

Staying Safe

It is of the utmost importance to have good systems for protecting children and safeguarding their welfare throughout all the activities that the school undertakes.

On site

At the beginning and end of the school day please use the pedestrian gates at the side and back of school. These are locked promptly as the school day starts. Access after this time is via the main school entrance where you can press the buzzer to enter.

Please try to avoid driving and parking on Cherry Drive as it is important for safety that we keep the immediate area close to the school as free from cars as possible.

Dogs (other than guide dogs) are not allowed on school premises and we would request that they are not left unattended within the area of the school gates.

Internet safety

We recognise the importance of ICT in education. The internet is a rich source of information and provides educational activities which are of great benefit to the children. However, there are concerns about inappropriate materials and we take a range of measures to minimise these risks:

- All access to the internet is supervised by adults
- A high level filtering system is in operation.
- Children are not allowed access to chat rooms at any time
- Children are taught about safe internet use by their teachers

We also run an annual e-safety information evening for parents. This is to support you in understanding how to help your child stay safe online and on social media.

Images of children

From time to time throughout your child's time at the Merton School, there may be occasions when we would like to use your child's photograph or samples of work (for example for the school website, school Twitter feed or in local publications for school events). ***If you have not already given permission please complete the form enclosed.*** Please note, parents or carers can take photos of their own children during a school production or event, but these should be **for personal use only**.

The school has a Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy. Parents may request a copy of this.