



The Shrubberies School & Apperley Centre School Facebook Policy

Rationale:

Maintaining an online presence is vital for schools, ensuring that the school community is kept up to date with school events and giving easy access to essential information. Having a school website is a crucial part of this, but web users must specifically visit the school website regularly to receive this information.

By having a Facebook page, the school is feeding school information, news and notices directly into the personal news feeds of parents and the wider school community.

Aims:

The purpose of having a school Facebook Page is:

- To continue to enhance home/school communication with information shared via Facebook, along with the existing methods of paper notes, text messages, email and the school website.
- To publicise school events and increase awareness about school fundraising.
- To announce any updated information that appears on our school website via Facebook.
- To highlight positive school achievements in a forum where they can be shared by the school community.
- To make school announcements.
- To engage the community that The Shrubberies School and Apperley Centre serves, and to act as a key component of our school's online presence.
- To facilitate communication and networking opportunities between parents.
- To maintain contact with past parents and past pupils.

Terms of use of The Shrubberies School Facebook page:

- Users should not share anything that may compromise the safety of any member of the school community - never transmit any personal information of pupils, parents or staff.
- Users should not post anything on the page that could be deemed offensive. Inappropriate or harmful comments/content will be removed immediately.
- Users should not share any information that is confidential - if it seems confidential, it probably is. Online "conversations" are never private.
- Users cannot tag photographs of children on the page.
- Users should not engage in giving negative feedback on Facebook. It is more appropriate to deal with the school directly on such matters.
- Users will not mention individual staff members in a negative light on the school Facebook page. The tone of any discussions should be positive and respectful.
- Users should not ask to be "friends" with staff. School policy does not allow staff to 'friend' parents unless they have a connection unrelated to school.
- Users cannot advertise products and services on our school Facebook page. Any inappropriate comments or activity by parents or other persons will be dealt with in the same manner as if it was face to face.



- Any inappropriate activity by members of school staff will be dealt with in accordance with the staff code of conduct policy.
- The sanction for breaking any of the terms of use is an automatic ban.

Points to note:

- Facebook lists a minimum age requirement of 13, and all parents are reminded that children under the age of 13 should not be on Facebook.