



The Use of Social Networking and Online Media

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School asks its whole community to promote the 'three 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, or encourage extremist views. This is online bullying** and may be harassment or libel.
- When such comments exist online, we do not forward such emails, tweets, videos, etc. Creating or forwarding such materials can make us liable for prosecution.

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 websites 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.

If any member of staff, student or parent/carer is found to be posting libellous or inflammatory comments on the internet or any social media, they will be reported to the appropriate 'report abuse' section of the network site (all social media have clear rules about content which can be posted and have robust mechanisms to report breaches). Pupils and staff would be disciplined appropriately, and we expect parents to support us in this and behave appropriately themselves.

In serious cases, we will also consider legal options to deal with any such misuse.

The whole school community is reminded of the CEOP process for reporting inappropriate sexual approaches towards children at thinkuknow.co.uk/parents.