

Social Media Policy

1: Purpose

The Campania District School's Social Media policy has been developed with guidance from official Department of Education (DoE) resources and policy statements pertaining to the use of social media. The policy outlines requirements and general advice about engaging and responding to social media activity, including establishing and maintaining positive community relationships. The main purpose is to communicate information about our school's approach, strategies and actions regarding student use of social media.

Promoting positive student behaviour when using social media and responding appropriately to unacceptable student behaviour supports our school to maintain a safe and supportive learning environment.

2: Policy statement

Social media provides an opportunity to communicate, interact and engage with various audiences. Social media enables users to express themselves, empower others, contribute ideas, make connections, and access information. Through the development and growth of relationships, social media enables users to build cultural values alignment and increase visibility of their activities.

The online world is a fundamental part of our modern lives, providing access to everyday services, social media networks, entertainment and education.

Responsible use of digital technology is everyone's business – this includes users, providers, families, schools and communities. Most online safety (eSafety) issues occur when students are online outside of school, school activities and school IT systems.

It is important that students know how to use online technology safely and are supported in behaving respectfully and responsibly to keep themselves and others safe.

Campania District School staff, families, our students and the online community have the responsibility to model and promote a positive and safe online environment.

3: Learner Use

All parties **ARE** to contribute to the prevention of cyberbullying by modelling and promoting appropriate behaviour and respectful relationships. We recognise that it is important to support learners involved in cyberbullying, especially when it is known that issues are affecting their learning and/or wellbeing in their learning environment.

We recognise that preventing and responding to cyberbullying on social media is a shared responsibility of all staff, learners, parents and carers. All parties ARE expected to contribute to the prevention of cyberbullying by modelling and promoting appropriate behaviour and respectful relationships.

4: Consequences

Consequences will be imposed in alignment with the Campania District School Respectful Student Behaviour policy and with our school's Positive Behaviour Flowchart and procedures.

5: Mobile Phone Policy:

The Department of Education requires that all student mobile phones are 'off and away all day'.

Refer to the Mobile Phone Policy for clarification about student mobile phone use, including restrictions and consequences.

6: Support, information and tools regarding Social Media use

Rules of Engagement with Social Media for all users (within and across the school community) include:

Be Respectful, Kind and Courteous

Treat everyone with respect. Healthy debates are natural, but kindness is required. We're all in this together. We have a responsibility to play our part in creating and sustaining a welcoming and caring online social environment.

Before you share, post or comment on something, ask yourself:

Is it true?

Is it necessary?

Is it helpful?

Is it kind?

If the answer is "no" to any of those questions, don't share it or comment on it.

No Hate Speech or Bullying

Make sure all feel safe. Bullying and harassment of any kind are not allowed, and disparaging comments about things like race, religion, culture, sexual orientation, gender, identity, social or economic status are not to be tolerated.

Respect Everyone's Privacy

Using social media appropriately requires mutual trust and respect. Authentic, expressive discussions make social media experiences great; however, it is important to recognise that sometimes communication is sensitive and private. Do not share images or work of others unless you are sure you have consent.

So, before sharing, posting or commenting, refer back to questions above.

Last modified by CDS on 30 November 2021 (as ratified by School Association)

Additional Information can be accessed via the following links:

DoE Social Media Policy link:

<https://publicdocumentcentre.education.tas.gov.au/library/Document%20Centre/Social-Media-Policy.pdf>

Online Safety in Tasmanian Government Schools link

<https://www.education.tas.gov.au/parents-carers/parent-fact-sheets/online-safety/>

eSafety Commissioner links:

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/>

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/key-issues>

The Student Wellbeing Hub

[The Student Wellbeing Hub - Department of Education, Skills and Employment, Australian Government \(deese.gov.au\)](https://www.deese.gov.au/the-student-wellbeing-hub)

Australian Student Wellbeing Framework link

<https://www.deese.gov.au/student-resilience-and-wellbeing/australian-student-wellbeing-framework>