Federation of Liphook Infant School and Liphook CofE Junior School

Social Media and Use of Photographs Policies Parental Summary

LIPHOOK FEDERATION

Introduction

The Federation's Social Media and Use of Photographs policies are intended to guide parents' or carers' use of social media in relation to any school events or activities. Where parents or carers wish to use social media to share details of activities of events and activities involving other people's children outside of school, the safeguarding aspects of these policies should always be considered.

Safeguarding every child is our key priority so, whilst it is recognised that social networking can play an important part in many people's lives, these policies outline when and how information, images and video of children may and may not be shared online.

Scope

Both policies apply to personal webspace such as social networking sites (for example Facebook, Instagram, Tik Tok), blogs, microblogs such as Twitter, chatrooms, forums, podcasts, open access online encyclopaedias such as Wikipedia, social bookmarking sites such as del.icio.us and content sharing sites such as flickr and YouTube. The internet is a fast-moving technology and it is impossible to cover all circumstances or emerging media – the principles set out in the policies must be followed irrespective of the medium.

The Policies in Practice

Both schools have a duty to provide a safe environment for all children, parents and staff free from bullying, harassment and circumstances which may affect their privacy, personal safety and reputation. There may be a risk to a child's safety when they can be identified or located through information or media posted online. We ask parents and carers for their permission to post images of their child online. Some do not give their consent. As a result, parents and carers cannot freely post information or images of children online and should always ensure that any posts that they do make, do not impact on the safety and security of any child, parent, carer or member of staff.

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I take photographs and film school events?

Yes, as long as these are of your own child and are for personal use only. These maybe posted on line.

Wherever possible, parents should avoid including other children in the photographs or video unless the child's parents or carers have agreed to this. It is recognised, however, that this will not be possible in some circumstances, such as during an assembly or performance. **If permission has not been given by the parents/carers of all the children in the image/video it may NOT be posted or shared online.**

'School events' include activities taking place off-site as well as within the school grounds.

Can I share children's personal details online?

It is not recommended that personal details of any child, including attendance at a specific school, are shared online.

Sharing personal information, including details of attendance at either school of any child other than your own is not permitted.

Can I write about my opinions of either school online?

Yes, you are entitled to share your opinion of the Federation with whomever you wish. We would always welcome positive comments being shared online!

However, if you have negative views or opinions, we would much rather that you share these directly with us so that we can try to resolve the situation with you instead of posting your comments. If negative comments are posted online that are deemed to be bullying, harassing or impacting on the personal lives of those mentioned in them, the Head of School or Executive Headteacher will contact you to discuss these directly.

Full versions of each policy are available on each school's website or direct from either school office.