

Hampton Lucy C of E Primary School and Nursery

Policy: Parental Use of Social Networking and Internet Sites

Source of guidance: Warwickshire Safeguarding

Approved by: Performance and Standards Committee

Date of approval and adoption: September 2023

Date of next review: September 2024

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Parental Use of Social Networking and Internet Sites

'Love one another, as I have loved you.'

John 13:34

Hampton Lucy is proud to be a caring school which aims to create a safe, supportive, and stimulating learning environment in which every individual has the opportunity to be fulfilled and achieve their very best outcomes. Unfortunately, social media websites are, at times, being used to fuel campaigns and complaints against many schools, school staff, other parents/carers and even pupils. The Department for Education, Government and Governors of Hampton, Lucy C of E Primary School and Nursery, considers the use of social media websites being used in this way as unacceptable.

The school considers the following examples to be inappropriate uses of social networking sites. (This list is non-exhaustive and intended to provide examples only).

- Making allegations about staff or pupils at the school/cyber bullying;
- Making complaints about staff at the school;
- Making defamatory statements about the school or school staff;
- Posting negative/offensive comments about specific pupils, parents/cares or staff at the school;
- Posting racist or discriminatory comments;
- Posting comments which threaten violence.

Any concerns you may have about the school, or your child/children must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the Class Teacher, the Headteacher or Chair of Governors, where they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.

Libelous or Defamatory Posts

In the event that any pupil or parent/carer of a child/children at Hampton Lucy School is found to be posting libelous or defamatory comments on Facebook or other social network sites, they will be reported to the appropriate 'report abuse' section of the network site. All social network sites have clear rules about the content which can be posted on the site, and they provide robust mechanisms to report contact or activity which breaches this. The school will also expect that any parent/carer or pupil remove such comments immediately.

Cyber Bullying

We take very seriously the use of cyber bullying by one child or a parent/carer to publicly humiliate another by inappropriate social network entry. We will take and deal with this as a serious incident of school bullying.

Children's use of Social Networking and Internet Sites (including online games)

Parents/carers should ensure that their children are **not** using social networking/internet sites in an inappropriate manner (Most social media sites have an age rating beyond the primary age range – 13+). It is expected that parents/carers explain to their children what is acceptable to post online and monitor their online behaviour.

Thank you for abiding with this policy. This will ensure that together we create a positive and safe environment, not only for the children but for all who work at and visit our school.

*Should **any** of the above occur, the school may feel it necessary to take legal advice and/or action.*

