



Gloucestershire Local Optical Committee

WhatsApp Rules and Guidelines

By following these rules and guidelines, we can ensure a respectful, enjoyable, and productive group environment for all members.

- **Respectful Communication:** Treat all members with kindness and respect. While healthy debates are natural, any form of bullying, harassment, hate speech, or degrading comments—including those related to personal practice, methodology, race, religion, or culture—is strictly prohibited.
- **Relevant & Concise Content:** Keep all discussions professional and relevant to the group's purpose. Avoid spam, self-promotion, and irrelevant links. Please keep messages short and to the point to avoid flooding the chat. Avoid repetitive topics.
- **Privacy & Confidentiality:** Respect everyone's privacy. Do not share anyone's personal information or messages without their permission. Information and discussions shared within the group must not be shared outside of it (Chatham House rules apply). Do not private message a member of the group without prior consent from the recipient.
- **Quiet Hours:** The LOC operates during Mon-Fri, 8:00–18:00. Please be mindful of unsociable hours when messaging. Non-urgent messages should be sent within these hours, as messages outside of this time may not be read or answered by LOC members.
- **Group Authority:** The group admins have the authority to enforce these rules. They reserve the right to pause or close topics that are deemed repetitive or concluded. Admins may also take necessary actions, including suspending or removing members who violate the rules.
- **Reporting Issues:** If you need to report a problem or issue, please contact secretary@glosloc.co.uk and not through the WhatsApp group.
- **Adding Members:** To add a new member, contact one of the admins or email secretary@glosloc.co.uk.