



St Faith's

Church of England
Infant and Nursery School



Social Media Policy

"Our inclusive St Faith's family strives to enable all to achieve their full potential and inspire a community of hope and friendship. We seek excellence by ensuring a safe, respectful and flourishing learning community, where differences are celebrated and our genuine love and high expectations make a difference to all."
"Aspire not to have more, but to be more." (Oscar Romero)

As a Church School, the distinctive Christian values of respect, compassion, trust, justice, friendship and community are promoted through the experiences we offer to all our pupils, to give pupils the knowledge, skills and understanding that they require to lead confident, healthy and independent lives. We promote the teaching and understanding of fundamental British values in order to prepare pupils for life in modern Britain. We positively teach the values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith. Teaching the fundamental British values helps the children to become informed, active and responsible citizens.

This policy outlines the purpose, nature and management of **Social Media** in our school. It reflects the consensus of opinion of all members of staff. It is based on current practice and has the full agreement of the governing body. The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of the Head teacher, teaching staff and support staff. It is our collective responsibility to raise awareness and that all policies are known, understood and used in an appropriate way.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Lincolnshire Schools Online Safety Policy and Guidance – Version 1 June 2010, the School's own Online Safety policy and the school's Staff and Pupil's Acceptable Use of ICT Policy.

Introduction

This policy is to outline to acceptable use of X (previously Twitter) and Facebook relating to the St Faith's Church of England Infant and Nursery School for staff, children, parents and governors. This policy will therefore aim to explain the purpose of X (previously Twitter) and Facebook in school and the benefits that will arise from its proper use, and also to deal with any issues that may arise from using a social media tool.

What is Twitter?

X/Twitter and Facebook are used primarily as a method of communication, resulting in a 'Tweet' or a Facebook post. Tweets and Facebook posts tend to reference people, places, and/or activities to which the said referee can respond. We can either directly reference another person or broadcast information to which others can reply, and we can choose to follow or be followed. To follow somebody/thing ensures that all of their activity is displayed into your newfeed. The benefits of having followers is that any information that we have communicated will appear in their newsfeed. Users can also private message others when they do not want comments to appear publicly. @stfaithstweets and @StFaithsFamily will not enter into any private discussions with others.

What is the primary purpose of St Faith's Social Media

The school X/Twitter page and Facebook page will be used principally to be followed by staff, parents and other professionals in order to advertise the excellent work by staff, children, parents and governors. Staff may use children's first names only and photographs in the same tweet. Staff will have have a list of all children who do not have permission to have photos and names on X/Twitter.

Similarly, it will also contain information detailing special events in school. The aim of this is to run alongside more traditional methods like sending home letters, and not to replace it.

Who controls content for St Faith's Social Media?

Classes will have their own accounts for X/Twitter but will only tweet to the whole school account so that so the uploading of content for the X/Twitter page can be controlled by the Headteacher and Online Safety Leader. The Headteacher is in control of the school's Facebook page.

Who can follow St Faith's Social Media accounts?

St Faith's Church of England Infant and Nursery School will encourage teaching staff, Governors and parents (of St Faiths children) to be followers. Due to the fact that X/Twitter and Facebook do not aim their services to people under 13 years of age we will direct any followers who we believe to be under this age to the X/Twitter 'Policy Towards Children' (which stresses the importance to children of keeping personal information private). At St Faith's Church of England Infant and Nursery School, we are fully committed to the safety of all children and the Head teacher is the Designated Person for Child Protection.

The school X/Twitter account and Facebook account will be Public accounts. The Head teacher and Online Safety Leader will monitor the followers and block any who appear to not be school focused.

Who will St Faith's Social Media follow?

In order to protect itself from inappropriate content being distributed into its news feed, St Faith's Church of England Infant and Nursery School will only follow other users who have obvious benefits to the school (e.g. other educational establishments or organisations who work with children, local media). These will be decided on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the Head teacher and Online Safety leader.

St Faith's Church of England Infant and Nursery School sees itself more as a distributor of information to those who follow it and not as a receiver of information.

What is inappropriate content and referencing and how will it be dealt with?

St Faith's Church of England Infant and Nursery School welcomes any referencing, mentions, or interactions that share the success of the school community.

Therefore, St Faith's Church of England Infant and Nursery School deems any of the following as inappropriate:

- Offensive language or remarks aimed at the school, its staff, parents, governors or others affiliated with the school;
- Unsuitable images or content posted into its feed;
- Unsuitable images or content finding its way from another's account into the school X or Facebook feed.
- Images or text that infringe upon copyright;
- Comments that aim to undermine the school, its staff, parents, governors or others affiliated with the school.

Any inappropriate content will be deleted and its users will be removed, blocked, and, depending on the nature of the comment, reported to X/Twitter. Furthermore, incidents of a more serious nature may be reported to the appropriate authority.

Further information can be found at the X/Twitter 'Help Center' on: <https://support.X/Twitter.com/>

Linked documents include Online Safety, Child Protection and Safeguarding and our Acceptable Use of ICT policies.

Safeguarding procedures

At St Faith's we have a positive culture of safeguarding, with effective policies and procedures in place. Our safeguarding procedures are outlined in our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy, which can be found on our website <https://stfaithscofe.secure-primariesite.net/safeguarding-information-and-policies/>.

Approved by the governing body on:-	January 2024
Signed (Governor)	Dave Vincent
Signed (Subject Leader)	Gemma Wallis and Amanda Konrath
Review Date	January 2026