



Policy – Social Media

Dream, believe, achieve together.

Persons with Responsibility

Sara Walker

Ruth Lancaster

Governors

Linked Policies

Complaints

Staff Code of Conduct

Anti-bullying

E Safety

Date: February 2017

Next Review: February 2019

Westwood Park is an inclusive school. All policies should be seen in the light of overcoming barriers to learning for example: dyslexia, dyspraxia, ASD, emotional, behavioural and learning difficulties.

This school asks the whole community to promote the '**3 commons approach**' to online behaviour:

- **Common courtesy**
- **Common decency**
- **Common sense**

How do we show common courtesy online?

We ask someone's permission before uploading photographs, videos or any other information about them online.

We do not write or upload 'off-hand', hurtful, rude or derogatory comments and materials. To do so is disrespectful and may upset, distress, bully or harass.

How do we show common decency online?

We do not post comments that can be considered as being **intimidating, racist, sexist, homophobic or defamatory. This is cyber-bullying** and may be harassment or libel.

When such comments exist online, we do not forward such emails, tweets, videos, etc. By creating or forwarding such materials we are all liable under the law.

How do we show common sense online?

- We think before we click.
- We think before we upload comments, photographs and videos.
- We think before we download or forward any materials.
- We think carefully about what information we share with others online, and we check where it is saved and check our privacy settings.
- We make sure we understand changes in use of any web sites we use.
- We block harassing communications and report any abuse.

Any actions online that impact on the school and can potentially lower the school's (or someone in the school) reputation in some way or are deemed as being inappropriate will be responded to.

In the event that any member of staff, student or parent/carer is found to be posting libellous or inflammatory 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.)* **In serious cases we will also consider legal options to deal with any such misuse.**

The whole school community is reminded of the CEOP report abuse process: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/browser-safety/>