

## APPROPRIATE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

Social networking sites have the potential to enhance the learning and achievement of pupils and enable parents to access information about the School and provide feedback quickly and easily. As a guide, individuals should consider the following prior to posting any information on social networking sites about the School, its staff, pupils or anyone else associated with the School:

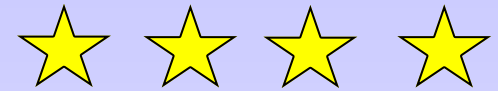
- Is the social networking site an appropriate channel to raise concern, give this feedback or express these views?
- Would a private and confidential discussion with the School be more appropriate?
- Are such comments likely to cause emotional or reputational harm which would not be justified?
- The reputational impact that the posting of such material may have to the School.

## INAPPROPRIATE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

Although social networking sites may appear to be the quickest and easiest way to express frustrations or concerns about the School (and those associated with it), it is rarely appropriate to do so. Other channels, such as private and confidential discussions with the School or using the School's formal compliments and complaints process are much better suited to this.

Violet Way Academy 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.
- Making complaints about the School or school staff.
- Making defamatory statements about the School or staff at the School.
- Posting negative or offensive comments about specific pupils or school staff.
- Posting racist or homophobic comments
- Posting comments which threaten violence.



## INTERNET SAFETY

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### *A Parent's Guide*

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★ Reaching for the Stars



## INTERNET SAFETY

Tuesday 7th February was Internet Safety day and as part of this all the children in Violet Way Academy have been learning about how to stay safe on the internet. With the help of Smarty the Penguin the children have been able to identify ways to keep safe and the 'Dos' and 'Don'ts' to remember when using the internet.

For more information:

[www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

[www.kidssmart.org.uk](http://www.kidssmart.org.uk)

are great sites to browse and pick up all sorts of tips for staying safe when you're using the internet, social networking sites and playing games online. They also explain the dangers and what to do if something bad happens that upset you.

**We also have the 5 Smart Rules that you can talk about together and for children to follow.**

## KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE

Please ensure that our children from Violet Way are using age appropriate websites and games at home in order to keep safe when online. It is important that adults have vetted sites prior to children using them and all devices that children may use have got the necessary filters and security measures in place.

Please note that games such as Call of Duty and Grand Theft Auto are certificate 18 and not suitable for infant aged children.

Also Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat all have a user age of 13 and above.



## REMEMBER THE 5 SMART RULES



### SAFE

Keep safe by being careful not to give out personal information when you're online. Personal information includes your address, email address, phone number or password.



### MEETING

Meeting someone who you have only been in touch with online is dangerous so it's not a good idea. Remember online friends are still strangers.



### ACCEPTING

Accepting emails, messages or opening files, pictures or texts from people you don't know or trust can lead to problems—they may contain viruses or nasty messages.



### RELIABLE

Someone online might lie about who they are. It is best to only chat with your real world friends and family. Information on the internet may not be true.



### TELL

Tell your parent, carer, trusted adult or Childline 0800 1111 if someone or something makes you feel uncomfortable or worried or if you or someone you know is being bullied.