathy and accountability
- How to seek help if something doesn't feel right

We also ask for your partnership at home. Conversations about kindness, consent, and respectful behaviour - both online and offline - are most effective when children hear consistent messages from both school and family.



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If your child is worried, upset, or has questions about anything they have experienced or witnessed, please encourage them to speak to a trusted adult or DSL.

Safeguarding is and remains, always our priority.

**Kind regards,
Emily**

**Deputy Headteacher
Designated Safeguarding Lead**