

St. John Bosco RC Primary School



Twitter Policy

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Rationale

In this technology rich world, our pupils, parents and the wider community live in, Social Media is becoming more and more part of daily life. When agencies like Ofsted, DfE & STA release new guidance on Twitter days before it appears elsewhere, it is important that staff at St John Bosco Primary School embrace Twitter. Not only to keep up to date with important changes that can impact learning in their classroom, but also to connect with teachers across the globe who are sharing resources, ideas and discussing important aspects of education. This policy will explain acceptable use of Twitter relating to St John Bosco Primary School twitter account: @StJohnBosco? The policy will explain the purpose of Twitter in St John Bosco Primary School and the benefits that will arise from its proper use.

What is Twitter:

Twitter is a social media tool that currently has no age restrictions for its use. Twitter is used to communicate thoughts and ideas within 280 characters and usually references people, places and activities that tend to invite replies. Twitter accounts can follow other Twitter accounts or be followed by other Twitter accounts and all tweets are public. Why will St John Bosco Primary School and staff be using Twitter?

The reason we will be using Twitter is twofold:

1. To share and celebrate the wonderful things happening at St John Bosco Primary School every single day.
2. To enhance the communication between school and parents / carers. Twitter will not be used to engage with individual parents directly, however, important announcements and notices could be sent as part of general communication to parents. This is in addition to normal channels of communication and not as a replacement.

Twitter etiquette:

Any Tweets from the official school account will be grammatically correct and will not contain text language like lol, gr8 or l8r. Some tweets may contain hashtags. Hashtags are things you can add to the end of your tweets like #edchat #PrimaryRocks that enable tweets to be added to a collection of other related tweets that are generally viewed by more people.

Safeguarding pupils:

In order to safeguard the pupils at St John Bosco Primary School, no names or initials will be used alongside any pictures of pupils. St John Bosco Primary School seeks photographic consent of all the pupils. Tweets sent by St John Bosco Primary School will adhere to the list of children with photographic consent. Any children within a photo that do not have consent must be obscured.

Who can follow St John Bosco Primary School?

Anyone can follow the school's Twitter account. Weekly checks will take place by a member of the SLT to check recent followers. Any user following the school account that is deemed unsuitable or not adding any value to the school will be blocked. A member of the SLT will make this decision on a case-by-case basis. Parents will be encouraged to follow the official school account to receive the information the school is posting up to Twitter.

In order to protect ourselves from inappropriate content being distributed into our news feeds, the St John Bosco account will not actively seek to follow other users. However, exceptions may be made where following an @ handle has obvious benefits to the school (deanery cluster schools, children's author or an

educational account). Once again, these will be decided on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the user. The Twitter account should be used more as a distributor of information to those who follow it and not as a receiver of information.

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD PUPILS BE ALLOWED TO FOLLOW STAFF PERSONAL ACCOUNTS.

Should this happen, the staff are to block the pupil and inform a member of the SLT at their earliest convenience.

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

St John Bosco Primary School welcomes referencing, interaction or mentions as long as they are positive about the school. St John Bosco Primary 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 St John Bosco Primary School 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 reported to Twitter and its users will be blocked. Furthermore, incidents of a more serious nature may be reported to the appropriate authority.

Signed: _____

Designation: _____

Date: _____

Review: _____