



'Learn to live, live to learn'

Foxyards Primary School

Facebook Policy

Drafted by: Mrs Helen Thomas, Headteacher October 2018	Approved by:
Date to be reviewed: October 2019	

Objective

The Objective of this policy is to explain acceptable use of Facebook relating to Foxyards Primary school. The policy will therefore aim to explain the purpose of Facebook in Foxyards Primary School and the benefits that will arise from its proper use, and also deal with any potential pitfalls from using social media.

The Primary Purpose of Foxyards Primary School Social Media accounts will be used principally to be followed by staff, parents and other professionals in order to advertise the excellent work by staff, pupils, parents and governors. Similarly, it will also contain information detailing special events in school. The aim of this is to run alongside more traditional methods like newsletters and letters; not to replace it.

Who controls content for Foxyards Primary School?

The uploading of content will be controlled by members of the Senior Leadership Team and a selection of approved staff. They alone will be responsible for password protection and uploading of content. Foxyards Primary School has a firm commitment to safeguarding children in all aspects of its work.

Who can follow Foxyards Primary School?

All school Social Media accounts will be open to all followers Foxyards Primary School Facebook Policy

Comments that aim to undermine the school, its staff, parents, governors or others affiliated with the school will be removed and the user banned from the site.

Under no circumstances should a child's name be published on the dedicated Foxyards Primary School social media sites.

And at no time should a member of staff or volunteer engage in conversations on these sites with a parent and/or child about individual children.

All staff, volunteers, governors, parents and pupils at Foxyards Primary School has a responsibility to ensure that they protect the reputation of the school, and to treat colleagues and members of the school with professionalism and respect. Any inappropriate content will be deleted and its users will be removed, blocked, and, depending on the nature of the comment, reported to Facebook.

Furthermore, incidents of a more serious nature may be reported to the appropriate authority. All employees must adhere to, and apply the principles of the policy in all aspects of their work. Failure to do so may lead to action being taken under the disciplinary procedure. Guidance/protection for staff on using social networking

No member of staff should interact with any pupil in the school on social networking sites.

No member of staff should interact with any ex-pupil in the school on social networking sites who is under the age of 18.

This means that no member of the school staff should request access to a pupil's area on the social networking site. Neither should they permit the pupil access to the staff members' area e.g. by accepting them as a friend.

Where family and friends have pupils in school and there are legitimate family links, please ensure that these are managed appropriately and at no time should a pupil and/or Foxyards Primary School be discussed.

It is illegal for an adult to network, giving their age and status as a child.

No pupil under 13 should be accessing social networking sites. This is the guidance from both Facebook and MSN. There is a mechanism on Facebook where pupils can be reported via the Help screen; at the time of writing this policy the direct link for this is:
http://www.facebook.com/help/contact.php?show_form=underage

If disclosure occurs from a child, normal process of occur child protection policy will be followed until the police investigation has been carried out.

Cyber Bullying

By adopting the recommended no use of social networking sites on school premises, Foxyards Primary School protects themselves from accusations of complicity in any cyber bullying through the provision of access.

Parents should be clearly aware of the school's policy of access to social; networking sites. Where a disclosure of bullying is made, schools now have the duty to investigate and protect, even where the bullying originates outside the school.

Review of Policy – To be reviewed annually