

SHARLEY PARK COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL SOCIAL NETWORKING GUIDANCE



SHARLEY PARK COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Date Reviewed	Signed	Minute Number

Sharley Park Community Primary School Guidance on the Use of Social Networking Sites

September 2019

The Governing Body expects all staff to maintain a high degree of professionalism in all aspects of their lives. We would not expect staff to broadcast details of their private lives to pupils or parents on an indiscriminate basis and therefore staff who do this on social networking sites and have this fall into the hands of pupils or parents can expect the school to take a view.

Having personal conversations with pupils on social networking sites can lead to serious difficulties from a child protection standpoint. Some 'innocent' comments can be misinterpreted and staff are reminded that those individuals who seek to 'groom' young people engage in this type of activity.

There is evidence to show that some young people engage in social networking sites with the intention of finding out details about their teachers and compromising them.

In extreme circumstances this could lead to staff losing the confidence of the community in which they need to carry out their duties. In some circumstances comments made on social networking sites can lead to grievances or disciplinary action.

As a member of staff at Sharley Park Community Primary School , I agree to:

- Be professional at all times, especially if you mention work.
- Status updates should NOT include any swear words. Remember that a comment on social networking site has a much wider circulation than a private comment to a colleague.
- Remember that everything that happens at work is confidential, social networking does not recognise this.
- Do not become friends with any parents or governors, unless they are school employees (not volunteers) or they are genuine friends who understand professional status.
- Do not become friends with any pupils, past or present, unless they are over 18 years of age.
- Think carefully about the photos you share. Do they present you in a professional manner or are they at risk of bringing the school or the profession into disrepute?

Signed..... Date.....

Print Name.....