PARKLANDS JUNIOR SCHOOL

PUPIL GUIDE TO
SOCIAL NETWORKING

Social networking sites

The following are some of the many social networking sites that may be accessed by children. You will need to disregard or provide inaccurate information on your age in order to access these sites. The following sites are most popular with children of primary school age but none of these sites are approved by Parklands Junior School as being appropriate for primary aged children

- Oovoo
- WhatsApp
- Instagram
- Tumblr
- Twitter
- Snapchat

This is of course not a complete list and new social networking sites are appearing all the time.

Blogs

Blogs allow people to share their writing with other members of the internet community who can then comment on the work. The blog could be a diary, research or just pieces of writing they have written. While everyone on the Internet can view this material, if settings are applied correctly, only approved members can contribute a post and all comments must be approved by the blog editor.

All school blogs are managed by class teachers. Children's posts must be approved by the teachers and all comments are moderated by them before published on the blog.

Social network safety

Password Protection

Passwords should never be shared, not even with friends. If the home computer is shared always log out when you finish your online sessions to develop good online safety habits. It's important to log out of any websites you log into on a shared computer to stop other people accessing your information.

Online Safety

You may feel that your parents are disconnected and worry that conversations about online safety will be awkward or embarrassing.

One of the best ways to begin a conversation is to talk about why services like Twitter or Facebook are important to you. Show them how you set your own Twitter account or Facebook timeline, so they can see what it's all about. Discuss what information it is appropriate to share online – and what isn't appropriate. Tell them about privacy settings and suggest that you go over them together. Agree ground rules. Ensure you join in with family activities online as well as offline.

Share information on the sorts of situations you are experiencing online and use these to identify solutions and encourage critical thinking…

> "*Who are you sharing this information with?*
> *Can you trust all the people that see the information on your profile?*
> *How could your Tweet/post be interpreted?"*

Check if something is okay to post by reminding yourself that if you wouldn't say it to the person's face or out loud, you shouldn't say it online either.

Have a conversation about how what gets posted online can hurt feelings and affect offline relationships.

Respect for Others

It's important to talk about a key rule: treating others the way you want to be treated. This also applies to using new technologies. Make sure you know where to go for support if someone ever harasses you. Understand how to make responsible and safe choices about what you post because anything you put online can be misinterpreted or taken out of context.

Dealing with problems

Spam

Some people take advantage of the fact they can send messages to lots of people in an online community. Users of social networks may find they receive confusing messages from strangers, perhaps trying to sell products or open communication. This is known as spam. If users receive spam, they should block that user so they can no longer communicate with them. If the messages continue, they should be reported to the specific site.

Serious Issues

Sometimes, people can use social networks to 'bully' other users. If you experience repetitive cyber-bullying consider taking the following actions:

- Coordinate with the school

Many issues can be resolved by working with School Staff or agencies including the police or CEOP. If you experience cyber-bullying, please tell your teacher. We will deal with the situation in the same way we would physical bullying.

- <u>Report a violation</u>
  Get to know the Twitter/Facebook rules and policies.

- <u>Contact local police</u>
  Twitter and Facebook will investigate every report received. Your parents should contact your local police as they are in the best position to assess the threat and intervene or assist as necessary.

Tips for Children

- It can be difficult to keep up with technology. Explain your use of technology with your parents.

- Add your parents as a friend on your profile so that they know what you are posting online.

- Remember the online safety basics so you can keep your online accounts private and safe.

- Talk about technology safety just like you talk about safety while out alone or playing sports.

- Make sure that you use appropriate language to communicate with other children.

Glossary

@
The @ sign is used to call out usernames in Tweets, like this: *Hello @Twitter!* When a username is preceded by the @ sign, it becomes a link to a Twitter profile.

Avatar or Profile Picture
The personal image uploaded to your Twitter profile in the *Settings* tab of your account.

Blog
A discussion or informational site published on the World Wide Web and consisting of discrete entries ('posts' typically displayed in reverse chronological order.)

Chat
Chat is a feature that lets you send instant messages to online friends.

Follow
To follow someone on Twitter is to subscribe to their Tweets or updates on the site.

Follower
A follower is another Twitter user who has followed you.

Following
Your following number reflects the quantity of other Twitter users you have chosen to follow on the site.

Friends
Friends are people you connect and share with on Facebook.

Hashtag
The # symbol is used to mark keywords or topics in a Tweet. It was created originally by Twitter users.

Messages
Your messages and messages inbox house your on-going conversations with people on Facebook.

Poke
When you poke someone, they will receive a notification that you have poked them. People poke their friends on Facebook for a variety of reasons. For instance, you can poke your friend just to say 'hello'.

Timeline
Your timeline is your collection of the photos, stories and experiences that tell your story.

Trends
A subject algorithmically determined to be one the most popular on Twitter at the moment.

Tweet
Tweet, tweeting, tweeted. The act of posting a message, often call a 'Tweet', on Twitter. A message posted via Twitter containing 140 characters or fewer.

Wall
Your Wall is the space on your profile where you and friends can post and share.