



8th March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you are aware, our school is committed to the mental and physical health of our pupils, staff and governors. Most parents, carers and others visiting our school are keen to work with us and are supportive of the school. We appreciate this and the constructive feedback we get as a result. We have received some extremely positive communication from parents and were delighted at the responses from the recent parents' evenings.

However, we are concerned that a few parents have become personally abusive towards individual members of staff in the playground. Such comments can be unhelpful to the school, out of keeping with the Christian values that we promote and are harmful to the mental wellbeing of our staff. Therefore, we would like to remind parents that our staff are professionals and work hard to provide the best education and opportunities they can for your child.

Teachers will continue to be available on the playground. However, if there is any form of abuse, this option will no longer be available to the individual(s) in question, and they will only be able to access teachers via appointment. All members of staff have the right to work without fear of personal abuse in the playground, as in any professional work environment.

The school reserves the right to take any necessary actions to ensure that any members of the school community are not subjected to abuse. If parents become abusive at any time on school premises they will be asked to leave. School premises are private property and parents have been granted permission from the school to be on school premises. However, in cases of abuse or threats to staff, pupils or other parents, school may and will ban parents from entering school and its grounds. It is also an offence under section 547 of the Education Act 1997 for any person (including a parent) to cause a nuisance or disturbance on school premises. The police will be called to assist in removing the person concerned. School is not responsible for organising arrangements for children in the above circumstances. Parents will need to provide alternative arrangements for bringing children into school.

In our role as governors, including parent representatives, we ask that you support Mrs Ayres and all school staff. They care about each and every child in the school and strive to provide the best education for your child. Should you have any concerns regarding your child at St Mary's, please do contact the school to discuss it. Mrs Ayres and her staff are always happy to meet with parents in order that issues can be resolved in the right way. In conclusion, we are grateful for the considerate, polite and courteous communications and conversations we have with most parents and very much appreciate your support.

Yours faithfully

J. A. Williams  
Chair of Governors

Headteacher: Mrs R Ayres

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